



MINUTES

Transitions Stakeholder Advisory Council

Google Hangout Weblink: meet.google.com/nfm-iewu-zig

Google Hangout Call-in: +1 401-594-3288

PIN: 557 780 350#

Thursday, June 4, 2020

2:30 – 4:30 p.m.

COUNCIL MEMBERS

- Clarice Ambler, DRCOG
 - Anne Bartels, PASCO X
 - Amy Dixon, CPWD
 - Paige Gallaher, Atlantis X
 - Jennifer Giurgila, Jefferson County X
 - Fallon Gillespie, CO Access
 - Emily Harvey, Disability Law X
 - Ashly Johnson, DRCOG X
 - Jennifer Krulewich, Focus Cares X
 - Tracy Martinez, Touch of Care
 - Ed Milewski, Jr.
 - Jenn Ochs
 - Lisa Smith, Team Rubicon
 - Neal Waite, ADRC Region 3B X
- Ryan McGee, DRCOG, Ann Watt, DOLA,
Courtney Thomson, DOLA
- Department Staff: Katy Barnett, Matt
Bohanan, Nora Brahe, Michelle Topkoff

1. Welcome and Introductions

- Approval of the April Minutes – Minutes were approved.
- Purpose of Today's Meeting – Michelle Topkoff kicked off the meeting by sharing her interest in further engaging the Council in understanding the current and future state of the Transition Services program. She said that the Department is interested in getting further feedback from stakeholders on training opportunities both how to improve the training content but also making them more accessible for on demand training in order to eliminate barriers for hiring staff.



2. Follow Up COVID-19 Discussion

- The Department shared links to recently released regarding COVID expectations for Options Counseling Agencies and Transition Coordination Agencies. The Department encouraged stakeholders to reach out if they feel additional guidance is needed.

3. Program Updates

- Nora shared that the TCA Supervisors have created a workgroup to pull together a resource website for transition coordination. Specifically, the workgroup is looking to create one place for best practices and community resources to support transitions. She offered to add anyone from the Transition Stakeholder Advisory Council to that workgroup to help support the work. If any Council members are interested, they are encouraged to reach out to Nora or Katy.
- Ann Watts shared that DOLA is starting to see the impact of COVID on their housing voucher process specifically getting individuals trained on voucher requirements. She asked if anyone had innovative solutions for e-training or helping skilled nursing facilities invest in communications tools to let her know.
- Matt shared that the team had been talking with CMS about the opportunity to reallocate Money Follows the Person funding to better support members during COVID. Unfortunately, the areas identified by the team as most critical, access to technology and food/pantry items, were not allowed under CMS guidance.
- Courtney Thomson introduced herself to the Council. She was promoted into her new role at the Department of Housing and will be supporting the work of the Transition Services program specifically helping with vouchers and housing development.

4. Council Updates

- Fallon of Colorado Access was unable to join the meeting but shared information with Department staff on stakeholder listening sessions hosted by Rocky Mountain Health Services who will be taking over the Single Entry Point contract for the Denver-Metro area. Katy shared the link in the Google Hangout chat and also said she would send the information out via email after the meeting.
- Ashly of DRCOG shared that the implementation of the repeat referral process was going well and helping get additional information to TCAs working with individuals going through the transitions process for a second time.
- Paige of Atlantis shared they are working with the Colorado Cross Disability Coalition on a potential pilot but did not have specifics to share.



- Jenny of Focus Care asked if the Department could share additional information on the “Lifeline Pass” announced by Governor Polis which allows family members to visit nursing facility residents as long as they test negative for COVID. She specifically was interested in knowing if those passes extended to health care professionals like physicians or case managers. Matt said the Department staff would investigate this and follow up with the Council at the next meeting.
- Neal of Boulder County shared that they have been working to build better communications with TCAs in their regions and said they have lots of capacity to take on referrals. He said they are interested in building up their communications and marketing Options Counseling and Transition Services.
- Anne of PASCO shared that they are looking at ways to help more members and family caregivers during this time.

5. Council Planning

- Matt wanted to make sure the progress on the Council identified goals continued and wanted to encourage Council to think about how best to move forward on the issues during social distancing. He reiterated Michelle’s hope that moving forward the Council could be a resource to the Department on improving the program.

6. July Meeting

- Matt shared that the next Council meeting would fall on the Thursday before the 4th of July holiday weekend and suggested moving the meeting to the meeting to July 16th. No Council members objected to the move. Katy said she would send an updated calendar appointment for the July meeting.

7. Adjourn

- Katy will send the Council a follow up email with all the materials shared during the meeting. The next meeting will be another Google Hangout.

Reasonable accommodations will be provided upon request for persons with disabilities. Please notify the 504/ADA Coordinator hcpf504ada@state.co.us at least one week prior to the meeting to make arrangements.

