

**People with Disabilities Advisory Committee
Meeting Minutes
October 11 and 12 2005**

Participants: (X = attended, A = absent) – October 11th

Members				Attendants	
X	Peggie Beck	x	Scott Lay	x	Stacey Benavides
x	Jack Benson	X	Ruth McEwen	x	Avi Cooper
x	Jan Campbell	x	James Naegele	x	Jon Croghan
x	Donna Crawford	x	Dayle Niemie	x	Donalda Hill
X	Tonita Croghan	x	Karen Showers		Ann Lightner
x	Reta Griffith	X	Mike Volpe		Sarah Long
x	Susan Grimes			x	Glenna Niemie
x	Kathryn Jenness				
Staff				Speakers	
Wendy Leedle, Becky Murphy, Marc Overbeck				James Toews, Cathy Cooper	
Public/Guests				Christina Jaramillo	
				Sharon Miller	
				Travis Wall	

Call to Order

Ruth called the meeting to order at 12:30 pm.

Introductions

Wendy Leedle, who is new to the cluster, will now be doing minutes.

Agenda Review

Agenda was accepted with no additions.

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September Minutes

Minutes were accepted as written. *Passed.* (James Naegele/Peggie Beck)

Action Items Follow-Up

Staff Updates

Becky reported that the PDAC website is up to date, and includes the August minutes; the toll-free and TTY numbers are also available on the website.

SPD staff responded to PDAC's request to be involved in the Eligibility Worker Team, stating that the best way to be involved would be to attend rule-making hearings, and if members remain on the mailing list, they would continue receiving notices. Members expressed their dissatisfaction with the response, saying that the reason PDAC was formed was to give people with physical disabilities a voice during the initial process, and to not be able to use it is unacceptable. Becky and Morgen will go back and talk again with staff on this issue if needed.

Becky does not yet have an answer regarding Lane County's failure to provide names of home care providers to clients. There will be follow up on this prior to the next meeting.

Judy Giggy, who spoke at a previous meeting, would like to know what other things the committee would like to hear prior to returning to present at a future committee meeting.

Members were reminded about the ADA rule and policy development process; Lori Nelson needs to receive comments by 10/12/05, in order for them to be considered. Lori would be with the committee on Wednesday

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Marc reported that Oregon has received \$2.44 million to implement a Real Choices grant.

Becky went through the information packet that was sent. She called special attention to the last handout in the packet, from Janine DeLaunay, which asks for input on access to the judicial system.

Marc mentioned an included article regarding accessibility in Regal Cinemas. Also, he read the mission and values of the Legislative and Advocacy Unit. He has asked for ODC applications to be completed ASAP. Copies are available for anyone wishing to apply. The drop-in cube has changed again; it now has a table that can be raised and lowered to accommodate higher chairs, and it is located in cubicle Green 96.

Public Input

None.

DHS/SPD Update (James Toews/Cathy Cooper)

Members spoke about the response they received on participation around the EWT, and that it was their belief they would get in on the “ground floor” of rulemaking, not to only have the option to speak at proposed rulemaking hearings.

Action Item: James will send a letter asking for clear communication between SPD, OMAP, and PDAC.

James was asked why the MIG Grant was housed in Vocational Rehabilitation, rather than SPD. He answered that the Department had applied for the grant, and ultimately decided that OVRs was better able to absorb the workload, and the mission of the grant was a very proper

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fit. There has been a project manager and program tech hired and SPD is an active part of the leadership team and so it will have a voice. When the grant moves into the second stage next year, the department will revisit the idea of where the grant should then be placed.

James talked with the Committee about his conversations with the Governor's Office and his hope to be able to have the new ODC maintain a particular focus on physical disabilities.

ODC is now part of SPD with a limited budget, therefore it will need to pick top priorities to focus on. James will work to find out the Governor's thoughts about this, and will come back and let PDAC know the intent of Governor's office.

MMA Update (Christina Jaramillo)

Christina Jaramillo, SPD project coordinator for Medicaid Modernization Act, wants to make sure no clients are left without health insurance coverage. She distributed a handout about the second round of trainings on MMA implementation (handout). Web cast trainings have been discussed. One of their goals will be to help EPD clients make sure that they get the proper coverage; staff will also be helping adult foster home residents, working with those in assisted living facilities, and also nursing home clients

There will be low income assistance for anyone below 150% of the federal poverty level, or who otherwise qualifies for the Low Income Subsidy.

Staff training on EPD

Scott drafted a letter regarding SPD field staff not fully understanding EPD or advocating for its use when appropriate. Marc indicated he thought a specific letter from PDAC would be most useful, citing specific examples of where inaccurate information has been given. It was decided that the letter should go to Cathy and James first and find out from them how they think the letter should be distributed.

Action Item: Scott will send out an e-mail with a revised letter regarding SPD field staff not understanding EPD and giving out inaccurate information to clients. This will be brought up for discussion again at the meeting next month.

Home Care worker Issues

Sharon Miller gave information about worker's compensation and what is going on with the Home Care Commission. She handed out a current roster and a fact sheet.

Part of HCC's mission as a Commission is to define qualifications of home care workers, as well as create a statewide registry, which will be internet- based and available June 2006.

Sharon informed the committee that there was \$3.4 million put aside for training employers and home care workers and wanted to know the best way to reach consumers. There is written information and safety information being gathered to put together a handbook for employers; the hope is that this will help empower the employer (consumer) and help with their decision making.

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Sharon noted that the labor contract signed September 23 provides \$.25/hour increase last July and \$.25 next July. Workers are eligible for 8 days paid vacation \$.40 mile reimbursement.

Medicaid Infrastructure Grant

Travis Wall has been hired as the new project manager for the MIG, and attended in place of Lynnae Ruttledge. DHS was awarded a four-year grant targeting comprehensive competitive employment.

Community forums were held around the state asking consumers and advocates what barriers/problems exist to employment for people with disabilities.

Travis and his staff are meeting with key leaders and key people and finding out what they want and need. They are getting information from advocates, DHS, transportation, and others to put together a strategic plan. **Travis distributed a handout and a copy of the MIG newsletter.**

The meeting was adjourned at 4:35.

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X	Reta Griffith	X	Mike Volpe		Sarah Long
X	Susan Grimes			X	Glenna Niemie
x	Kathryn Jenness				
Staff				Guests	
Morgen Brodie, Wendy Leedle, Becky Murphy, Marc Overbeck				Lori Nelson	
				Joe Hesting	

The meeting was called to order at 8:35. Agenda change: long-range goals would end at 10:30 and we would break until 10:45, and then ADA would be started.

Long Range Goals and/or Priorities

Discussion around choosing two or three issues from the nine brainstormed at the last meeting. It was decided to focus on MMA, EPD/EI and the issue of language and training around disability within DHS.

Action Item: Find out the launch date of the Network of Care (subsequently determined to be October 26, 2005).

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Action Item: Obtain bulleted issues about EPD from Scott. Include where to find websites and more information.

Motion: Send letter to Jane-ellen Weidanz about the importance of including people with disabilities' issues when discussing and addressing. MMA advisory council meetings are held on 4th Wednesday of month here in Salem. *Passed.* (Peggie Beck/DayleNeimie)

ADA Compliance (Lori Nelson/Joe Hesting)

Joe Hesting, who is the DHS ADA Coordinator for employment of people with disabilities inside the Department of Human Services, recognizes that not enough people with disabilities are employed by DHS. He introduced Marita Bargali, who is the DHS Diversity Manager, who spoke about work the Department is doing to recruit more people with disability into its workforce and the whole effort around promoting culturally competent services.

Lori reported on the Diversity Conference sponsored by DHS and ODOT. Three Windmills training sessions were led by Angel Hale. Bill Bradbury was keynote speaker. 900 people attended.

Action: Lori Nelson will be providing more information to the Committee about the new complaint process being used for people who have a complaint or feel they have been discriminated against by DHS.

Liaison Reports

The liaison report form was accepted, and members will start using this as the format for their reports.

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Future of Long Term Care - Mike, Ruth and Scott are part of this group. Mike and Ruth reported on each of the respective subcommittee findings; Scott has not yet heard about his committee's beginning date.

James Naegele mentioned that the local DSACs are curious about the purpose of PDAC/ODC. Members were asked to bring back information about their local DSACs.

MIG will meet next week.

New Issues

Independent Choices—A concern was brought up about those homecare workers offering services under IC receiving different benefits from HC workers under contract with the Home Care Commission. These providers now have insurance and workers comp through SEIU.

Next Meeting Items

Staff will check to see if the date can change to Thursday, and if so, if James and Cathy are available. Mike and Scott will be at MIG meeting, and an afternoon meeting does not work for them.

Items for the next meeting brought forward were:

- MIG Update
- Update on subcommittees.
- Written information on the reasonable accommodation request for a higher mileage reimbursement for full size vans
- Plan for the December conference call.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:30.