

FAMILY CARE COUNCIL FLORIDA MINUTES – SEPTEMBER 20, 2019

Members Present:

Patricia Oglesby, FCCF Chair, FCC 8
Dina Justice, FCCF Vice Chair, FCC 1
Ruth Wingate, FCCF Secretary
Patty Houghland, Past Chair, FCC 1
Denise Torres, FCC 4
Nancy Simmons, Suncoast West (5)
Pauline Lipps, Suncoast East (6)
Daniel Bayley, FCC 7
Jeni Maillard, FCC 8
Jean Malacko, FCC 9
Marty Norris, FCC 10
Sandy Ames, FCC 11
Charlene Greene, FCC 12
Karen Huscher, FCC 13
Melody Hearn, FCC 15

Guests:

Casey O'Halloran
DarLing Malacko
Doris Tellado
Pam Kissoondyal
Ellyn Kulwin
Danielle McGill
Diane Ciccarelli
Rosemary Revoir
Mariceli Molina
Margarita Garlin

APD Liaison to FCCF

Stephanie Rogers

The regular meeting of the Family Care Council Florida was held on Friday, September 20, 2019 and called to order at 3:13 p.m. in Yeager room of the Embassy Suites Hotel, Orlando.

- Members watched a video available on YouTube – “Lou Holtz inspirational speech” from the Franciscan University of Steubenville commencement.
- Chairperson Patricia Oglesby led member discussion on the iBudget Waiver redesign.
 - Local legislative delegation hearings are being held. Get on their mailing list and sign up to speak for the allotted 3 minutes, and provide a packet of information.
 - Educate families so they can educate legislators and become active advocates.
 - Support coordinator organizations are committed to addressing concerns with the preliminary planning documents produced by the Agency for Persons with Disabilities. They distributed postcards for the Governor and Legislators so families can voice their personal comments.
 - Legislators focus on fiscal impact and resolving constituent needs.
 - Change in coordinator provision will affect families adversely by removing advocacy.
 - Cost plans may be sufficient, but without adequately compensated providers there won't be service.
 - Least expensive and most desired provision of care is in community. Unite, collaborate and support community care.
 - Petitions were suggested as an ancillary action to support the path to redesign.
 - Address legislators with the scenario that this could be their family member with a disability, and connect the concept with continuing and increasing needs of the elderly.
 - Council has strayed from purpose, and did not advise and were not present at the table with APD and AHCA during this process in the way FS 393.502 (7) requires. The 12-13 town hall meetings were not adequate to fulfill this obligation. No suggestions from FCC were incorporated into the draft document acquired from sources other than APD.

- State income tax, lotto dollars and legalized gambling were suggested as additional APD funding mechanisms. Media needs to be aware of this redesign and the financial requirements to serve Florida families adequately.
- Suggested that families call the Governor's office and letter campaigns to discuss their concerns. Must be individual effort, not as a Council member.
- APD must participate in the Budget Estimating Conference to allow for better cost projection. APD's budget must include flexibility to accommodate change in life circumstance, not just the number of clients/students/patients used by other agencies to create their predictable, capitated budget. APD clients are not successfully served in the exclusively medical model or managed care model.
- APD's proposed iBudget revision recommendations will move forward, House and Senate will determine the final plan. Short-term medical care does not fit the Developmental Disabilities population, because services are a lifetime need. Inform legislators that budgets are sometimes inadequate due to life changes and adjustments have to be factored into Agency budgets and plans.
- Federal laws are moving toward community-based services. The Disability Integration Act (Schumer/Garner) SB 117 and HB 2472 will be in effect in 2020. People needing long-term services and supports but forced into institutions are losing their basic civil rights. Inform legislators about Federal Law happening in the near future. Concerns that block grants will move Floridians into managed care to control costs.
- Inspector General's report on APD discussed the QSI algorithm as an inadequate measure for services, requiring the necessity for the Significant Additional Needs (SAN) process.
- FCCF Chairperson needs to co-present with Director Palmer when discussing the APD iBudget redesign with the Governor and Legislature on September 30, 2019 to include family perspective on the Agency's recommendations. This includes participating in the proposed Budget Estimating Conference and all Legislative Budget Request (LBR) presentations.
- FCCF must determine how to go forward in addressing APD's disregard of Council interpretation of Florida Statute, and resulting lack of support to promote the Council's primary function on behalf of the Agency within FS 393. Concern remains that providing access to FCC for program planning comes from the Director of APD. Council continues to be thwarted from performing this duty.
- Danielle will forward the Federal initiatives.
- FCCF requests a copy of APD's final iBudget redesign recommendations prior to presentation to the Governor and Legislature on September 30, 2019.
- Legislators will be in Tallahassee and not at their local offices the week after this meeting.
- CAFÉ committee is tasked to create a theme and submit the vendor form for the June FCCF workshop.
- The Developmental Disabilities Day committee received suggestions on projects, along with the Talking Points document, to incorporate into their activities on February 11, 2020 in Tallahassee.
- Secretary will forward material from the Chair regarding the iBudget redesign.

Meeting adjourned at 5:25 p.m.

Respectfully submitted, Ruth Wingate, Secretary

FAMILY CARE COUNCIL FLORIDA MINUTES – SEPTEMBER 21, 2019

Members Present:

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Dina Justice, FCCF Vice Chair, FCC 1
Ruth Wingate, FCCF Secretary
Patty Houghland, Past Chair, FCC 1
Denise Torres, FCC 4
Nancy Simmons, Suncoast West (5)
Pauline Lipps, Suncoast East (6)
Susan Andersen Moore, FCC 7
Jeni Maillard, FCC 8
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Sandy Ames, FCC 11
Charlene Greene, FCC 12
Karen Huscher, FCC 13
Melody Hearn, FCC 15

APD Liaison to FCCF:

Stephanie Rogers

Guests:

Rosemary Revoir
Daniel Bayley
Mariceli Molina
Manyvonne Champavannarath
DarLing Malacko
Hannah Moore
Casey O'Halloran
Megan O'Halloran
Ellyn Kulwin
Pam Kissoondyal
Morgan Samuel Price
Alan Parr
Danielle McGill
Doug Winter
Diane Ciccarelli
Eve Puttagio
Margarita Garlin

Speakers:

David Dobbs, Agency for Persons with Disabilities Chief of Staff
Valerie Breen, Executive Director, Florida Developmental Disabilities Council (FDDC)
Clarence Lewis, APD Deputy Director of Operations
Kevin Lewis, Executive Director with Angela Katz, Development Director, Lee Association for Remarkable Citizens (LARC, Inc.)

The regular meeting of the Family Care Council Florida was held on Saturday, September 21, 2019 and called to order at 8:45 a.m. in Yeager room of the Embassy Suites Hotel, Orlando.

Member Action/Activity/Committees/Public Comment

- Moved by Dina Justice, seconded by Patty Houghland to accept the minutes of July 19, 2019 as presented. Motion passed.
- Moved by Dina Justice, seconded by Sandy Ames to accept the minutes of July 20, 2019 as presented. Motion passed.
- Council received the FY 2019-2020 Expenditure report as presented.
- FCCF will expend funds for Chair Patricia Oglesby and Pauline Lipps to travel for all presentation meetings to the Governor and Legislators regarding APD iBudget redesign recommendations alongside APD on behalf of Florida families.
- FCC chairs discussed their local activities with individuals and groups in their community.
- Responding to public comment by Danielle McGill, it was moved by Melody Hearn and seconded by Dina Justice to forward a letter from FCCF to David Darm, Director of the Transportation Disadvantaged Commission to support Danielle McGill's request to create a standardized travel training program to include all methods of transportation for individuals with disabilities. Motion passed.
- CAFÉ committee co-chairs Sandy Ames and Denise Torres will create a theme for the CAFÉ workshop proposal paperwork.
- The Developmental Disability Day committee's Chair Charlene Greene, Paula James and Pauline Lipps will create a Recommendations document to complement other activities they propose.
- Council requests an evening conference call, webinar or skype with the APD Director or Chief of Staff to discuss their iBudget recommendations with FCCs.

- Council requests invitation to APD's iBudget recommendations presentations to the Governor and legislators, participating directly beside the APD Director or her designee, for Chair Patricia Oglesby, Pauline Lipps and Dina Justice. Chair Patricia Oglesby will call Director Palmer to formalize this invitation.
- FCCF reorganized their workshop/meeting schedule. Friday meeting is now from 1:30 to 5:00 p.m. with APD representatives presenting that day. Saturday schedule will remain 8:30 a.m. to 4:00 and include Council business/committee meetings/recommendations to APD.
- Requests APD iBudget redesign recommendations report to FCCF Chair before 9/30/2019.
- FCC members were asked to provide response to iBudget redesign recommendations to the Governor and Legislators.
- Members will examine the Federal Disability Integration Act and information on Block Grants.

David Dobbs discussed the Agency updates and iBudget redesign.

- Relayed that Director Palmer of APD called the FCCF Chair twice shortly prior to the September 20-21 Council meetings regarding iBudget redesign. No phone calls on this subject from anyone at APD were received by the Chair.
- Secretary Mayhew of Agency for Health Care Administration participated as a partner in the iBudget redesign process with Director Palmer. Don Winstead investigated managed care and its impact on individuals with developmental disabilities.
- Mr. Dobbs responded to some written and verbal questions, and will provide answers to the remainder after research. Referred to printed material relating to FCCF questions on allowable expenditures from the APD packet. Questions included payment for banners and tablecloths with the new FCCF logo, out of state travel, room rental for events, paying for the FCCF- created waiver support coordinator brochure and website fees and hosting.
- Options in the APD Executive Summary planning document explained potential impacts of redesign components APD considered. Members were concerned that no APD planning or recommendations documents on iBudget revision under consideration by APD were provided to FCCF from the Agency as of September 21, 2019 for review and advice. A Freedom of Information Act request was necessary for the Council to learn what program changes APD was considering.
- APD recommendations for the iBudget design will be discussed with FCCF after the plan is presented to Governor and Legislature for their consideration. Council requested immediate release of the APD recommendations. Mr. Dobbs declined to produce the existing draft form of this document until September 30, 2019. He explained that FCCF was not part of the process because sensitive items would be discussed. APD did not want to unduly upset the public, and consequently FCCF, with the redesign issues the Agency was investigating.
- Members asked which states were researched prior to APD recommendations. They asked if APD investigated additional funding sources, such as foundations, to support iBudget prior to examining managed care, cuts in hours of service, higher client ratios and potential loss of providers for individuals due to continuing low rates of pay.
- Members discussed the iBudget redesign process that APD followed, preventing members from fulfilling their statutory obligation to attend all meetings on this subject. More than once members asked at public meetings to be part of the process with no response from APD. Other programming and service changes within APD, such as Medicaid Dental provision through managed care also excluded members from participation although members are required to do so by law.
- Concerns arose that the past relationship with APD routinely included individuals with disabilities presenting jointly with APD before the legislature, and members want to know what caused this change.
- Mr. Dobbs is confident that recommendations to the Legislature will neither require support coordinators to join a single regional agency which would eliminate solo providers, nor require direct employment with the Agency, which he acknowledged as a conflict of interest. Considering alternate support coordination employment status was not a financial consideration, but how to address the concerns of individuals and families regarding this service. Service improvement will

be addressed through training coordinators on provision of information to families, ensuring families have the services they need and seeking additional outside resources to meet needs.

- Members are concerned that travel appears restricted for community liaisons since they are participating noticeably less locally.
- Concern was raised that legislators are addressing APD overspending because they don't understand what individuals need to lead a successful life in the community and the need to communicate with and include people with disabilities.
- FCCF requests attendance for two members at the iBudget redesign recommendations to be at Director Palmer or her designee's side for any presentations in October during committee week to provide the family perspective and support for APD. Mr. Dobbs recommended that FCCF members might join the Director when she meets with legislators individually. The Director may also be presenting at the House and Senate, along with the Appropriations and Policy committees.
- FCCF requests participation at the table at the onset of issues or program changes the Agency is required to report on to the governor and legislature to avoid future conflict regarding member obligation to advise per statute. When APD needs family feedback on Executive Orders or other legislative discussions that relate to the disabled community, members have always and will remain available to participate.

Valerie Breen, Executive Director of the Florida Developmental Disabilities Council discussed preserving the iBudget waiver. www.fddc.org for further information.

- They provide the Partners in Policymaking program in Florida.
- They promote policy based on fact. They are advocating for no cuts to the Waiver, and preserving the iBudget as the delivery system for Florida DD services.
- FDDC created a consumer survey to make sure families understand what APD services exist and what priorities the FDDC should address. Families indicated their primary need for support were personal care, companion, adult day training and transportation.
- APD and AHCA are both represented on the FDDC Council.
- Florida's fiscal efforts for individuals with developmental disabilities rank 49th in the U.S.
- 75% of individuals with disabilities live with family caregivers. 31% of those caregivers are over 60. Six percent of caregivers are receiving APD services.
- On February 11, Florida is celebrating Developmental Disabilities Day in Tallahassee.
- Council viewed the video that FDDC will use to educate legislators on the daily needs of an individual with Cerebral Palsy, and what is necessary to accommodate her choice of living in the community.
- Members were encouraged to educate legislators that Floridians with developmental disabilities are not adequately supported by short term funding for lifetime needs.

Clarence Lewis, Deputy Director of Operations, APD discussed the APD updates.

- Distributed and discussed PowerPoint presentation.
- The Legislature asked APD to report on how last year's direct service worker rate increase is working. APD solicited this information from providers with 40% response.
- Is confident the APD Director will ask the legislature to fully fund the Waiver. Families need to contact legislators supporting this recommendation.
- Hurricane Dorian allowed the Agency to assess strengths, areas of improvement and concerns in how they assist individuals during weather-related incidents.
- Discussed the upcoming AHCA rule workshop for the iBudget Waiver Handbook.
- Addressed Adult Day Training changes, identifying suggestions proposed by the stakeholder workgroup. This redesign is ongoing.
- Concerns about receiving dental care after the divestment of APD from dental services to the required use of managed care were addressed in a memo to Waiver Support Coordinators on how treatment is now accessed. This letter and flow chart to identify a path to dental care was provided in the APD packet.
- A survey was sent to WSCs to identify dental access issues. Twenty-nine issues were identified.

- APD formerly conducted utilization and continued stay reviews for individuals in Intermediate Care Facilities. This is now performed through contract by KEPRO.
- Regions are contacted weekly to review status of individuals transitioned out of Carlton Palms. Nurses/behavior analysts also conduct visits based on status. Individuals with significant behavioral/medical challenges will join the former residents of Carlton Palms as “High Watch Individuals” to ensure health and safety. An additional behavioral analyst for each region and one at the state office will provide this oversight when these positions are filled.
- APDs Senior Behavior Analyst and Amanda Jackson will visit each regional Local Review Committee to learn best practices and assess compliance with Rule.
- Next Generation-Questionnaire for Situational Information field testing is complete and forwarded to Florida State University to conduct reliability and validity review. Final report expected in October.
- The Measurement Integrity Workgroup comprised of APD subject matter experts and NG-QSI consultants are reviewing/making refinements to this tool. The legislature will fund a replication study during 2019-2020 fiscal year.
- The Medication Administration component is available on TRAIN Florida. 120 trainers provide training, and this new module joins the training catalog that includes support coordination, supported living, supported employment, direct care core competencies, zero tolerance and reactive strategies.
- APD provides monthly webinars via WebEx, with in-service credits for provider attendance. Information available on the WSC Advisory webpage.
- iConnect rollout with Case Management for WSCs and APD staff was completed in December, 2018, and included demographics of consumers and providers along with enrollments. The second rollout with Financial Management on authorizations and Significant Additional Needs is planned for November, 2019. Providers will incrementally go live utilizing iConnect in 2020-2021. APD working with contractor WellSky to establish a single standardized interface between iConnect and providers with their own electronic health records systems. The interface would allow provider submission of service logs, attendance logs and progress notes.
- APD also provided current Medicaid iBudget Waiver waiting list information.

Kevin Lewis, Executive Director and Angela Katz, Development Director discussed Lee Association for Remarkable Citizens (LARC, Inc.) www.LARCLeeCounty.org for videos.

- LARC created by parents as a school in Fort Myers in 1954. Their main campus remains in Ft. Myers on 5 acres that provides Adult Day Training for 100 participants and a satellite campus in Bonita Springs providing half recreation/leisure and work enclave
- They operate two group homes located in Cape Coral and North Ft. Myers.
- Youth programs include hosting Job-a-palooza and youth camps promoting self-advocacy, job readiness, OJT work experience, recreational/life skills, VR career camp and pre-ETS. Camps are held on school breaks and during summer for high school age.
- 279 people are employed through LARC, with 123 of these working on campus.
- LARC provides vocational exploration and training, community integration, independent living skills, self-care and technology through their Learn Achieve Become LAB program.
- They have 50 business partners and 40 Employment partners to assist in their mission.
- LARC is 4th largest employer in Lee County. They have created a boutique model of service with individuals selecting just the services and skill support they need from LARC.

Meeting adjourned at 4:11 p.m., Ruth Wingate, FCCF Secretary