

Area 2 Steering Committee Minutes

Date: November 18, 2008

Location: APD Conference Room, Cedars Executive Office Center,
Tallahassee; Marianna (by phone); Chipley (by phone)

Attendees: Mavis Smith
Lou Ogburn
Jimmy Wells
Peter Prater
Debbie Smith (by phone)
Janet Graham
Lynne Daw
Nilda Barreto (facilitator)
Floyd Booth (facilitator) by phone

Absent: Martha Coley and Blake Little

Call to order:

The meeting was called to order at 10:05 a.m. EST by Mavis Smith, Area 2 Steering Committee Chairperson.

Introductions:

Peter Prater was introduced and welcomed as a new member.

Approval of Minutes:

The minutes of the meeting of September 23, 2008 were approved, with a motion by Jim Wells seconded by Lou Ogburn. The motion passed.

Old Business

Lynne Daw suggested that Project Two, Questions & Answers on Service Delivery, which had been submitted to Legal for approval be reworked to group the questions in logical order according to topics. Earlier today Nilda Barreto had e-mailed a revised list to all members. The members had not received the email in time to review it. Lynne Daw further suggested holding off sending out the mailer until December in order to include an explanation on the new rebasing plan. She suggested looking at the revised form to see how the questions and answers are worded.

Rebasing, which looks at utilization of the current amount of cost plans, was then discussed. Since the Area offices had just received preliminary information about rebasing earlier this week, Lynne could not provide specific details about its implementation. However, an initial conference call is scheduled on Wednesday to clarify some questions staff have.. Lou Ogburn moved that we proceed with sending out the revised Frequently Asked Questions about the med-waiver program and include information about rebasing prior to its January 1 implementation date. This was seconded by Janet Graham and all were in favor.

Mavis Smith asked that we all look at the Frequently Asked Questions sheet and send our comments back to the whole committee by this Friday, November 21. The questions and answers added on rebasing will come off the APD web site which would have been approved by APD legal enabling the questions to then be sent out to all medical waiver participants. The deadline for this mail-out is December 15. It was stated again that the Steering Committee feels this mail-out is necessary because so many of our families and consumers are not computer literate and even if they were, finding information on the APD website can sometimes be difficult..

Other Old Business:

None.

New Business:

It has been suggested that our next project may be training families and self advocates in how to talk to the Legislature. Lynne Daw has talked to Mike Dunn, Legislative Affairs person for APD and this training needs to take place in January. It was suggested that two training sessions be held, one in Tallahassee and one in either Panama City or Marianna. Janet Graham suggested that we contact the DD Council to see what training material they already have in circulation. Jim Wells suggested that it would be good to target active participants who may, in fact, use information received to contact legislators, instead of trying to attract large numbers of folks. The training would focus on who the legislators are and how to talk to them. It was suggested that we try to partner with the DD Council and the Family Care Council in scheduling these meetings.

Jim Wells moved that we adopt a project to train families and self advocates on how to effectively talk with local legislative delegations about funding and about APD programs and obtain the training necessary by partnering with the DD Council and the Family Care Council This was seconded by Lou Ogburn and all were in favor.

The next meeting will be a telephone conference call for December 9 at 10:00 a.m. EST. The Chairperson will send out an agenda and the Secretary will take the minutes of this conference call.

Other New Business

Nilda reported that a representative from the Quality and Leadership Council met with her and the host agency, Specialized Supports and Services, about the LENS Project to be held March 10, 11 and 12. This Project will identify community resources and determine how to access these community supports. Experts on each of the six areas identified will be speakers. They need to find a meeting room (no charge) with internet wireless. The host agency has identified two people to organize and coordinate the LENS project with facilitation from Nilda Barreto. The LENS workshop is by invitation only and has a capacity of 32 participants.

Adjournment:

There being no other business, it was moved by Jim Wells, seconded by Peter Prater that the meeting be adjourned at 11:40 p.m...

Approved by: _____

Date: _____