



REVISED MINUTES

January 19, 2017

Commission Members in Attendance: Cheryl Cisneros, Pat Sublette, Michele Raddish, Mark Whitaker, and Bruce Baker. Lisa Darnold and Sydney Shook joined the meeting.

Others in Attendance: Brad Hendershott (Chairperson - Education), Joyce Bernheim (Screening, Identification & Assessment), and Representative, Jodi Hack.

Introductions

Update on Strategic Planning Process

- OCASD held stakeholder forums in Salem (November 14) and Southern Oregon (December 12), including video conferencing people from Roseburg and Klamath Falls into a site meeting in Medford. Approximately 75 people were involved in these two forums. We also had 12 people attending focus groups in Bend (December 14) and Baker City (December 15). A focus group is scheduled with support from Disability Rights Oregon and Parents in Action this month for Spanish speaking Latino families. A written survey statewide is in process, with just more than a 10% response rate at this time. This consists of a broad array of constituents. The intention in all of these inputs is to get information for the strategic plan. Additional analysis in process involves organizational development in policies, procedures and structure.
- Concern expressed that survey is not more prominently promoted through agencies such as Autism Society of Oregon. Cheryl will follow-up with ASO and the Strategic Planning Consultant to ensure that the survey is widely distributed.
- Focus groups have brought forward issues such as homelessness and housing barriers specifically in relation to the family member experiencing autism.
- Discussion regarding legal and judicial challenges, and the need for awareness and policy development to protect Oregonians with autism. There is a need to engage law enforcement and the judicial system in the work of the Commission. There may be issues that could be addressed legislatively.
- A suggestion was made to provide the Governor with a status report and revised short term plan. It was recommended that this be developed as an interim plan and presented as an amendment to the initial 2010 ten-year plan. The three year plan would highlight what was important then and now as informed by the recent stakeholder forums and surveys.

- Discussion regarding the need to revisit the roles and professional representation of the Commission Members. It was suggested that it may be beneficial to add positions for Applied Behavioral Analysis, Judicial System, Housing, Social Services and Early Childhood representatives.
- It was noted that the roles, responsibilities and commitment of Commission members be clearly outlined and reinforced.
- It was suggested that the Commission request that the Executive Order 11-05 be revised.
- Consider remote participation via video. This is available at the Capitol.
- It was suggested that video meetings be intentionally coordinated to increase opportunities to participate from across the state.
- The current strategic planning process which involves stakeholder forums is revitalizing energy and interest in the Commission by a wide array of families and professionals.
- It was noted that there is a need to move away from long-term subcommittees to short-term project work groups / task force initiatives. Discussion regarding the complications of long-term subcommittee structure and benefits of short-term work groups.
- It was mentioned that legislative support staff may be of assistance in moving legislative task force initiatives forward once identified.
- There was discussion regarding the need for paid staff at the administrative / management level.
- There is a need to engage other legislators. It was suggested that the Commission reach out to Senator Sara Gelser to see if she would be interested in requesting Governor's Appointment to the Commission.
- It was mentioned that the Commission has several recommended appointees to fill open Commission positions for several months but have not been effective at getting those appointments confirmed through the Governor's office. It was also noted that there are several professional and family member stakeholders who participated in recent stakeholder forums who might be excellent candidates. It was recommended that legislators on the Commission directly request appointments of potential candidates for Commission Members with the Governor. Cheryl will provide a list of previously identified candidates, and suggested that the roster of forum participants be reviewed for additional potential Commission member candidates.
- Discussion regarding the role of the Commission:
 - Inform Legislature, Governor and other policy makers
 - Interdisciplinary leadership, collaboration and synergy
 - Influence progression of systems and policy issues
 - Systems accountability
 - Awareness of current barriers and opportunities
- The Commission looks forward to revitalizing goals, projects and participation.

- The Commission believes it is important to reflect on the question of whether Oregonians with autism live full lives in the community. Until the answer is a resounding YES! There is work for the Commission to do.
- It was noted that Interdisciplinary work groups are needed.
- Families need support at time of diagnosis and in navigating support systems.
- Commission successes include Education Self-Assessment, ASD Specialist Credential, and New Diagnosis Navigation Map.
- The strategic plan and report of stakeholder input is expected to provide the Commission with specific topics to focus on.
- A potential work group may involve a judicial focus to address homelessness, bullying, and mass casualty tragedies involving individuals who have an autism spectrum disorder.

Leadership Transition

- Cheryl Cisneros resigned from the position of Chairperson, and will continue to serve an extended term in the Parent of an Adult role through the end of this calendar year.
- The Commission recommended that Pat Sublette take over the role of Cheryl Cisneros, until October 2017 when Pat's term on the Commission will end. This recommendation will be provided to the Governor for consideration.
- Appreciation was expressed to Cheryl Cisneros for her advocacy, and passion as the Chairman of the Commission.

Lunch

Update on DD Services

- DD Services is undergoing a legislatively directed realignment of needs assessments to determine amount of in-home services, which is resulting in a reduction of approximately 30%. There is an exception process that is being utilized to have a secondary review of individual circumstances.
- The Governor's Proposed Budget eliminates funding for family networks, Fairview Trust, regional programs which coordinate training / crisis services / resource development, and reduces funding for case management. There was a Policy Option Package to increase wages for provider agency Direct Support Professionals who are currently paid \$10 per hour which perform the same work as Personal Support Workers who are paid \$14 per hour that will not be fully funded.
- The Co-Chairs Budget is reportedly worse. Upon review the Co-Chairs budget threatens to tighten eligibility requirements for DD Services.
- Discussion of the importance of regional Family Networks.
- It was noted that K Plan (Community First Choice Plan) was created by 1915(k) section of Affordable Care Act. If the new federal administration dismantles the Affordable Care Act, it is possible that the K Plan would be altered. It is anticipated

that the new federal administration will change the structure of Medicaid funding to Block Grants or per capita payments.

- OHP has mechanism for children to access Medicaid if they meet the SSI disability standard as someone who requires an institutional level of care, which would qualify them for the comprehensive services waiver and make them eligible for OHP. If OHP is primary source of coverage it would be associated with the CCOs, if secondary it would be Open Card.

SIA Presentation-Funding Request/Proposal

- A background of the project summary was provided as part of the SIA presentation
- It was noted that for the project to be eligible for grant funding it would need to be released to a non-profit organization. ORCA was suggested as a resource. It is important to the Commission that products resulting from the work of the Commission and its committees not be used for profit. It was also suggested that these training modules may be beneficial for educators, professional development associations, and national advocacy organizations to utilize.
- It was noted that mini grants funded by the Commission are intended strictly as seed money and should not be funding entire projects. There was concern raised that almost \$10,000 of Commission funds have already gone into this project.
- SIA was directed to reach out to potential funders to obtain information about most reliable project evaluators. It was also recommended that SIA contact PSU, Katie Zuckerman & Dora Raymaker for suggestions.
- The funding request of up to \$5000 was approved pending approval of one of at least two required bids from evaluators.
- Once an evaluator is selected, the Commission would then need to determine which non-profit entity the project would go to for grant funding.

Education Committee Update

- Online videoconference meetings via Zoom have been going well.
- Committee is revisiting the Educational ASD Self-Assessment project.
- The Education Committee is interested in developing a companion resource tool kit for districts who have used the self-assessment to address priority targets to help implement action plans. A small work group has been developed to develop this online tool kit.
- Discussion regarding ASD Specialist Credential. Western Oregon University continues to offer this coursework. There are about 80 credentialed ASD Specialists statewide to date.
- The Education Committee would like the OCASD website to feature more resources to educators.
- The Education Committee is also working with ODE on revisions to the medical statement form.

Next Steps

- Meetings will continue on 3rd Thursday of each odd month of the year. In March and May 2017, the meetings will be held from 8-10:30 am, instead of 10am-2pm, at the Capitol due to the legislative session. Logistics for the room reservation and refreshments will be coordinated through Representative Hack's office. It was requested that a conference call line also be provided.
- Cheryl will meet with Pat before the next meeting to provide an orientation of Commission Administration and transfer files to her. Reference documents will also be shared with Representative Hack as a potential member of the Commission.

Adjourn

The meeting adjourned 1:45 pm.

Pat Sublette, Interim Chairman