

Maine Developmental Disabilities Council

November 18th, 2020

Meeting Minutes

Meeting called to order at 9:01 am

Agenda Item	Handouts	Highlights	Motions
Call to Order/Introductions/Minutes	Minutes from September Meeting		Kile Pelletier made a motion to approve the minutes, Jon 2 nd , no discussion, unanimously approved
MPF Presentation		<p>Carrie Woodcock, executive director of Maine Parent Federation, joined us today to update the Council on two projects we are helping to fund.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Supported Decision Making Project – they are in their 3rd year of funding through the MDDC, they have used that funding to hold trainings across the state on SDM and give support to individuals going through the process of created a Supported Decision Making agreement – in their third year of funding, they are going to be reaching out to and training medical providers, to educate them on SDM and offer an alternative to guardianship • Family Support Navigator - Culturally Competent Family Brokers Project – this is a new project building on MPF’s support navigator program, which is a peer-to-peer program that provides support to people trying to navigate the service system. Previously, MPF focused on lived experience for those who trained to be navigators, but found that most 	

		<p>navigators were white women, creating a gap in this service for Maine’s immigrant community. MPF has partnered with the New Mainers Project, who identify immigrant families with lived experience who can help their cohort understand and navigate the system here in Maine.</p>	
<p>State Plan: Targeted Disparity/Survey Feedback</p>		<p>Rachel Dyer walked the Council through the section of our State Plan that looks at “targeted disparities” – the populations in our state that share certain characteristics that may make them more likely to not get the services they need.</p> <p>She described Maine’s demographic numbers – that our state is almost 95% non-hispanic white, very secular, and very rural. Our federal rules require the Council to identify an underserved population in Maine, and to align one of our State Plan objectives towards serving that population.</p> <p>One potential targeted disparity might be related to rural Mainers access to technology. The Council discussed writing a statement around rural disparities in access to technology/high speed internet, and looking to add an objective around this to our next State Plan.</p> <p>Results of the Survey to inform our State Plan – we had about 177 responses, which is the best rate of response we’ve had. We were able to identify some common concerns and issues from a mix of self-advocates, parents, and providers about the state of services in Maine, which will inform our work on writing a new state plan.</p>	
<p>Work Update (CARS, Part C/B, NCI)</p>		<p>Nancy Cronin updated the Council on the ongoing work of the Coalition Against Restraint and Seclusion, and our new sister committee, the Coalition Against Adult Restraint. CARS is planning to put in new legislation, after LD 1376 died when COVID shut down the legislature early. The Coalitions are also looking into getting data from the Crisis system and the adult systems of care.</p>	

		<p>Rachel Dyer talked about the future of the National Core Indicators survey. The in-person interviews were cancelled early last year and ME DHHS has decided not to do this project in the coming year. Instead, MDDC is shifting to working with OADS, helping with validating the home and community based settings, and also doing some Autism Act Focus Groups and Surveys:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Children Services Survey • Transition Services Survey • Transition Focus Group • Future Service Dreams Autism Focus Group <p>Changes at CDS for Children 0 to 5 years of age: Nancy Cronin is chair of the advisory taskforce to the legislature – PCG is recommending that CDS be shifted to DOE and local school districts. The advisory committee is recommending that there be a new, overarching early childhood department that works between DHHS and DOE. In phase 2, they will look at how either of these approaches could potentially be implemented, but the Education Committee has the final say. Maine is last in the nation for identifying 0 to 1 year olds for early intervention and providing center-based services.</p>	
Quality Assurance Polls		The Council participated in a poll/quiz that tested their knowledge of the activities included in the area of Quality Assurance in MDDC’s State Plan, and discussed how QA impacts our work.	
Council Business	Balance Sheet	Nancy gave us a brief update on our office space – one of our subtenants has left, and the other may leave as well. Nancy has been in negotiations with the landlord, but those are ongoing.	Kile Pelletier made a motion to approve the changes made to

	2020 Budget to Actual Updated Financial Manual	Nancy also walked us through some proposed changes to the finance manual – putting in protections for our reserve operations fund and the allowable uses for that money, a cap on how much money can be put in that fund, and oversight of the use of those funds by the Treasurer and the Executive Committee. Jon McGovern gave a brief update on membership.	the finance manual. Jon McGovern 2 nd . No discussion. Unanimously approved.
Adjourn		Adjourned at 11:51 AM	Maryann Preble made a motion to adjourn, Jon 2 nd , no opposition.

Attendance

Attendance: Kile Pelletier, Jean Youde, Maryann Preble, Sarah Trites, Deb Davis, Monique Stairs (SUFU), Tracey Webb, Staci Converse (DRM), Roberta Lucas (new CDS rep), Denise Ranger, Sandra Horne (CCIDS), Nicole Achey, Cheryl Stalilonis, Maryann Harakall (CSHN), Stacy Smart, Erin Frazier (DOE), Carrie Woodcock (guest/MPF), Maggie Hoffman, Marc Roix, Jon McGovern, Craig Patterson (OADS), Shannon Johnson,

Staff Attendance: Nancy Cronin, Rachel Dyer, Jessica Gorton, Angela Burgess

Absent: Elissa Wynne/OCFS, Suzanne Primiano/DOL