

AHS Integration Efforts Autism Planning for the Future

Meeting Agenda

Date: March 5, 2020

9:30-11:30

Location: Waterbury State Office Complex, Ash Conference Room or Skype in meeting invite

Overall Goal of our work group: How do we use our collective resources to move autism services forward for children and their families in Vermont?

Present: Cheryle Wilcox, Mary-Graham McDowell, Diane Bugbee, Matt Habedank, Danielle Brier, Philip Eller, Katy Langevin, Joy Wilcox, Michael Hoffnung, Tiffany Cochran, Julie Smith, Danielle Howes

Agenda Item	Discussion Notes	Next Steps
<p>Introductions and Updates Updates from group members about any legislative information, other workgroups addressing autism services, DVHA, etc.</p>	<p>DAIL:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • New Director in their dept. Clare McFadden has moved to Director of Payment Reform • Selina Hickman is the new Developmental Services Director • There was an article in the NYT about people interacting with people with autism. https://www.nytimes.com/2020/02/27/well/family/autism-special-needs-police.html?referringSource=articleShare. There are resources in the article. <p>Howard Center, Julie Smith:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Down a BCBA, looking to hire again. • Building budget for next fiscal year and trying to figure out how to use all funds possible <p>NCSS, Matt Habedank:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fully staffed at the moment • Not much legislatively—DMH had to submit a Success Beyond Six report and that has an impact on school based services for children with autism <p>DVHA: Danielle Brier</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Danielle Bragg-manager of quality unit. They have started their site visits. Have done 4 of the 15 providing ABA services. They randomly select charts • Just reached out to an out of state provider who wants to become a Medicaid provider for the southern part of the state. • Reconciliation is in full swing. 	

Tiffany Cochran:

- Building up caseload in Newport
- Partnering with area Head Starts—working with 8 sites
- Recently credentialed with Blue Cross Blue Shield

Philip Eller, Autism Task Force:

- Not doing an Autism Awareness day this year at the statehouse
- Disability awareness day next Tuesday, March 12th 9:00-6:30
- Doing a workshop, Emily Smith, speaking about her teenage son. Disabilities reframed.
- Autism Task Force is revamping their website to include resources. When it is done Philip will forward the link to Cheryle for dissemination to this group.
- Act 173 Census Based Funding Advisory Workgroup has updated rules (2360) and sent them to the State Board of Education on March 18th. It is on the AOE website at: <https://education.vermont.gov/state-board-councils/census-based-advisory-group>
- If you are interested in attending that meeting it would be helpful especially in light of looking at adverse effect. Vermont Disability Law Project would like to see adverse effect removed to just use: Do they have a disability, and do they need special education services to meet that need.

AOE, Katy Langevin:

- New at AOE, has been there about a month-Instructional Strategies Coordinator
- Katy was an autism consultant before coming to AOE
- There are a lot of teachers struggling to meet the needs of their students on the spectrum. Trying to see about reconfiguring about supporting teachers, trainers, coaching, there is a shortage of ABA, OTs and PTs.
- Would love to hear feedback and thoughts from this group.

Discussion about education:

- Joy Wilcox shared she has a whole program of support and training. They have an Autism certificate program with 18 credits. What is Autism 101, curriculum courses, collaboration, speech and language, social behavior, offer workshops.
- Joy and Katy will connect to talk more.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Julie Smith, Howard Center, shared Howard is doing consultation and education and is happy to talk more about what they do. • Matt Habedank, NCSS, schools share with families they have autism specialists and this knowledge and training varies greatly. • Joy shared there is no endorsement in Vermont for autism. Anyone who is a special educator is considered qualified to work with children with autism even if they don't have experience working with children with autism. • Philip shared Act 173 is working towards more specialized staff working with children with autism rather than having paraeducators who may not have much training or experience. • AOE could be helpful for setting standards for autism specialists in school. <p>Danielle Howes, Children's Integrated Services:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Part C: Infant Toddler organization around Part C, they are having a study group right now as to what states are doing to support children with autism. Danielle will share more information—they have only had two meetings so far. • Identifying children younger (under 2) with autism. Pediatricians are doing MCHATs more and Early Intervention is finding children close to 16 months old as opposed to over age 2. Child find is working better. <p>DMH:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mobile Response bill, S.302, https://legislature.vermont.gov/bill/status/2020/S.302 is a bill for a pilot of mobile response to families when they are in crisis. The Governor put forth in his budget for this pilot for \$600,000 and there is a possibility the funds may not all go to mobile response. • Provided brochure for ED 	
<p>Strategic Planning and Data Profile</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Finalize data profile • Finalize parent survey 	<p>During discussion the document with the survey questions was edited.</p>	<p>Please see attached and send any final comments to Cheryle and Mary-Graham by Friday, March 27th</p>

<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Determine dissemination plan		
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