Mission: The Advisory Council advises the New Mexico Department of Health on the systems guiding the provision of services and supports that assist people with developmental disabilities of all ages and their families to be fully included in New Mexico communities.

Vision: People with developmental disabilities of all ages and their families receive the support and services needed to live inclusively and as independently as possible within their communities.

ACQ Members: Patrick Anaya, Dan DePalma, Lilly Martinez, Danny Palma, Kathleen Cates, Mark Taylor, Naomi Sandweiss (for Lisa Rossignol), Jim Copeland, Virginia Lynch, Stevie Bass, Sandy Skaar, Joyce Munoz

State Staff: Cassandra DeCamp, Gabriella Ramos, Marc Kolman, Melanie Buenviaje, Kresta Opperman, Tracy Agiovlasitis, Regina Lewis, Lisa Storti, Deb Vering, Chris Futey, Theresa Larson, Kathy Baker

Guests: Dee Burns, Sesai Calderon, Siri Gurunam Kaur

Call to Order: Patrick Anaya called the meeting to order at 10:15 am

Welcome, Introductions and ACQ Housekeeping:
Welcome Lecie McNees as newest member of Executive Committee. Sandy Skaar has been approved by the Governor’s office – Welcome, Sandy!
Bylaws – Executive Committee would like to revise the bylaws to reflect that the Executive Committee Meeting will be 14 days before the full ACQ. Discussion was held. Notice will be emailed to all members at least 10 days before the April meeting. A vote will be taken at the April meeting.
Approve December Summary – Summary was discussed – Joyce Munoz made motion to approve, seconded by Mark Taylor, all approved
Partner Forms –
Kathleen Cates – Mi Via Payments – HSD (Human Services Department) Update: Melanie went over the difficulties they face with issuing debit cards and/or credit cards. The State is looking at other options. Melanie will send information to Kathy Baker who will forward to all interested parties.
Virginia Lynch – Amending Mi Via Standards – Virginia will send a clarification to Kathy Baker as to what she would like the Partner form to address.
Closing the loop on Partner Forms – The Partner Forms will initially go to the Executive Committee. If it can be addressed there, it will be, otherwise it will be sent to the proper party to address it.
Wise Plan:
Chris Futey went over the fundamental ideas behind the ACQ Wise Plan.

Goal 2: Increase System Capacity:
Action Step 2: Wait List Committee will partner with HB2/DDSD (Developmental Disabilities Supports Division) committee: Cassandra DeCamp reported this should be Senate Memorial 20 instead of HB2 (House Bill 2), which is the State Budget.

Goal 2: Increase System Capacity:
Action Step 3: Explore a volunteer approach to ongoing maintenance of accuracy of the wait list numbers: Cassandra explained the difference between the Wait List and the Central Registry and what they are doing to keep people informed about how the wait list is being maintained. There will be a Community Benefit presentation at the April ACQ meeting.

Action Step 4: ACQ will make recommendations to DDSD on how to clean up wait list numbers and maintain accuracy thereafter: Chris Futey asked ACQ to have recommendations brought to the April meeting.

Wise Plan:
Goal 3: Improve Communication with Stakeholders
Action Step 1: The ACQ will meet with the ICC, DDSD and others to identify and assess challenges - ICC (Interagency Coordinating Council): Jim Copeland will be changed from a Provider member to the ICC delegate member. ICC Communication: Federally mandated to hold 4 meetings per year. The Strategic Plan contains 4 committees: Quality, Workforce Development and Professional Support, Finance and Communication. There is an advisory committee and part time funded coordinator. Jim will send the ICC highlights to Kathy Baker who will send them to ACQ members and interested parties.

Other Topics of Discussion:
Melanie Buenviaje: Medicaid is proposing co-pays, including those individuals on DDW (Developmental Disabilities Waiver) and Mi Via waiver. If anyone is interested in being on the Interested Parties List, let Kathy Baker. Melanie will send the information to Kathy Baker.

Know Your Rights Campaign: The Know Your Rights Campaign was developed to educate the public about the CMS (Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services) Final Rule. It is to make sure that providers are aware of the rights of individuals. DDSD has contracted with Wendy Corry to educate the public. A steering committee has been formed and there will be 4 statewide Town Hall Meetings. DOH received initial approval of the Statewide Transition Plan. The Survey Tool was sent to providers and self-assessments were completed. CDD (Center for Development and Disabilities) will be doing validation audits. Dr. Tony Cahill will be starting these around the first of March.

OR (Outside Review) Recommendation: There was discussion on what options were available to ACQ about what should be done next. Marc Kolman said it was discussed with DDSD Senior Management team. They are willing to send someone to speak to whomever ACQ would like. It was requested that this topic stay alive and continue to be discussed.

Mi Via: Stevie Bass gave an update on what was discussed at the last MVAC (Mi Via Advisory Committee) meeting.
Transportation Guidelines: The Transportation Guidelines will be sent out to all ACQ.

SIS Funding: A question was asked regarding SIS (Supports Intensity Scale) funding. There are currently two active contracts. Once this money is freed up the monies will go back into State General Funds. The amount requested for FY18 is considerably less than FY17 and any money left from FY18 will go for services. Deb Vering will give the dollar amounts that were allocated for FY 17 & 18. This money will stay within the DDW.

Future Agenda Items:

Motion to adjourn at 4:00 pm.