MINNESOTA GOVERNOR’S COUNCIL
ON DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES

Wednesday, April 6, 2016, 2016
12:15 p.m. - 2:15 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
Alex Bartolic, Vice Chair
Marrie Bottelson
Emilie Breit
Pamela Hoopes
Jim Lovold
Barbara Lundeen
Lynne Megan
Kate Onyeneho
Carolyn Perron
David Quilleash
Mary Raasch
Robbie Reedy
Jacqueline Rightler
Bonnie Jean Smith
Michael Stern
Kathy Ware
Alan Wilensky

STAFF PRESENT
Colleen Wieck
Mary Jo Nichols

MEMBERS EXCUSED
Senator John Hoffman, Chair
Mary Hauff
David R. Johnson
Eric Kloos

MEMBER ABSENT
Linda Simenstad

GUESTS
Anna Coolidge, support staff for Robbie Reedy
Aaron Barnes, Department of Education
Department of Human Services staff:
  Carol Anthony
  Jason Flint
  Charles Young
Teresa Eide, St. Catherine’s University graduate
Rachel Freeman, Institute on Community Integration, University of Minnesota
GUESTS, cont’d.

Nancy Miller, Metro State University
Stephanie Nelson, Southside Services
Robyn Widley, Department of Education
Jonah Weinberg, Autism Society of Minnesota

COUNCIL PROGRAM

Alex Bartolic, Department of Human Services, began by noting that, at this morning’s meeting of the Public Policy Committee, members heard about what’s happening in the schools about Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports (PBIS). The Department of Human Services is working together with the Department of Education on Minnesota’s Statewide Plan for implementing Positive Behavior Supports (PBS) to assure that PBS will become a reality across the state.

Team members then introduced themselves –

Rachel Freeman, Institute on Community Integration, will talk about the application of PBS across several areas and populations;

Carol Anthony is project manager and oversees the contract with the Institute on Community Integration and the relationship to Minnesota’s Olmstead Plan;

Jason Flint has policy level experience and is focusing on technical assistance related to community capacity building;

Charles Young was instrumental in the development of the Positive Support Rule.

A PowerPoint was prepared for this presentation and is attached to the Minutes. Team members discussed different aspects of the Statewide Plan.

Young stated that he worked on 245D and transitioning from prohibited practices to positive supports with the adoption of the Positive Support Rule in August 2015. People are interested in the history that dates back to 1949 when efforts were made to outlaw restrictive procedures. In the past, these methods were considered therapeutic; punishment was thought to be a great teaching tool but that's not true anymore. The
Vulnerable Adult Act and Maltreatment of Minors Act view certain procedures as abuse. Providers were told what not to do; positive supports talks about what to do.

The Jensen Settlement Agreement required the modernization of Rule 40. The Positive Support Rule, meant to complement 245D, affects all DHS license holders and all individuals with developmental disabilities and related conditions who are receiving services in licensed 245A programs. Data collection on certain procedures started in 2014; all uses of restrictive procedures are to be reported.

Young then reviewed the purpose of the Positive Support Rule – to improve the quality of life for individuals receiving home and community based services or other services in licensed programs, examples of positive supports, the relationship between positive supports and person centered practices.

The logic model is being used in the implementation of the overall PBIS Plan, making the vision a reality. It’s important to build positive supports into everyday practices; the specific practices that need to be in place may depend on the agency. Practitioners are available across the state to help individuals and families, and providers become aware of positive supports. Results are showing fewer emergency room visits and fewer prohibited practices being used.

Freeman talked about the partnership between DHS and the Institute on Community Integration, and the focus on training and technical assistance. Alignment of the Statewide Plan goals with the Olmstead Plan goals, and the support and availability of evidence-based practices will help with developing a framework for broad implementation of positive supports.

In response to Lynne Megan’s question about how revenue resources are being incorporated into the Statewide Plan so providers can attend the trainings, Freeman said that a number of organizations are already working on building capacity in the regions.

More than 3,500 people have participated in training sessions; DHS also has a list of personal trainers for training sessions on person centered thinking. A survey was conducted to determine the number of individuals who have facilitated person centered plans or would be interested in doing so.

Anthony talked about building a training and technical assistance infrastructure. The present focus is on person centered practices and positive behavior supports. There’s
interest in expanding training opportunities that support evidence based data driven decision making across Minnesota.

She said that a total of 168 people completed the survey and indicated that they have had some experience already and are currently doing person centered plans. A credentialing process is being developed.

Flint noted that class members are entitled to person centered plans and that DHS is in the process of defining “positive supports”. There is concern that the bar could be set so high that no one would be able to meet it. Achievements to date regarding implementation of the Statewide Plan were highlighted.

Training efforts currently in place were identified along with the number of people or organizations trained in some person centered or positive behavior support practices - 23 trainers trained in person centered thinking and 35 waiting to be credentialed; 300 trained in person centered planning; 540 people and 280 organizations completed a person centered organization workshop.

Reedy asked whether training for person centered thinking and planning is limited to providers or open to anyone. Anthony discussed the two Training Cohorts for organizational implementation training – Cohort 1 began in May 2015; four organizations in the metro area and Duluth have monthly training sessions; Cohort 2 has expanded to eight organizations. The Cohort organizational training is a separate training path.

Implementation efforts will continue with partnerships with DEED and the Department of Corrections.

All team members were thanked for their presentations on the implementation of a Statewide Plan for Positive Behavior Supports.

I. CALL TO ORDER

Bailey called the meeting to order at 1:40 p.m.

II. INTRODUCTIONS

All present introduced him/herself.
III. **APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA**

Bailey asked for approval of the Agenda.

**MOTION:** Quilleash moved, seconded by Hoopes to approve the Agenda. Motion carried; there were no dissenting votes.

IV. **APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES FOR FEBRUARY 3, 2016**

Bailey asked for approval of the Minutes as written for February 3, 2016.

**MOTION:** Megan moved, seconded by Hoopes to approve the Minutes as written for February 3, 2016. Motion carried; there were no dissenting votes.

V. **CHAIR’S REPORT**

Senator Hoffman is carrying several bills at the Capitol and unable to attend today’s meeting.

VI. **GRANT REVIEW COMMITTEE**

A. **Results of Review and Evaluation of Applications for Cosponsorship Funds for Training Conferences and Funding Recommendations**

Smith said that there were funds remaining after applications were approved and awards made for cosponsorship funds for training conferences in February. The notice for applications was reissued, two applications were received, and funding recommendations are being brought for the Council’s approval.

Smith reminded members about the Conflict of Interest Policy and the Conflict of Interest Form that should be signed if a member does not have a conflict of interest with the applicant organization. Motions will be brought separately so abstentions can be noted.

**MOTION:** Raasch moved, seconded by Breit to approve the application submitted by the **Minnesota Organization for Habilitation and Rehabilitation (MOHR)** for $1,637.00. Motion carried; there were no dissenting votes. Megan abstained.
MOTION: Reedy moved, seconded by Megan to approve the application submitted by All Star Academy for $1,638. Motion carried; there were no dissenting votes. Onyeneho abstained.

B. Request for Proposal for Electronic Government Services

This RFP is a joint proposal with MN.IT Services. MN.IT Services has a list of pre-qualified vendors in several IT related areas; the RFP will be issued through their list.

C. Five Year State Plan

Wieck reported that the Proposed Goal Statements were approved at the February Council meeting and then made available for a 30 day public comment period. Twenty-seven separate comments were received (these were summarized); there was no opposition to the Proposed Goal Statements and no substantive comments.

The Goal Statements, objectives for each year that meet the federal requirements, and numbers/expected outcomes were reviewed. The rationale will be the Individual and Provider survey results, relevant sections of the Comprehensive Review and Analysis, and anything of significance in the state, such as the Olmstead Plan. Funding will be added based on the Committee’s recommendations.

A logic model for all goal statements has also been prepared and must be included in this Five Year State Plan.

VII. PUBLIC POLICY COMMITTEE

The Public Policy Committee spent their meeting discussing PBIS with Department of Education staff members Aaron Barnes, Garrett Petrie, Maci Spica, and Robyn Widley.

Reedy reported that a lot has changed in the schools because of positive behavior supports. Data is being collected. Some schools are on board and using positive behavior supports. Reedy noted that he was pleased to see that the Duluth schools are doing this.
This effort is intended to improve the classroom environment. Students should be able to say what positive things are going on in classrooms.

VIII. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR’S REPORT

A. Wieck provided the following updates and highlights from monthly reports:

1. Two parent appointments to the Council are in process. These should be finalized and new members here for the June meeting.

2. About 100 people attended the Public Media Forum on February 29, 2016. Liz Collins, WCCO Reporter and Anchor, came to the Council office after the Forum; she was very impressed and fascinated by the people who attended.

   Ruben Rosario, St. Paul Pioneer Press, contacted Bonnie Jean Smith following the Forum and is interested in doing a story.

3. A supplemental budget request for funding the Council is included on the Senate side due to good constituent contacts.

4. A mediation session was held on February 23, 2016 with the Court regarding measurable goals for Assistive Technology, and Preventing Abuse and Neglect. Court orders are in place regarding a reporting schedule, Court Monitor duties and what functions are still needed, and bi-annual status conferences.

5. The rest of the Five Year State Plan will be presented at the June meeting. A collaboration goal is required; one will be written around the Olmstead Plan and positive behavioral supports.

6. The Council of State Governments has convened a National Task Force on Workforce Development for People with Disabilities. The Task Force will look at how state policy can help bridge the employment gap. Senator Hoffman and Bonnie Jean Smith attended the meeting.
IX. **ADJOURNMENT**

Bailey asked for adjournment

The meeting was adjourned by consensus at 2:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted

Colleen Wieck  
Executive Director