

Mi Via Advisory Committee

Meeting Notes 7/13/2011

The Mi Via Advisory Committee supports the Mi Via Waiver program in the following ways:

To reinforce the Mi Via philosophy of self-direction;

To engage “on the ground floor” in providing input and recommendations during policy considerations;

To assist the State Mi Via Waiver Program with the on-going evaluation and improvement of Mi Via; and

To help identify ways to simplify the Mi Via processes.



**Mi Via: Choosing
Self-Direction**



Date: July 13, 2011

Held in the North Conference Room Human Services Department, 2025 Pacheco, Santa Fe NM 87505

Attendees (in person): Stevie Bass, parent; Tony Chavez, participant; Nadine Maes, parent; Dolores Harden, parent; Shawn Harden, Participant; Justin Harden, Participant; Gary Benavidez, Parent; Carol Watts, CDPC; Gina Burttram, Molina; Kim Shipman, Molina; Angela Medrano, HSD; Tallie Tolen, HSD; Gina Gallardo, HSD; Betty Sangre, HSD; Teresa Garcia, HSD; Cathy Stevenson, DOH; Pat Syme, DOH

Via telephone: Althea McLuckie, parent; Mario Lucero, participant; Shari Jensen, participant; John Anaya, Participant; Tana Hemingway, Participant; Travis Goldman, Family Member; Genevieve Rel, DOH

Absent: Doris Husted, ARC of NM; Lisa Gianardi, Participant; Donna Begay, Family Member.

1. Welcome and Introductions

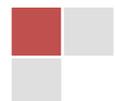
- a. Cathy Stevenson, Acting Director of the Developmental Disabilities Supports Division of the Department of Health, welcomed both the new and current Advisory Committee members.
- b. Each member was asked to introduce themselves, where they were from, who they represented, why they wanted to be a part of the Advisory Committee and what they could contribute.

2. Orientation for New Members

- a. Cathy Stevenson reviewed the handouts on “team ground rules” and “ground rules for effective meetings.” The group decided to select certain guidelines to help meetings run smoothly and to encourage maximum participation by all. Pat Syme to condense the selected ground rules and distribute to the group with the next minutes or before.
- b. The Committee discussed various locations and ways to make meetings easier to attend and for people to eventually meet everyone in person. Nadine Maes will look into the possibility of the Center for Development and Disability (CDD) assisting with video conferencing. Meetings will be alternated between Santa Fe and Albuquerque with a plan to eventually hold the meetings in other cities throughout the state and encourage local participants to attend.
- c. Media Releases were distributed to all members so that contact information could be made public to participants. Members were asked to consider how they may want to be contacted and to return the forms to Pat Syme by 7/29/11..

3. Bylaws

- a. The Committee reviewed the bylaws with drafted changes needed to reflect the reorganization of state agency responsibilities.
- b. The Committee discussed terms. All new members are appointed for three year terms. The area that needs to be addressed involves the original members who



have served for over 3 years. The Committee proposed having 4 of the old members with 2 year terms and 4 with one year terms. Pat Syme will poll old members as to their preference.

- c. The Committee also discussed the concept of Officers. Cathy Stevenson announced the state is considering appointing a standing facilitator to the Advisory Committee.
- d. The Advisory Committee scheduled an Ad Hoc meeting on 8/10/11 from 9:00 am to 10:30 am to discuss these organizational issues. Pat Syme to set up both in person and conference call in number for the meeting and send out invitations.

4. State Update

- a. Angela Medrano, Bureau Chief, HSD discussed the merger of the Aging and Long Term Services Department, ALTSD, Elderly and Disabled Services Division into Human Service Department, HSD. She explained that the merger was based on a Legislative Finance Committee audit of the CoLTS program. The division also included the Mi Via Program. 16 staff people were transferred to HSD from ALTSD.
- b. Angela also discussed the Medicaid Modernization concept and provided a schedule of public meetings throughout the state to gather feedback on how Medicaid should be restructured. HSD has hired Alicia Smith & Associates to gather input on Medicaid modernization. Based on public input, Alicia will provide recommendations to HSD in August. An 1115 demonstration Waiver may be developed as early as December, followed by further public comment. Angela directed the committee to the HSD website for further information and comment. The Committee was very interested in the process and for advocating for the Mi Via program and self direction. Althea suggested that a large portion of the next meeting be devoted to Medicaid Modernization, reviewing the recommendations providing a formal response and that as a representative of the National Participant Network she would certainly be willing to meet with Alicia.
- c. Tallie Tolen, HSD, reported on Financial Management agency (FMA) and Third party Assessor (TPA) issues. Tallie reported that the Mi Via Spending reports for April and May have been issued to participants. Stevie mentioned she received the spending reports within days of each other. Tallie stated that was related to the initial roll out of reports and now that they would be spaced a month apart according to a defined schedule that captures the entire month's spending. Tallie reported that credentialing requirement information will also soon be distributed and that annual updates' of vendor and employee agreements will be required as the annual SSPs come due. ACS will be strictly enforcing the new timely filing standards of 90 days after 7/15/11. Dolores Harden asked about the credentialing requirements for Native American Healers in terms of Business licenses or other types of certification. Tallie stated the more formal requirements are waived for that service and that people who are recognized by their communities as healers is the primary qualification. However, Native American healers must still comply with program rules related to taxes, credentialing and employment by completing the appropriate enrollment packet. Training on the GCES system is still being offered to participants as demand is identified. The Return to Provider (RTP) letter was discussed in relation to errors on timesheets,



employee packets, and payment requests. 3 calls will be made when an error occurs and the RTP letter will be sent identifying what needs to be done to correct the situation. ACS paperwork tracking was discussed. ACS continues to work on refining their tracking system so that documents can be retrieved easily and quickly.

- d. The committee discussed what might be the best way to gather feedback on systemic issues. The committee proposed that all Mi Via participants be reminded or informed that there is a Mi Via complaint system and to make their issues known via the website and newsletter. Complaint data then should be brought to the meeting on a quarterly basis for review. John Anaya suggested that the top 2 issues be analyzed by a sub-committee and recommendations for remediation made. Nadine Maes feels a survey of participants needs to be conducted as well and would be a valuable tool in identifying systemic issues. Further discussion on this issue will occur at the next meeting.

5. Next Meeting Date/ Public Comment

- a. Annual Meeting Schedule;
 - i. October 12, 2011 1:00 – 4 pm, DDSD Offices in Bank of the West Building, Albuquerque - room to be determined.
 - ii. January 11, 2012, 1:00 – 4 pm, HSD Santa Fe, room to be determined
 - iii. April 11, 2012 - 1:00 – 4 pm, DDSD Offices in Bank of the West Building, Albuquerque - room to be determined

