

OREGON DISABILITIES COMMISSION – EMPLOYED PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES SUBCOMMITTEE

Tuesday • February 24, 2009 • 10:00 A.M. – 12:00 P.M.

Conference Room 166 • DHS Building • 500 Summer Street NE Salem, Oregon 97301

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Tim Baxter

Ruth McEwen

Tina Treasure

Judith Cunio

Mike Oliver

Brain Delashmutt

Eugene Rada

Sara Kendall

Frank Synoground

Bill Lynch

Damon Terzaghi

MEMBERS EXCUSED:

Jan Campbell

Kathryn Weit

Mike Volpe

Doug Stone

Ron Heagy

Norman Kohler

Scott Lay

STAFF PRESENT:

Max Brown, Advocacy Coordinator

Kelsi Eisele, Administrative Staff

AGENDA ITEMS:

CALL ALL TO ORDER

- Introductions
- Purpose of the Employed Persons with Disabilities (EPD) Subcommittee

SUBCOMMITTEE OBJECTIVES

- Program Issues to Identify
- Program Improvements to Recommend

EPD AND LEGISLATIVE SESSION

DATA AND INFORMATION NEEDS

AGENDA ITEMS FOR NEXT MEETING AND SCHEDULING

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CALL TO ORDER

Bill Lynch called the meeting to order at 10:07 a.m.

Introductions

EPD Subcommittee members and staff introduced themselves.

Purpose of the Employed Persons with Disabilities (EPD) Subcommittee

Bill Lynch reported that the purpose of the Employed Persons with Disabilities (EPD) Subcommittee is to protect the integrity of the program and look for improvements. Tina Treasure expressed that she would like meaningful involvement from SPD. Tim Baxter voiced his concern regarding having a policy making negotiation individual at the table in order to reach solutions quickly. Bill informed the group that if the group needs information to move forward the group will ask a representative from SPD to attend the next meeting to address issues. Frank Synoground asked Bill Lynch who was invited to this subcommittee meeting and to describe the EPD program. Bill reported that the ODC, the EPD Advisory Group, and other interested people who have in interest in this topic were invited to join this subcommittee. Bill shared that others are welcome and asked the group to outreach in order to gain members who need to be at these meetings. Bill asked Sara Kendall to give an overview of the EPD Program. Sara informed the group that the current program manager is Jeff Stell and gave the history of the EPD program. Bill Lynch informed the group that he did not ask SPD staff to be present at this first meeting because this meeting was designed for brain storming. Sara Kendall noted that this subcommittee will not just identify issues but justify viable options for any recommended program changes.

SUBCOMMITTEE OBJECTIVES

Program Issues to Identify

Bill Lynch opened up to discussion on program issues.

- Required training for caseworkers
- Retirement/ spend down requirement
- Residential offsets

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- Resource limits
- Approved accounts
- People on the program who haven't worked for long period of time
- Philosophy- poverty model vs not (regulations & rules)
- Sustainability and growth of EPD
- Educate Legislatures

Program Improvements to Recommend

EPD AND LEGISLATIVE SESSION

Bill Lynch asked Brain DeLashmutt to discuss what is being planned for this Legislative session. Brain feels like Legislature needs to be educated on EPD programs and feels that budget decisions not being made out in the open but taking place behind closed doors. Damon Terzaghi shared that he feels like Legislature will not be cutting programs but looking at people receiving less than what they need.

Ruth McEwen shared the idea of the profile book she has been using to educate the legislators. Sara Kendall suggested creating a brief one page brochure with a profile of an individual and a cost benefit analysis in Oregon to share with Legislature in order to educate them. This brochure would also list the persons disability and level of care.

Action Item: Bill Lynch asked Ruth McEwen, Eugene Rada and Mike Oliver to send data to Max Brown within a week.

DATA AND INFORMATION NEEDS

Bill Lynch discussed data and information needs the EPD Subcommittee will need on a regular basis.

- Number of enrollees
- Number of people paying at the first, second and third levels
- How can we see that people are really working

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- Number using in-home services vs medical only
- Disability categories
- The number of people that come into the program each month
- The number of people that go out of program and why each month
- The number of people that apply and not eligible
- Type of enrollment sheltered vs employment
- Cap rates to know the cost of what it has on people in the program
- How many caseworkers were trained each quarter for EPD and where they are located

Action Item: Bill Lynch will construct a letter with requesting the above information to SPD.

AGENDA ITEMS FOR NEXT MEETING AND SCHEDULING

Bill Lynch addressed the question of how often the subcommittee needs to meet. Ruth McEwen would like to meet monthly in order to become organized. Max Brown expressed that there will be staffing restraints until after April 17th. Tim Baxter asked to have Jeff Stell present at all meetings.

Action Item: Bill Lynch will send out a couple of dates as options for the next meeting in March to see what will work for the subcommittee.

Meeting Adjourned: 12:03 p.m.