



The Michigan Autism Council

AUTISM COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

Friday, October 28, 2022

9:00 am – 11:00 am

[Recorded Meeting Link](#)

| COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT | ORGANIZATION, REPRESENTATION |
|--------------------------------|--|
| Amy Matthews | Grand Valley State University, State-funded Initiatives |
| Brian DeBano | Department of Licensing and Regulatory Affairs |
| Colleen Allen | Autism Alliance of Michigan, Non-Profit Organization serving those with ASD |
| Dana Lasenby | Oakland Community Health Network, Pre-Paid Inpatient Health Plans/Community Mental Health Service Programs |
| Emily DeLaGarza | Michigan Department of Insurance & Financial Services |
| Frank Vaca | Self-Advocate, ASD Community |
| Jacob Daar | Northern Michigan University, State Universities |
| Jeanette Scheid | MDHHS Children's Services Agency |
| Jenny Piatt | Michigan Rehabilitation Services, Employment Services |
| Krista Boe | Acorn Health, Certified Behavior Analysts |
| Lauren Ringle | Intermediate School Districts and Local Schools |
| Martin Baum | Parent, ASD Community |
| Mary Chaliman | Michigan Department of Health and Human Services, Child Welfare |
| Neelkamal Soares | Western Michigan University Homer Stryker MD School of Medicine, Health Care Providers |
| Raymie Postema | Michigan Department of Health & Human Services, Recipient Rights |
| COUNCIL MEMBERS EXCUSED | ORGANIZATION, REPRESENTATION |
| Rebecca McIntyre | Michigan Department of Education |
| MDHHS STAFF PRESENT | MDHHS REPRESENTATION |
| Emilea Brook | Bureau of Children's Service Coordinated Health Policy & Supports |
| Kimberlee Kenyon | Bureau of Children's Service Coordinated Health Policy & Supports |
| Kristen Jordan | Chief Deputy of Health Office |
| Lindsay McLaughlin | Bureau of Children's Service Coordinated Health Policy & Supports |
| Lisa Collins | Bureau of Children's Service Coordinated Health Policy & Supports |
| Marina Wyrzykowski | Legislative Affairs |

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| Mary Luchies | State Hospital Administration |
| Patricia Neitman | Bureau of Children's Service Coordinated Health Policy & Supports |
| Phil Kurdunowicz | Bureau of Children's Service Coordinated Health Policy & Supports |
| Ramiro Galvan | Legislative Affairs |
| Sara Salamey | Bureau of Children's Service Coordinated Health Policy & Supports |
| Tammy Sattleberg | Bureau of Children's Service Coordinated Health Policy & Supports |
| GUESTS PRESENT | ORGANIZATION |
| Abby Railling | Easterseals MORC |
| Adam Briggs | Eastern Michigan University |
| Angela NaDell | Guest |
| Ashley Shayter | Autism Alliance of Michigan |
| Barb Groom | Mid-State Health Network |
| Brie Elsasser | Mid-State Health Network |
| Edwin Portugal | Full Spectrum Agency for Autistic Adults |
| Jessica Corliss | MDE Office of Special Education |
| Kara Hart | Mid-State Health Network |
| Kourtnee Elliott | DWIHN |
| MaryBeth Smith | CMU AAEC |
| Rachel Barnhart | Detroit Wayne Integrated Health Network |
| Sharon Maniscalco | Pioneer Resources |
| Tera Harris | Mid State Health Network |

CALL TO ORDER

The Autism Council meeting was called to order by Lauren Ringle at 9:02 am. A quorum was present for the meeting.

ROLL CALL

A roll call of Council members, MDHHS staff, and guests was completed.

APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MINUTES

Lauren Ringle called for a **MOTION** to approve the August minutes. Amy Matthews made a **MOTION** to approve the August minutes. Raymie Postema **SECONDED** the motion. The **MOTION** carried.

PUBLIC COMMENT

No public comment.

Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS) UPDATES

Financial Operations Administration-MDHHS Budget: No budget updates today.

Legislative Update: Marina Wyrzykowski reported on the following bills:

New:

[House Bill 6399](#) (Whitsett) – *Provides for outpatient treatment for misdemeanor offenders with mental health issues* – No Lead yet assigned, referred to House Health Policy Committee

[Senate Bill 1138](#) (Hertel, C.) – *Requires the Michigan commission on law enforcement standards to create standards for training in trauma-informed techniques and behavioral health resources and support* – MSP/LEGAL Lead, referred to Senate Judiciary & Public Safety Committee

[House Bill 6437](#) (LaGrand) – *allows judges to order psychological evaluations for defendants* – No Lead yet assigned, referred to House Judiciary Committee

Updates:

[House Bill 5977](#) (Green) – *Requires MDHHS to conduct an annual needs assessment regarding the utilization of residential treatment and the needs of youth who are referred for clinical interventions* – DHHS Lead, signed into law as PA 203 of 2022 on 10/7/22

[House Bill 4414](#) (LaFave) – *Creates standards and licensing requirements for mental health transport for involuntary psych hospitalization* – DHHS/LEGAL Lead, HB 4414 signed into law as PA 214 of 2022 on 10/13/22; similar version SB 101 signed into law as PA 146 of 2022 on 7/20/22

Bureau of Children's Service Coordinated Health Policy & Supports (BCCHPS)

MDHHS Current Position Vacancies:

- IDD & Autism Spectrum Disorder Services Section Manager: Mary Luchies has been hired for this position. Mary is working on filling a few roles for this section as well. LuchiesM@michigan.gov

IDD & ASD Services Section: Mary Luchies reported to recently issue an updated memo to the CMHP's and PIHP's for rate updates for ABA Services. Working with Dr. Kara Brookliar on a couple of updates for the guidelines for best practices for evaluations. Moving forward we are really looking to enhance the training opportunities for providers. Working with Easterseals on developing an autism center in Oakland County. Mary Luchies is also looking to collaborate with educational entities to strategize how to build collaborative opportunities for ABA services. She also reported that she is looking into new ways to collect data and moving away from using the WSA.

Office of the Advocate for Children, Youth, and Families: Patty Neitman shared a PowerPoint on the work that is going on in the Clinical Support & Service Navigation Section and the Family & Community Partnerships Section.

Emergency Department Utilization Data: Phil Kurdunowicz reported on the data that is being requested regarding the children who have ASD and ended up in the Emergency Room, is the group looking for a more quantitative or qualitative data. Phil will take the feedback given and report back to the group in December.

Medicaid Policy Updates: No update at this time.

Old Business

- ASD State Plan Recommendation Progress Update: Council members to submit the State Plan by November 2nd, we have only received a few responses at this time.
- MiCAL Newsletter, if interested, contact: mpcip-support@mphi.org or bfoley@mphi.org

New Business

- Lindsay reported on new representatives for the council due to other's terms expiring. Lindsay is working through final approvals for December. Also still looking on filling the chair position. Emily DeLaGarza has joined the council as the representative from the Department of Insurance and Financial Services.

Discussion

Acute Crisis Care Continued

Lauren highlighted the Ernzen's family experience from the August meeting and reviewed the takeaways. The attendees of the meeting split into breakout sessions to discuss some key points that should be the main focus of the group in the coming months.

Member Updates

Raymie Postema reported on the rules of the Open Meetings Act. Legal had advised that yes, this council is subject to the rules. Some changes that occurred in 2020 indicated that we can no longer meet virtually and that meetings must be in person. There are only 2 reasons that a council member can be excused from a meeting and that is for military or medical exemptions.

Action Items

- Marina to give an update to the legislative bill #1135
- Marina will share more information regarding the actions in response to the needs assessment mentioned in HB 5977.
- Council Members to return the ASD State Plan by Nov. 2nd.
- Council Members to update the slideshow with Priority Recommendations
- Phil will include an update on telehealth.

Adjourn

Lauren Ringle adjourned the meeting at 11:01 pm. The next Autism Council meeting will take place on December 16, 2022, at the South Grand Conference Room, 333 South Grand Ave, Lansing, MI. This will be in person only.