

**People with Disabilities Advisory Committee
Meeting Minutes
September 13, 2007**

Participants: (X = attended, A = absent; E = Excused) – September 13th

Members			
X	Jan Campbell	X	Scott Lay
X	Tonita Croghan	X	Ruth McEwen
X	Sharon Ely	X	Mike Volpe
X	Kathryn Jenness	X	Ed Zaha
Attendants			
Avi Cooper, Jon Croghan, Susan Johnson, and Linda Sjoblom			
Staff			
Debbie Bowers, Becky Murphy, and Dawn Rustrum			
Public/Guests			
Speakers			
Patricia Feeny		Gene Sundet	
Jennifer DeJong		Joe Easton	
Digby Morrow			

Call to Order

Ruth called the meeting to order. A quorum was reached.

Chair's Discussion Item/Member Comments

Ruth reported that Dawn would like to be added to the agenda to briefly discuss updates to the PDAC brochure.

Reminders:

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Becky reminded members to turn in expense sheets today and to review materials on the table. Becky announced that there are refreshments available for the meeting today.

Seating Arrangement:

Dawn asked members about their preference in the seating arrangement for staff and members. Members said they do not have a preference in where staff sit or where they sit as long as they have access to the raised tables.

Brochure:

Dawn distributed copies of current PDAC brochure and an updated draft with content additions from the PDAC website and formatting changes. Dawn asked for feedback and suggestions for additional changes.

Members expressed frustration with the draft not going through the executive committee prior to the full committee and asked why staff made changes to the brochure without direction to do so by the committee.

Dawn responded to comments and pointed out that all content added to the brochure was taken directly from the PDAC website. Asked if the committee would prefer to include both a mailing address (where staff located) and a physical address (location of meetings) on the brochure.

Members expressed the need for more time to review the brochure before making a decision for approval and provided the following suggestions regarding updating the brochure: remove shading, add accommodation blurb, and add TTY.

DECISION: PDAC members will take home the draft brochure and Dawn will e-mail an electronic copy. Members are to send

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comments or suggestions to Dawn and Ruth within a week. Edits will be made and a final will be sent out for approval.

Communication Plan: Patricia Feeny, DHS **Communications**

Patricia introduced herself. From discussion with Becky, she drafted an outline for a communication plan. She stated that members should think about key messages – what goals or output that can be measurable. One goal is recruitment (current membership of eight of 15 members).

Other discussion items:

- Guest opinion article.
- Besides mainstream daily papers, use college newspapers and weekly newspapers.
- Speakers' Bureau list – those available to speak at clubs and groups.
- Consistent message and talking points.
- Medford has free public service announcements (PSAs).
- Ed mentioned a Christian TV station in the Athena/Pendleton area.
- Ruth mentioned the local cable station in Salem.
- Employment video for MIG project.
- Possibly a guest opinion for October's Disability Employment Awareness Month.
- As part of the Strategic Planning, create a Communication Plan. Possibly someone from DHS Communications can facilitate (first half of second day).

MOTION: Scott Lay moves that PDAC seek facilitation for developing a communication plan. Passed. (Scott Lay/Kathryn Jenness)

Durable Medical Equipment:

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Members discussed Tom Coogan's presentation on DME cuts and brainstormed ways of responding to the cuts. Discussed sending a letter to DHS and informing other advocacy groups of the issue.

DECISION: Scott will lead a small workgroup to work on the letter. He will draft a letter by September 19th and there will be a conference call workgroup meeting on the September 21st.

OSIP Payments: Jennifer DeJong, SPD Medicaid Analyst

Jennifer provided the following information:

- The OSIP payment is \$1.70 monthly or \$20.40 annually to SSI only clients.
- Each check costs \$12.00 to print.
- 140,000 checks have gone unclaimed.
- The OSIP payment is not a federal requirement; SSA says it is optional, not mandatory.

Jennifer asked the committee how they felt about eliminating OSIP payments and using the money saved (approximately \$6 million a year) for another SPD program. There was conversation regarding examples of some programs the money could go to including: GA, OPI, DME, or housing repairs. Members can also formally submit ideas to Jennifer.

Explained that a proposal to eliminate OSIP would have to go through SPD Administration, DHS Cabinet, and the Legislature in 2009 for approval. Jennifer stated that her next step is to go to Executive with the proposal. She agreed to come back to share results and/or ask for more input.

CONSENSUS: Any money saved from the OSIP payment program would be used to serve the same population.

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MOTION: Scott Lay moves that PDAC write a letter to James Toews, requesting that any money saved from the OSIP payment program would be used to serve the same population. Passed. (Scott Lay/Kathryn Jenness)

2007-2008 Meeting Schedule

Proposed schedule discussed:

January	-	In-Person	July	-	In-Person
February	-	Video/Phone	August	-	Video/Phone
March	-	Off	September	-	Off
April	-	In-Person	October	-	In-Person
May	-	Video/Phone	November	-	Video/Phone
June	-	Off	December	-	Off

There was discussion regarding whether or not PDAC members could have phone meetings without staff supports during the “off” months. Dawn suggested asking Debbie Bowers or SPD administration.

Monthly Update and Upcoming Rules: Gene Sundet

Gene submitted a handout and provided a rules update. Provided an Employment for People with Disabilities (EPD) workgroup update. Responded to questions from the committee.

Public Input

None.

PDAC Strategic Goals

Members decided not to put additional energy into revising the document since the committee has agreed to do strategic planning in November.

Liaison Reports

EPD: Scott pointed out the update was provided during Gene's update.

Home Care Commission (HCC) and Home Care Workers' Registry: Scott and Sharon reported the registry is going public, region by region, statewide within a year.

HCC Training: Mike reported the training of home care workers is going well and currently has good attendance.

State Personal Plan of Care Work Group: Ruth reported that this group is working on the rules around personal care (which can include house cleaning). Ruth said she is very happy about the receptivity in language/terminology. She pointed out that federal terms cannot be changed. She explained that many terms have already been changed on the first draft.

State Independent Living Centers (SILC): Sharon reported that SILC just created a strategic plan. She mentioned the loss of a couple of centers and said they are recruiting members.

Money Follow the Person Grant (MFP): Scott and Mike provided short update regarding an introductory MFP meeting they attended. Reported that subcommittees will begin meeting soon.

OHP Standard Reservation List: Jan reported the meeting was to discuss options about opening up OHP for a limited time or limited amount of applications. The option of a reservation or waiting list seemed viable under the waiver. Any other option would have to have the approval of Centers of Medicare and Medicaid Services

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(CMS). The meeting ended with no decision made on how to open OHP.

Subcommittee Reports

Employment: This subcommittee did not meet. Consumer invited to be part of subcommittee.

Follow-up on Consumer Letter & DSACs

Updates were provided for the following:

- Consumer Letter
- DSACs
- Letter to Dr. Goldberg

Meeting Schedule (continued)

There was further discussion about the 2008 Meeting Schedule. The chair asked Debbie whether or not members could have a phone meeting without staff support during the “off” months. Debbie responded that she would need to take that question to Cathy and James.

Ruth shared her frustrations with instability and constant flux of staff and management.

In-Home Services/Independent Choices (IC) Update: Joe Easton, In-Home Services Manager

Independent Choices (IC):

IC is a demonstration plan which now needs to transition into a state plan amendment (1915J) by February 1, 2008. SPD received a 30 page pre-print from CMS but new regulations are not yet published. Current IC involves 280 clients in five counties and SPD wants to go

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statewide with no cap. The downside is there could be tighter regulations under the state plan amendment. SPD has asked for 300% of SSI.

Scott asked about SSA 1902(R)(2) regarding waiver.

Joe explained that it is a balancing act for the consumer in IC, using natural supports, and benefits now should not be used towards room and board.

Personal Care Plan:

The hearing is September 17th at 2:00. Comments are welcome. This plan crosses all divisions. Rule clarifications were in response to in the CMS audit and ongoing questions from the field. It will now make it easier for the case manager.

Employer-Employee Relationship in CEP Program:

Representatives from all groups were part of this work group: department, union, and advocates.

Drafted were: a participation agreement, comparison chart services, chart for the case manager, rule for employers, rule for safety and eligibility, and policy. The emphasis is for consumers to direct their own services if able, and if not, assign a representative or explore other options for receiving services.

Ventilator-dependent caregivers:

Would like DAC in loop.

Secure E-mail Procedures: Digby Morrow, Information Security Office

DHS is required legally to protect confidential and protected health information. The “tumbleweed” program scans the e-mail and

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attachments for words/terms which are weighted. If it needs to be secure it is encrypted. About two percent of e-mails daily (about 500) are considered needing to be secure. DHS wants to error on the side of caution on all outgoing messages.

To make it secure: type “#secure#” first on subject line. If you don’t want the information secure, type “#u#” first on the subject line. For home use, safe-mail.net (free) is available.

Debriefing

Debbie requested that the minutes reflect that the group has had the discussion regarding PDAC’s concerns with the instability of the staff support that PDAC receives multiple times now and that continued conversation about it would not be productive unless the committee can offer some solutions for their concerns. Debbie reiterated that DHS can guarantee the same level of staff supports for the committee but cannot guarantee the staff will always be the same. Debbie requested specific questions PDAC would like her to ask Cathy.

Tonita summarized the question as follows: If as the need arises, can PDAC members have a conference call without staff support.

Next Meeting Agenda Items

- DME Discussion
- Meeting Schedule
- SPD Update (James and/or Cathy)
- Gene or Joe – if changes to report
- Brochure

Adjourned