



Autism Council Meeting Minutes

Lewis Cass Building

Friday October 25, 2013

9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT	ORGANIZATION
Colleen Allen, Chairperson	Autism Alliance of Michigan
Amy Matthews, Vice-Chairperson	Grand Valley State University
Michael Caine	Haslett Public Schools
Mary Chaliman	Michigan Department of Human Services
Rhonda Fossitt	Michigan Department of Insurance and Financial Services
Richard Wayne Fuqua	Western Michigan University
Scott Gilman	Network 180
Stacie Rulison	Autism Alliance of Michigan
Jane Turner	Michigan State University
Joanne Winkelman	Michigan Department of Education
Lynda Zeller (representing Elizabeth Knisely)	MDCH, Behavioral Health & Developmental Disabilities Administration
COUNCIL MEMBERS EXCUSED	ORGANIZATION
Anthony Ianni	Autism Alliance of Michigan
Elizabeth Knisely	Michigan Department of Community Health
MDCH STAFF PRESENT	REPRESENTING
Morgan Aue	MDCH, Children & Adults with Autism Spectrum Disorders Administration
Sheri Falvay	MDCH, Division of Services to Children and Families
Lisa Grost	MDCH, Children & Adults with Autism Spectrum Disorders Administration
Lori Irish	MDCH, Division of Services to Children and Families
Min Lee	MDCH, Children & Adults with Autism Spectrum Disorders Administration



Price Pullins	MDCH, Bureau of State Hospital & Behavioral Health Administrative Operations
COUNCIL GUESTS	ORGANIZATION
Yasmina Bouraoui	MDCH, Developmental Disabilities Council
Barbara Leroy	Wayne State University
Rebecca Meuninck	Ecology Center
Lola Nasriddinova	Guest from Tajikistan
Brooke Pung	Governor Snyder's Office

ROLL CALL

A Roll Call of the Council members, MDCH staff, and guests was completed.

CALL TO ORDER

The Autism Council meeting was called to order by Chair Colleen Allen at 9:09 a.m. A quorum was present for today's meeting.

APPROVAL OF AUGUST MINUTES

Sheri Falvay noted two corrections: 1) Barbara LeRoy is from Wayne State University not Western Michigan University 2) The additional \$2.5 in Mental Health Funds is for home based services for children with serious emotional disturbance not for children with ASD. Chair Colleen Allen called for a **MOTION** to approve the minutes of the August meeting. Stacie Rulison made a **MOTION** to approve the agenda, and it was seconded by Jane Turner. The **MOTION** carried.

LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

Summary- Lynda Zeller

Lynda Zeller, updating for Karla Ruest, reported on the introduction of a bill that requires physicians to disclose psychotropic drugs' side-effects to patients, and reported on the possible effects of the Mental Health Wellness Commission report on the Autism State Plan. There is not any new legislation directly affecting the Autism State Plan.

Lynda addressed an inquiry on how the Autism Council could introduce, support, or disapprove legislation. Lynda Zeller informed the Autism Council that as an advisory body of the executive branch through the Michigan Department of Community Health, the



Autism Council must submit recommendations through the Michigan Department of Community Health. After the recommendations are made, the Michigan Department of Community Health's legislative professionals may work with agencies represented in the Autism Council to draft a bill and garner sponsorship through the leadership of the House and/or Senate.

Colleen Allen called for a **MOTION** to approve the endorsement and opposition process outlined as follows:

- When the Autism Council or Sub-Committee wants to introduce legislation, the aforementioned would make a recommendation to the Michigan Department of Community Health with supplemental material outlining how the recommendation supports the Autism State Plan.
- When the Autism Council or Council members are approached and asked to support, endorse, or disapprove legislation, the aforementioned would direct the individual and/or organization to the Michigan Department of Community Health. The Michigan Department of Community Health will assess and determine if the legislation is relevant to the work of the Autism Council and the Autism State Plan.
- When the Autism Council wants to voice opposition to legislation, the Autism Council would approach the Michigan Department of Community Health with written material (s) outlining how the legislation obstructs the Autism State Plan.

Scott Gilman proposed a **MOTION**, Michael Caine seconded. The **MOTION** carried.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Western Michigan University Autism Center of Excellence (WMU-ACE) Proposal – Colleen Allen

Joanne Winkelman called for a **MOTION** to support the general concept in the Western Michigan business plan as the plan is consistent with the recommendations in the Autism State Plan. Lynda Zeller made the **MOTION**. Jane Turner seconded. The **MOTION** carried.

Acknowledging a conflict of interest (in his role at WMU, Fuqua co-authored the WMU-ACE proposal), Wayne Fuqua recused himself from the discussion of this proposal. Both Wayne Fuqua and Scott Gilman abstained from voting on the WMU-ACE Proposal.

STANDING REPORTS

Autism Alliance of Michigan – Colleen Allen

No report.



Michigan Department of Community Health - Lynda Zeller

Lynda Zeller, representing Elizabeth Knisely, reported the Autism Program has provided diagnostic services to 424 individuals, 370 children qualified for an autism diagnosis and 69 did not meet the criteria for an autism diagnosis

Lynda Zeller reported that the State of Michigan is putting together an Employment First meeting on November 20, 2013. The purpose of this meeting is to help bring consensus to conflicting ideologies for disabled employment by examining research and expert consultants.

Michigan Department of Education - Joanne Winkelman

No report.

Michigan Department of Human Services – Mary Chaliman

Mary Chaliman reported that the Michigan Department of Human Services will update its Health Policy to aid child-welfare workers with Autism Spectrum Disorder cases. The updated health policy is expected to be completed in January, 2014, and will link to service and assistance websites.

Mary Chaliman also reported that the Michigan Department of Human Services helped conduct a conference on September 26, 2013 addressing the need to create better outcomes for prescribing psychotropic medication to foster children and residential facilities.

Lastly, Mary Chaliman reported on the Michigan Department of Human Services' difficulty with their new Michigan State-wide Automated Child Welfare System.

Michigan State University – Jane Turner

Jane Turner reported on a presentation Colleen Allen, Stacie Rulison, and Jane Turner presented to the Michigan Chapters of American Academy of Pediatrics. Jane Turner reported that the pediatricians were very welcoming and receptive to the presentation on Autism Spectrum Disorders screening, systems, applied behavior analysis therapy, and how to get children services.

Michigan Department of Insurance and Financial Services- Rhonda Fossitt

Rhonda Fossitt updated the Autism Council on claims submitted to the Autism Fund. There have been a total of \$476,000 of claims; however, only \$102,000 of claims have been paid. The reason for the difference in total claims and claims paid is because claims are not being submitted with the proper coding. Blue Care Network, who has



\$333,000 in unpaid claims has agreed to convert their claims to the proper coding. Rhonda Fossitt hopes to get this issue resolved in a week.

Michigan Autism Conference – Wayne Fuqua

Wayne Fuqua reported that the Michigan Autism Conference was very successful. The attendance represented diverse geographic area, profession, and interests. Western Michigan University hopes to host the Michigan Autism Conference annually in each fall.

Autism Alliance of Michigan – Stacie Rulison

Stacie Rulison updated the Council on an educational module that the Autism Alliance of Michigan has been completing with assistance from the Wayne County Airport Authority, Delta Airlines, and the Transportation Security Administration. The Wayne County Airport Authority, Delta Airlines, and the Transportation Security Administration have helped host airport-travel simulations for families with ASD. Autism Alliance of Michigan is in negotiations to train Delta Airlines staff nationwide.

Network 180 - Scott Gilman

Scott Gilman updated the Autism Council on how the PIHP and CMH are trying to educate, recruit, and share resources for the Autism Benefit. The PIHPs are realigning to go from 18 to 10 PIHPs beginning January 2014.

Education – Michael Caine

Michael Caine reported school districts are utilizing general funds to supplemented special education services. Haslett Public Schools used \$970,000 (17% of their general fund) toward special education services in 2012-2013 school year. He reported he has officially resigned from the Council effective October 26, 2013 but looks forward to co-chairing the Education Subcommittee of the ASD State Plan.

Michigan Autism Council First Year Progress – Colleen Allen

Colleen Allen presented on the 2013 progress of the Autism Council. Highlights are provided in the PowerPoint.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Early Identification Early Intervention Subcommittee- Amy Matthews & Jane Turner

Amy Matthews reported that the Early Identification Early Intervention Subcommittee has broken into two workgroups – Identification and Intervention. The Identification Workgroup is led by Jane Turner and Colleen Allen, and the Intervention work group is



led by Nicole Dwyer and Amy Matthews. The group has an extensive professional and geographic representation.

Amy Matthews reported that the Intervention Workgroup had three meetings. Predominantly, the meetings have spent time on introductions, orientation, and philosophical discussion. The Workgroup hopes to develop practice guidelines and system navigations which can be developed and disseminated to people.

Jane Turner reported on the Identification Workgroup. Currently, the group has discussed issues in the identification process and professionals that could be involved.

Education Subcommittee – Michael Caine and Joanne Winkelman

Michael Caine reported that the Education Subcommittee has identified the collaboration and coordination across systems for implementation of evidence based practice and coordination of high quality evaluation as the subcommittee's main priority. Joanne Winkelman will lead the evaluation group, and Michael Caine and Diane Heinzelman will lead the evidence based practice group.

New Business

Autism Council Guideline for Supporting Programs/Proposals – Colleen Allen

The Autism Council decided when organizations would like their programs or proposals reviewed for support, the request will first be reviewed by the officers. If the Autism Council officers determine the item reviewed aligns with the ASD State Plan Recommendations, they will have the entire Council review it and invite the organization to present to the Autism Council. The Autism Council determined it will not be a practice to endorse programs/proposals; however, they will consider supporting priority autism recommendations to support organizations implementing the ASD State Plan.

2014 Proposed Meeting Schedule – Lisa Grost

Lisa Grost presented the future meeting dates to the Autism Council. The proposed meeting dates for 2014 are February 28, April 25, June 27, August 22, October 24, and December 19. Autism Council agreed to this meeting schedule. Min Lee will send out appointments to all Council members.

Autism Council Member Replacement for Local and Intermediate School Districts – Colleen Allen

Colleen Allen stated that Michael Caine's resignation will take effect on October 26,



2013 and the Council will need to provide replacement options.

Autism Council ASD State Plan Subcommittee Webpage – Min Lee

Min Lee added ASD State Plan Subcommittee webpages to the www.michigan.gov/autism website to provide information on the subcommittees' priorities and contact information for each subcommittee. The information is very basic right now; however, he requested key resources identified by each subcommittee and priorities with target dates. They can be directly sent to him and he will enhance the site before the December 20, 2013, meeting.

Presentation

Ecology Center – Rebecca Meuninck

Rebecca Meuninck presented on neurotoxic chemicals and health.

Public Comment /Announcement

There were no public comments.

ADJOURNMENT

The next meeting is scheduled for December 20, 2013 at 9:00a.m. at the Lewis Cass Building.