



## **DDSD Advisory Council on Quality (ACQ) Meeting Notes October 14, 2021**

**(Revised and approved December 9, 2021)**

### **MEMBERS PRESENT**

Lisa Blue (Co-chair), Daniel Ekman (Co-chair), Veronica Chavez-Neuman, Lily Martinez, Wendy Ford- Licon proxy for Cathy Salazar, Patrick Anaya, Stevie Bass, Joyce Munoz, Dan De Paula, Tracy Perry, Angelique Tafoya, April Spaulding, Laura Matthews, Sandy Skaar, Jessica Gutierrez, Christina Barden, Cynthia Chavez, Judy Sena, Elisheva Levin, Allyson Rhatigan, Gabriela Ramos

### **MEMBERS ABSENT**

### **STATE AGENCY NON-VOTING PARTNERS PRESENT**

Alice Liu McCoy, Gay Finlayson

### **STATE AGENCIES PRESENT**

Scott Doan, Marc Kolman, Iris Clevenger, Marie Velasco, Kresta Opperman, Tallie Tollen, Cassandra DeCamp, Victoria Herrera, Margaret Bost, Casey Stone-Romero, Evangeline Yanez, Chris Futey, Jason Cornwell, Lindsay Sloan, Melanie Buenviaje, Michael Driskell, Kim Carter, Teresa Larson, Jennifer Roth

### **GUESTS**

Peggy O'Neill, Alicia Bernal, Peter Crespin, Kristin Dark, Angela Ortega, Adam Zamora, Holly Faulkner, Ampara Mato, Jentry Hinton, Jessica Velarde, Jennifer Rose Stubbs, Roel Adamson, Krystal Ortiz, Robert Kegal, Tim Gardner, Susan Forbes, Lisa Mc Niven, Monica Montoya, Norrane Wiggins, Amando Montano, Miriam Rivera, Selma Dodson, Jim Copeland, Michelle German, Isaac Sandoval, Erika Tode, Ann Marie Parmenter, Jenni McNab, Christine Bragg, Isiah Hawthorn, Crystal Garcia, Siri Guru Nam Khalsa, Jacob Patterson

### **ACQ ADMINISTRATOR**

Wendy Corry

### **WELCOME/ ANNOUNCEMENTS**

- We are very excited to announce and congratulate our new ACQ Members who have been officially approved by the Governor's Office!  
Elisheva Levin- Self Advocate  
April Spaulding- Other Organization
- We are sad to announce the resignation of Jenni Bartz, representative for the Medically Fragile Family Advisory Board. We thank her for her enthusiasm and great positive energy.

- We now have seven positions to fill: One person with IDD/family member, two providers, two self-advocacy organizations, one direct care provider and one other organization. ACQ members will be voting today to fill these positions.
- The Developmental Disabilities Council partnered with NM Advocate Leaders to create a video advocating for fully funding DDSD. The video is being distributed to key legislators.
- If you have any concerns you want to bring to the attention of the ACQ Exec. Comm. please contact any ACQ Exec. Comm. member (Daniel Ekman, Lisa Blue, Tracy Perry, Marc Kolman or Wendy Corry)

## REVIEW OF MINUTES FROM AUGUST 2021

- Minutes were approved with no revisions. Gabriela moved to approve the minutes and Angelique seconded the motion.

## PUBLIC COMMENT:

- Two people made Public Comments at today's meeting.
- Public Comments are recorded through ZOOM and are available through the ACQ website at <https://www.nmhealth.org/about/ddsd/coco/acq/>

## COVID-19 UPDATE/DIRECTOR'S UPDATE- Jason

### COVID Update- Jason

- Jason provided the COVID statistics for people receiving waiver services and this is attached with the minutes.

### DDSD: Other Information- Jason

- Jason presented a PowerPoint (see attached) which included information on the Timeline for CMS Rule Statewide Transition Plan, DDSD Wait List data, Jackson lawsuit status, FY23 budget request etc.
- Jackson Lawsuit: Court gave approval to settlement agreement in 2019. Disengaged 8 of 10 obligations. DDSD will do ten things to remedy any violations of Section 504 of Rehabilitation Act. Paragraph 12 (health services) and paragraph 13 (qualified provider initiatives) not disengaged.
- Discussion on the critical importance of advocating and educating legislators to fully fund DDSD to increase provider rates that have not been fully funded and reduce the wait list. **Everyone is encouraged to make public comment at the upcoming LHHS meeting as well as with individual legislators on the Legislative Finance Comm.**

## ACQ BOD MEMBER ELECTIONS

- Two people withdrew their applications.
- The following seven people were selected as potential new BOD members and will be forwarded to the Governor's Office for approval: Family member- Christine Bragg,

Providers- Peggy O'Neill and Peter Crespin, Direct Care- Valerie Dewbre, Self-Advocacy agencies- Roel Adamson and Crystal Garcia and Other Organization- Siri Guru Nam Khalsa

### **HSD PRESENTATION on MCO's- Melanie**

- A Power Point presentation was conducted; the PowerPoint was distributed to all ACQ Interested Parties.
- A lot of the questions centered on services available through Community Benefits and Centennial Care.
- The following specific data was requested from HSD: 1) How many people on the DD Wait List who are ages 18 and up are receiving Community Benefits and what specific services are they receiving? 2) A list of Community Benefit providers and which specific services each provider provides for people ages 18 and up (some concern that even though providers may be listed as providing a service, they may not currently provide this service) and 3) where are people receiving an allocation coming from

### **STANDING COMMITTEE UPDATES:**

#### **MI Via Matters-Stevie**

- The Mi Via Advisory Committee report has been sent to all ACQ Interested Parties.
- The committee did receive a draft of the proposed updated service standards and descriptions but found it very difficult to understand due to multiple colors, marks, etc. being given on the report.
- Discussion on the need to redesign the flow of communication between Workforce Solutions and the Employee of Record (EOR) as this is problematic. HSD responded that they met with the Dept. of Workforce Solutions (DWS) on this exact topic and developed a process with DWS. DWS will send over the request and supported documentation to PALCO directly and it will then send it to EOR. More of an alert if it is coming from PALCO. The next step is to look at electronic signatures instead of paper claims.

#### **Possible new Legislative Comm./Education Comm.**

- An ACQ member stated they heard a lot of need for that in the last meeting. Supportive of it and would like to be involved. The ICC has a public relations and education committee and is a part of it within the ICC.
- DDSD stated the ICC receives federal funds to support the committee, which is why they have different requirements from the ACQ.

#### **Create a By-Laws Comm.**

- Marc Kolman: There are a few issues that could be resolved in the by-laws. The last time a by-laws committee was formed, worked with Tanya Baker-McCue and Brad Hill to make necessary changes. Happy to meet with people that want to work on it.

### **ELECTRONIC VERIFICATION VISITATION (EVV) UPDATE- Marc and Melanie**

- Working on end of Phase 1 and beginning of Phase 2. Business requirement, training plan and pilot prior to implementation of phase 2. They are aware of the issue with clocking in and clocking out with someone you live with as well as issues with CCSC. Phase 2 of EVV will be extended as they want to make sure that all participants are comfortable with current phase before moving into Phase 2. Will provide what timelines over the next two weeks.
- Concern expressed about the current contractor, PALCO and the challenges people are having. A request was made to HSD to allow providers/vendors the use of electronic signatures. Concerns expressed about the use of two different systems (Required EVV and Required Daily notes) could set providers and vendors up for failure for QMB audits.

#### **QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS-**

- What is the update on the Gross Receipts Tax? HSD met with DOH and have a solution for Omnicaid that can address it, but it is a partial solution. DOH reached out to NM Tax and Revenue Dept. to see what could be done. Any GRT not provided at the correct rate will be paid to the providers.

#### **ACTION ITEMS:**

- The following specific data was requested from HSD: 1) How many people on the DD Wait List ages 18 and up are receiving Community Benefits and what specific services are they receiving. 2) A list of Community Benefit providers and which specific services for people ages 18 and up each provider provides (some concern that even though providers may be listed as providing a service they may not currently provide this service) and 3) where are people receiving an allocation coming from
- A request was made for a copy of the PALCO contract. It is available online; HSD will find out and get the link to Wendy for distribution.
- A request was made to HSD to allow providers/vendors the use of electronic signatures.
- A meeting to build bridges between providers and HSD was recommended.

The meeting was adjourned at 1:05 pm

The next ACQ meeting will be Thursday, December 9, 2021