

**MINNESOTA GOVERNOR'S COUNCIL
ON DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES**

Wednesday, June 7, 2017
12:15 p.m. – 2:00 p.m.
Continuing Education and Conference Center
University of Minnesota St. Paul Campus
1890 Buford Avenue, St. Paul, Minnesota 55108

MINUTES

MEMBERS PRESENT

Ashley Bailey, Vice Chair
Marie Bottelson
Emilie Breit
Pamela Hoopes
David R. Johnson
Eric Kloos
Jim Lovold
Kate Onyeneho
Carolyn Perron
David Quilleash
Jacqueline Rightler
Bonnie Jean Smith
Kathy Ware

STAFF PRESENT

Colleen Wieck
Mary Jo Nichols

MEMBERS EXCUSED

Senator John Hoffman
Michelle Albeck
Alex Bartolic
Mary Hauff
Lynne Megan
Mary Raasch
Robbie Reedy
Mike Stern
Alan Wilensky

MEMBER ABSENT

Linda Simenstad

GUESTS

Melody Johnson, Olmstead Implementation
Office
Steve Larson, The Arc Minnesota
Derek Pearson, MarketResponse International
Tom Pearson, MarketResponse International
Doreen Rowe, MarketResponse International
Lynn Schreifels, MarketResponse International
Brad Teslow, Olmstead Implementation Office

COUNCIL PROGRAM

Colleen Wieck introduced today's program. MarketResponse International (MRI) was here for our April meeting and presented the results of the General Population Survey of Attitudes Towards People with Developmental Disabilities. This most recent survey is an update of the public opinion survey that was first conducted in 1962.

The Legislature has provided funding for Olmstead activities so, even though the 2017 general population survey included representation from racial and ethnic communities, we decided to conduct a specific survey to oversample these underrepresented groups.

Tom Pearson, MRI, presented the survey results. These results involved an analysis of both surveys and a segmentation study of the General Population Survey. The driving force is the Olmstead Plan, covering both the majority and minority populations, and showing the differing attitudes for each of the racial and ethnic communities surveyed.

The respondent profile from the General Population Survey is a close representation of underserved communities. This survey did increase the number of respondents from the African American and Hispanic communities. The additional segments are in the American Indian, East African, and Southeast Asian communities.

Doreen Rowe provided a summary of efforts made to connect with representatives in these communities, explain the survey purpose, and encourage their participation. Emails were first sent to community leaders in Minneapolis and St. Paul; no responses were received. A City of Minneapolis list resulted in one respondent from the East African community who suggested talking with community leaders; these individuals did complete the survey.

A personal visit to the Bryan Coyle Center (American Indian community) and talking with Bryan Joyce was highly successful. He was very interested, scheduled an event and, at one point, five translators were available to help people complete the survey. He also made a connection with the Hmong American Center in St. Paul. An event was being planned in that community for immigrant and first generation community members; surveys were left there to be completed.

Derek Pearson said that everyone appreciated the opportunity to participate and have their voices heard.

Tom Pearson then presented the detailed findings. In the General Population Survey, there were 22 statements about Independence, Productivity, Self Determination, and

Integration and inclusion (IPSII) with ratings on a 1 to 5 agree/disagree scale; and 24 statements describing government services with ratings on a 1 to 5 importance scale. Most of the results show that, where respondents agreed or strongly agreed with IPSII statements, they rated government services as very important.

Like minded people were grouped based on their answers to those 22 and 24 statements. Pearson gave examples of the beliefs that were held by respondents in four segments that reflected independence, inclusion, exclusion, and dependence.

Those beliefs then differentiated respondent attitudes toward people developmental disabilities, identifying them as:

Self-Reliant - individual freedoms are fundamental; society benefits when everyone has the opportunity to live up to their potential; high importance placed on taxpayer dollars for services and supports.

IPSII Advocates – strong beliefs in community and societal supports; government and taxpayer services and supports rated the highest of all segments to enhance independent living and productivity. This group has a high level of familiarity with individuals with developmental disabilities.

Protectors – believe strongly in integration and caring for all members of society; services that are most important are health related, and those geared to protecting and caring for individuals with developmental disabilities. Demographically, this is the oldest segment.

Egoistic – may have a fear of or lack of understanding about people with developmental disabilities so separation and exclusion are at high levels; strong financial interests would result in minimal funding so services and supports.

This survey included three issues taken from the General Population Survey –

Housing Supports – providing housing supports directly so individuals with developmental disabilities can live in their own homes with choice of service provider (highest among IPSII Advocates); or maintain four-person corporate foster facilities

Investigating Abuse – Rated very important among IPSII Advocates and Protectors.

Proposed Wage Increase for Home Health Care Workers – IPSII Advocates strongly support.

Pearson then presented a profile of each community, and identified the attitudes they generally agree with about individuals with developmental disabilities, and the services they generally consider important –

African American – Close supervision for their own protection and well being. Society should provide necessary services for parents

Hispanic – Don't have strong opinions. They are least likely to believe that individuals with developmental disabilities could be productive workers or that all children should be taught together in the same classroom.

American Indian – Strong supporters of inclusion, housing and care supports, and transportation. They believe we're all better off if we do all we can to help people who are most vulnerable.

East African – This community was the most conflicted in their attitudes. The majority are strong supporters of community involvement, that individuals with developmental disabilities should have access to a range of supports and services, and be allowed to vote. There is also a segment that believe exclusion is OK and society should not be responsible for paying any extra costs associated with raising children with developmental disabilities.

Southeast Asian – Their attitudes are similar to those represented in the general population of Minnesotans.

Pearson said there are two main messages regarding this segmentation research – the capability of individuals with developmental disabilities and services that enhance integration are a good investment.

In response to Onyeneho's question, Pearson said that all of the same questions were asked of everyone. It's important to educate in order to change attitudes, that we give supports to people with developmental disabilities, and recognize them as capable individuals.

Smith said that the process of community engagement is huge. It's important to listen for the role that culture plays. The American Indian community wants their

children protected, not because of their disability but they want their children to be safe. This is a very inclusive community; all are welcome.

In the African American community, during transition, when a child reaches the age of 18 and graduates from high school, social workers will start the process for moving to a group home. This is the way the system has been.

Onyeneho noted that this is wonderful information but, in every community, you get different responses. So what is the next step?

Tom Pearson said this survey is a picture of the different attitudes that exist in these communities and what we heard. We don't know all the whys.

Rowe said when they approached leaders in the community, they said they were conducting this survey on behalf of the Council and wanted to hear the voices of their community members.

Derek Pearson added that they learned the best away to engage was to simply walk into a community center and ask if they would be willing to help us.

Quilleash said that he wasn't surprised that the direct face to face meeting is what prompted some positive interaction. The email response rate is 1% or less and that email response rates generally are not good.

Smith added that, with face to face encounters, you can ask questions. Email exchanges don't mean we understand. The direct connection with people also allows you to read the survey to people with different reading abilities so they can also participate.

Bailey thanked everyone from MRI for coming to present the survey results.

I. CALL TO ORDER

Ashley Bailey, Council Vice-Chair, called the meeting to order at 1:15 p.m.

II. INTRODUCTIONS

Everyone present introduced him/herself.

III. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Bailey asked for approval of the Agenda.

MOTION: Ware moved, seconded by Johnson to approve the Agenda. Motion carried; there were no dissenting votes.

IV. APPROVAL OF MINUTES FOR APRIL 5, 2017

Bailey asked for approval of the Minutes as written for April 5, 2017.

MOTION: Smith moved, seconded by Breit to approve the Minutes as written for April 5, 2017. Motion carried; there were no dissenting votes.

V. CHAIR'S REPORT

In the absence of Senator Hoffman, there was no Chair's report.

VI. GRANT REVIEW COMMITTEE

Smith reported on the results of the evaluation process for proposals received in response to the Request for Proposal (RFP) for the Employment of Individuals with Developmental Disabilities. Members were reminded about the Conflict of Interest Policy. For members who may have a conflict with the organization being recommended for funding, they should not sign the Conflict of Interest Form and abstain from voting on the proposal.

MOTION: Smith moved on behalf of the Grant Review Committee to approve the proposal submitted by Kaposia, Inc. for \$80,000. Quilleash seconded. Motion carried; there were no dissenting votes or abstentions.

No proposals were received in response to the RFP for Cultural Outreach in Racial and Ethnic Communities. This RFP will be reissued.

VII. PUBLIC POLICY COMMITTEE

Ware reported that Anne Henry, Minnesota Disability Law Center, and Steve Larson, The Arc Minnesota, provided legislative updates. Members reviewed videos about Medicaid cuts, how individuals with developmental disabilities and families benefit from Medicaid and the Affordable Care Act (ACA). A repeal

of the ACA would also result in deep cuts to Medicaid.

Eric Kloos added that a definition of Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports (PBIS), and PBIS core features are now included in state statute. Professional development for all teachers is also addressed.

VIII. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Colleen Wieck provided the following updates and highlights from monthly reports:

1. We have level funding for the current FFY 2017 from AIDD.
2. At the federal level, a new entity has been proposed, the Partnership for Innovation, Inclusion, and Independence. This entity would include the Developmental Disabilities Councils, Independent Living Centers, and Traumatic Brain Injury, and then reduce the combined current level of funding by more than 50%. Letters have been sent to members of our Congressional delegation. Senator Hoffman has also sent letters.
3. At the state level, we have \$74,000 in state matching funds and \$148,000 to continue Olmstead Plan implementation activities for each year of the biennium, and \$ 55,000 in Legacy Funds for additions to the *With An Eye to the Past* website. The Legacy Funds are for one year only.
4. Discussions are continuing with the Governor's Office regarding appointments and reappointments.
5. Regarding the Jensen Settlement Agreement: A brief was filed by the Attorney General's Office asserting again that the Court no longer has jurisdiction. Settlement Class Counsel submitted a brief that asserted the Court does continue to have jurisdiction.
6. The Olmstead Plan quarterly report was submitted on May 30, 2017. Bonnie Jean Smith is co-chairing the Community Engagement Group.
7. Regarding other Olmstead work:

- a. The Prevention of Abuse Specialty Committee will be underway soon. A third party subcontractor will verify all of the Committee's work.
- b. We've analyzed data from Department of Human Services investigative memos about the number of substantiated reports of abuse.
- c. We've identified other states that have combined reporting, information, and education and training resources.
- d. End user testing is being conducted on the Bill of Rights for Supervised Living Facilities, and Home and Community Based Services under Section 245D.

8. Executive Order 14-14 set a goal of 7% employment of individuals with developmental disabilities in state government by August 2018.

The Connect 700 Program for hiring individuals with disabilities in state government does not have a uniform onboarding check list and so work has been completed to create one.

A supported work manual that has not been updated for 22 years will be updated.

9. The Project SEARCH graduation was held on June 6, 2017 with a full house in attendance. Parents testified about the dramatic changes in the students who participated this year.
10. The Attorney General's Office sponsored a CLE on May 9, 2017, "Justice for Victims with Disabilities;" 182 individuals attended;

The Minnesota Chapter of the Federal Bar Association co-hosted a CLE about sex trafficking of people with disabilities. A video interview was conducted with Sarah Bessell, Human Trafficking Pro Bono Legal Center, following the CLE; the video interview is featured on the Council website;

The Federal Bar Association will hold a Practice Seminar on June 20, 2017; one session will be employment and individuals with disabilities;

In a 40 day time period, 400 attorneys and judges received training.

11. A replication manual for the Ambassadors for Respect Anti-Bullying Project has been created.
12. An application was submitted for a State Government Innovation Award. The Ambassadors for Respect Anti-Bullying Campaign was nominated.
13. The 30th Anniversary of the Partners in Policymaking program (175 attendees) and the graduation of Partners Class 34 (80 attendees) were celebrated on May 13, 2017.

Public officials included Senator John Hoffman; Department of Administration Commissioner Massman who read the Proclamation from the Governor's Office declaring May 13, 2017 as Partners in Policymaking® Day in Minnesota; United States District Court Judge Donovan Frank; and former United States Senator Dave Durenberger, reflecting on his 60 years of service in the public policy arena and how the Partners program and graduates have aided the policymaking process in positive ways.

Quilleash said that Partners is amazing and one of the most valuable programs that the Council supports. The networking that occurs and the impact on people in very life changing ways is really touching.

Onyeneho said she was so glad for the experience of being there for the celebration.

14. Recruitment for Partners Class 35 is underway; Council members were asked to assist. A press release has gone out to all media and state agencies have helped to disseminate information;

Class 34 Partner graduates were featured on the KFAI radio program, "Disabled and Proud," and the "Disability Viewpoints" cable television program to talk about their Partners experience.

15. The State Capitol Restoration Grand Opening is scheduled to be held August 11 – 13, 2017. Everyone is invited to attend.

IX. ADJOURNMENT

Bailey asked that the meeting be adjourned.

The meeting was adjourned by consensus at 2:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Colleen Wieck
Executive Director