



Autism Council Meeting Minutes

Capital View Building

Wednesday April 24, 2013

1:00 p.m.

COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT	ORGANIZATION
Colleen Allen, Chairperson	Autism Alliance of Michigan
Amy Matthews, Vice-Chairperson	Grand Valley State University
Stacie Rulison, Secretary	Autism Alliance of Michigan
Michael Caine	Haslett Public Schools
Mary Chaliman	Michigan Department of Human Services
Rhonda Fossitt	Michigan Department of Insurance and Financial Services
R. Wayne Fuqua	Western Michigan University
Anthony Ianni	Autism Alliance of Michigan
Elizabeth Knisely	Michigan Department of Community Health
Joanne Winkelman	Michigan Department of Education
Robert Sheehan	Community Mental Health Authority of Clinton, Eaton and Ingham Counties
Jane Turner	Michigan State University
MDCH STAFF PRESENT	REPRESENTING
Officer Edward Barrett	Lewis Cass Building / Michigan State Police
Lisa Grost	MDCH, Children and Adults with Autism Spectrum Disorders Administration
Kaitlyn Longoria	MDCH, Behavioral Health and Developmental Disabilities Administration
COUNCIL GUESTS	ORGANIZATION
Sheri Falvay	Michigan Department of Community Health
Marlowe Franklin	Parent, Advocate
James Gallant	Project Parent Time
Audra Parsons	Michigan Department of Insurance and Financial Services (DIFS)
Mary Sharp	Physician and Parent, Advocate

Lynda Zeller	MDCH, Behavioral Health and Developmental Disabilities Administration
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ROLL CALL

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

CALL TO ORDER

The Autism Council meeting was called to order by Chair Colleen Allen at 1:07p.m. A quorum was present for today's meeting.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Chair Colleen Allen called for a **MOTION** to approve the meeting agenda. Staci Rulison made a **MOTION** to approve the agenda, and it was seconded by Amy Matthews. The **MOTION** carried.

APPROVAL OF MARCH MINUTES

Chair Colleen Allen called for a **MOTION** to approve the minutes of the March meeting. Wayne Fuqua made a **MOTION** to accept minutes, and it was seconded by Anthony Ianni. The **MOTION** carried.

LEGISLATIVE REPORT

Summary – Lisa Grost

According to Karla Ruest, the MDCH Legislative Liaison, there is no new autism related legislation to be discussed. If the Council members would like to discuss legislation or a state department policy, Karla could accommodate a meeting with department legislative liaisons.

STANDING REPORTS

Council Chair / Autism Alliance of Michigan – Colleen Allen

Colleen Allen reported there is funding in the proposed budget for autism programming for Oakland and Western Michigan University. Council members are encouraged to share similar information with Council members.

Colleen Allen informed the Council the ASD State Plan is being well received throughout the state. She has received positive feedback on it. Entities are utilizing and discussing the Plan, and they are being encouraged to align their own individual actions with it.

Michigan Department of Community Health - Elizabeth Knisely

Elizabeth Knisely discussed the Prepaid Inpatient Health Plan/ Community Mental Health agencies are preparing for the autism benefit and the billing procedures for implementation. The MDCH is also looking at service gaps between state agencies for children with ASD.

State of Michigan Universities/Western Michigan University – R. Wayne Fuqua

Wayne Fuqua informed the Council there will be an autism conference tentatively set for October 17-18. There will be nationally renowned speakers, and the conference is intended for providers and consumers.

Wayne Fuqu shared the BCBA licensing bill is close to being finalized, and is a proposed agenda item for the June Council Meeting.

Michigan Department of Insurance and Financial Services - Rhonda Fossitt

Rhonda Fossitt informed the Council that currently only \$13,720.00 of the 15 million dollars allocated to the Autism Fund has been utilized. The funds have been allocated for speech therapy, physical therapy and therapeutic behavior services (ABA). The primary carrier that is being issued funds is Blue Care Network. Some carriers/insurers will not be asking for reimbursement for autism ABA services through the fund. The 2014 proposed budget indicates a two million dollar reduction.

Community Mental Health Agencies/ Community Mental Health Authority of Clinton, Eaton and Ingham Counties – Robert Sheehan

The Medicaid/MiChild autism benefit was effective April 1, 2013 and being implemented by the PIHP/ CMHs to provide the ABA services for children 18 months through 5 years old. The current autism patient load is primarily children who were already in the CMH system. The process is going very well. It was discussed that the services have not been marketed widely yet. The CMHs wanted to get prepared to offer the autism benefit and now it will be essential to get information to the parents to let them know ABA services are available to this population.

Michigan School Districts/Haslett Public Schools – Michael Caine

Michael Caine commended Colleen Allen and Amy Matthews on their presentation on interfacing with schools. It was suggested that the presentation be conducted again during the Summer Institute for Teachers in Traverse City. Amy Matthews will follow up on the opportunity.

Medical Service Centers/ Michigan State University- Jane Turner

Jane Turner updated the Council that the insurance companies are working with parents to help make the ASD diagnosis proceed more quickly. Jane Turner is diagnosing 2-3 children with ASD a since April 1, 2013.

Jane Turner informed the Council of the 60 percent of Michigan children who fall under Medicaid, only 16 percent of them are receiving early screenings for ASD. The Affordable Care Act will mandate providers conduct the screenings for all children and report the results to the federal government through their health plans.

State Funded Initiatives/ Grand Valley State University (GVSU) – Amy Matthews

Amy Matthews shared the START Conference this week was successful. GVSU intends to hire a part-time webmaster this summer for the ARIC Website. ARIC will be a one stop shop for all things ASD.

The following Council members did not have a report:

- Stacie Rulison, Autism Alliance of Michigan
- Mary Chaliman, Michigan Department of Human Services
- Anthony Ianni, Autism Alliance of Michigan
- Joanne Winkelman, Michigan Department of Education

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Insurance Update- Colleen Allen

Colleen Allen reported the insurance carriers and AAECs had a very informative meeting on April 10 to share everyone's process, caseloads and waitlists. There will be a follow up meeting on May 20th at 2:30 p.m. to continue to discuss how to get children diagnosed and to services in more efficiently.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Subcommittee Application Process – Colleen Allen

Colleen Allen discussed the observation that many of the subcommittee applicants are applying for numerous committees. The Council will be contacting the applicants in the near future.

NEW BUSINESS

Autism Council Meeting Schedule – Amy Matthews

Amy Matthews proposed the Council meetings be changed from every month to every other month.

Chair Colleen Allen called for a **MOTION** to approve the schedule change. Stacie Rulison made a **MOTION** to accept the schedule change and it was seconded by Jane. The **MOTION** carried.

PUBLIC COMMENT/ANNOUNCEMENT

Parent/Advocate- Marlowe Franklin

Marlowe Franklin thanked the Council for their work.

Physician and Parent/Advocate- Mary Sharp

Mary Sharp also thanked the Council for their work. She asked that the Council keep in mind best practices and to recognize how all that they are doing applies to all populations with cognitive disabilities.

Project Parent Time- James Gallant

James Gallant informed the Council of his disappointment towards the Council. He provided the Council with documentation which is attached to the April Meeting Minutes.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 2:21 p.m. April 24, 2013.

The next meeting is scheduled for June 28, 2013 at 9:00 a.m. in the Lewis Cass Building.