

Family Care Council Minutes November 4, 2009

Members Present:

Tracy Stewart, Chairperson
Nan Whitfield, Vice-Chair
Jennifer Morgan-Byrd
Janet Graham

Members Absent

Lou Ogburn, Secretary

Review and approval of October minutes

The October minutes were approved with the following change. The proposed budget amounts for travel costs for the bi-monthly FCCF meetings (\$3,000) and travel budget for FCC members within the Area (\$1200) were inverted in the minutes. With this correction, Jennifer Morgan- Byrd made a motion to approve the minutes. This motion was seconded by Nan Whitfield.

Tracy Stewart introduced herself and the Family Care Council members to the guests. She provided an overview of the Family Care Council, invited the guests to attend future meetings with via phone or in person and encouraged them to get involved with the FCC.

I. Old Business

Expansion of CDC+- Denise Arnold and Liesl Ramos, APD Central Office

Denise Arnold and Liesl Ramos from APD Central Office did a comprehensive presentation of the expansion of the CDC+ program of 2500 people. Interest letters were sent out to individuals who are currently served through the Medicaid waiver and who live either in the family home or in homes of their own. Denise gave an overview of the CDC+ program and Liesl provided a more detailed explanation of the roles of APD, the consultant and the individual's representative to the audience. A number of interested families asked questions about the CDC+ program. Liesl reminded the audience that those interested in the expansion must get their interest letters turned in by November 13th.

Report on meeting with the waitlist families

Lynne Daw, from APD provided a report on the three waitlist meetings that have occurred around the Area, held in Panama City, Marianna and Tallahassee. The Tallahassee meeting was especially well attended. One of the items discussed in the waitlist meeting was the new statutory language from the last legislative session which modifies the priority for people to be served when coming off of the waiver waitlist. This change, slated to become effective in July 2010, has a number of families concerned. In an effort to hear from families, APD is hosting a public workshop on November 18th from 6:00pm-8:00pm at Tallahassee Community College.

II. New Business

New Member status:

Mr. Vince Giglio was at his second Family Care Council meeting and submitted an application to become a member. His application will be reviewed and a vote taken at the next FCC meeting. Tracy Stewart informed Janet Graham that she learned at the last FCCF meeting that members whose time had expired for their term as FCC members were now being considered as remaining as members unless the person officially resigned. Ms. Graham is now considered once again, to be an official member.

Travel to National Autism Conference:

Jennifer Morgan Byrd had expressed an interest in attending the National Autism Conference to be held November 13th- 15th. She will be able to bring the information she learned back to the Council. Nan Whitfield made a motion for the FCC to pay for her cost of attending the conference. Janet Graham seconded the motion.

Waitlist Rule workshop

The rule workshop on the change in language for waitlist prioritization is scheduled for November 16th from 6:00pm-8:00pm at the Tallahassee Community College. In order to provide families with an opportunity to learn more about the changes in this language, the Family Care Council is sponsoring a meeting from 6:00pm-8:00pm at the Center For Autism and Related Disabilities on November 9th. Emails will be sent out to all waitlist families for which the Area office has an email address. Postcards are also being mailed out to all waitlist families about the rule workshop on November 18th. Tracy is the contact person listed on the postcards and stated she is already receiving a number of calls from families.

III. APD Update

Lynne briefly reported on Disability Employment Awareness month which was in October. Each day a person with a disability who is employed was featured in the Tallahassee Democrat and other papers around the area.

APD also participated in the kickoff for Disability Employment Awareness month held at the Tallahassee City Hall as well as Disability Mentoring Day which provides individuals with an opportunity to learn about work during a one day volunteer activity.

Lynne also reported on the iBudget meetings held at Central Office on the concept of individual budgets. She informed attendees that more information about the iBudgets are on the APD website.

Tracy Stewart made a motion to adjourn the meeting which was seconded by Nan Whitfield. The next meeting will be held on December 2nd.