
The Michigan Autism Council



AUTISM COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

Lewis Cass Building
Friday, June 17, 2016
9:00 A.M. – 12:00 P.M.

COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT	ORGANIZATION, REPRESENTATION
Colleen Allen	Autism Alliance of Michigan, Non-profit Organization serving those with ASD
Diane Heinzelman, Chairperson	Charlevoix-Emmet Intermediate School District, Intermediate School Districts and Local Schools
Amy Matthews, Vice-Chairperson	Grand Valley State University, State-funded Initiatives
George Mellos	Hawthorn Center, Michigan Department of Health and Human Services
Stacie Rulison, Secretary	ASD Community (Parent)
Jane Turner	Michigan State University, Medical Centers/ Health Care Providers
Joanne Winkelman	Michigan Department of Education
COUNCIL MEMBERS EXCUSED	ORGANIZATION, REPRESENTATION
Mary Chaliman	Michigan Department of Health and Human Services
Jeff DeLay	Detroit-Wayne Mental Health Authority, Pre-Paid Inpatient Health Plans
Wayne Fuqua	Western Michigan University, State Universities
Cathy Kirby	Michigan Department of Insurance and Financial Services
Anthony Ianni	Michigan Department of Civil Rights, ASD Community (Self-advocate)
MDHHS STAFF PRESENT	MDHHS ORGANIZATION
Lisa Grost	Children & Adults with Autism Spectrum Disorder Section
Kim Saterlee	Children & Adults with Autism Spectrum Disorder Section
Rachel Rick	Children & Adults with Autism Spectrum Disorder Section
Brie Elsasser	Children & Adults with Autism Spectrum Disorder Section
Morgan VanDenBerg	Children & Adults with Autism Spectrum Disorder Section
GUESTS PRESENT	ORGANIZATION
Sari Abromovich	Harbor Oaks Psychiatric Hospital
Lauren Kazee	Michigan Department of Education
Cynthia Wright	Michigan Rehabilitative Services

CALL TO ORDER

The Autism Council meeting was called to order by Chair Diane Heinzelman at 9:05 A.M. 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

Chair Diane Heinzelman called for a **MOTION** to approve the April minutes. Joanne Winkelman made a **MOTION** to approve the April minutes. George Mellos **SECONDED** the motion. The **MOTION** carried.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Sari Abromovich, the CEO of Harbor Oaks Hospital, shared information about the Harbor Oaks Psychiatric Hospital in New Baltimore. The hospital units include pediatric, adult, and chemical dependency. In a few weeks, the hospital will be opening up a specialty pediatric unit with 10 beds to service children with autism with private insurance and Medicaid. This unit will offer highly specialized services, including ABA and transition services.

MDHHS & LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

Lisa Grost reported the budget is close to being finalized for the 2017 fiscal year. Specifically relating to autism, funding to university contracts have been decreased from \$2.5 million to \$1 million. Universities who were awarded in 2016 were asked to submit 2017 proposals with a focus on increasing students in ABA degree programs, ABA providers, children receiving ABA, and clinicians with skills to screen, diagnose and treat children with ASD. The Autism Alliance of Michigan will receive \$565,000, which is annual level funding, to continue to assist families with supports and services.

Section 298 continues to move forward and have released their core values and the final statement. There is one more meeting within the next month and a work group will continue into 2017.

The licensure for BCBA's legislation has been redrafted and separated into two bills. The first bill establishes licensure, and the second creates the BCBA licensure board. The bills have support from the Senate along with MDHHS Director Nick Lyon and are in hopes to be passed in the fall of 2016.

BEHAVIORAL HEALTH FOCUS AREA

Lauren Kazee presented "Social and Emotional Learning Standards." Michigan Department of Education is currently working on implementing standards to promote students' social-emotional skills, which have been known to improve overall academic performance. The five main skills the standards will focus on are improving self-awareness, self-management, social awareness, relationship skills, and responsible decision making. The standards will be set by age, starting from birth to grade 12. The standards are currently being finalized and will be sent to the state school board of education. After their approval, an implementation guide will be created and disseminated to schools across the state.

NEW BUSINESS

- Autism Council Website Resources
 - Rachel Rick presented on the Autism Council Website Resources. Autism Council developed resources have been updated to reflect the Medicaid ABA policy expansion. Suggested edits should be submitted to Rachel Rick by Friday, August 24, 2016. The updated documents will be posted on the Michigan.gov/autism website.
- Early Childhood Committee Document Review
 - Amy Matthews presented on Early Childhood Committee Document Review. The Early Childhood Committee created documents for families and providers. The resources are focused on next steps after an ASD diagnosis. Diane Heinzelman called for a **MOTION** to approve the content of the documents. Jane Turner made a **MOTION** to approve the Early Childhood Committee Documents. Joanne Winkelman **SECONDED** the motion. The **MOTION** carried.

Diane Heinzelman led discussion of groups who would be the council's top resources to disseminate

resources created by the council. Depending upon the resource, these would be the priority groups who would be sent documents first. The groups include: Michigan Alliance for Families, The Family Center, Michigan Academy of Pediatrics, Autism Alliance for Families, IHE (BCBA programs, teacher ASD programs), MAASE, Michigan Association of CMH Boards, START (RCNs), Michigan Rehabilitation Services, Bureau of Services for Blind Persons (LARA), Centers for Independent Living, Directors of AAECs, Medical Professional Society, Early On, and the Autism Council Insurance Committee.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

- Behavioral Health Council Survey
 - Diane Heinzelman and Amy Matthews distributed a summary of the results from the Behavioral Health Member Survey that the Autism Council completed. The needs identified in the survey were categorized by a topic or themes, and they will be used for future presentations at council meetings. The council agreed one priority topic is dissemination of information to stakeholders. Lisa Grost will discuss a dissemination plan with GERALYN Lasher from External Relations and Communications who may be able to provide guidance with it.
- Member Recommendation to Governor's Office
 - Lisa Grost reported there are four open council seats that will need to be filled the start of the fiscal year on October 1. Jeff DeLay resigned due to a new position and a representative for PIHP/CMHPs will also need to be appointed. Please contact Lisa regarding being considered for your reappointment and/or recommendations on these openings. The website to submit an application to the Governor's office is <http://www.michigan.gov/snyder/0,4668,7-277-57738---,00.html>.

STANDING REPORTS

- Diane Heinzelman presented during the Autism Program's monthly webinar giving an education perspective to about 90 attendees. The focus was on education and how to collaborate with school. Diane shared resource Teaching Strategies Gold "Tour" of the learning standards resource: https://teachingstrategies.com/content/pageDocs/GOLD-Touring-Guide_5-2013.pdf
- Colleen Allen reported the Autism Alliance of Michigan has been continuing to assist individuals through the Navigator and have been receiving more calls about employment opportunities for adults with ASD. They are also preparing for their annual walk at the Detroit Zoo on July 31.
- Joanne Winkelman reported the state superintendent finalized the annual review, which highlights initiatives MDE has been working on throughout the state. Additionally, the State Board of Education meeting was successful and had a well-received student testimony about being a peer LINK. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2C-ZxFNOSBk>
- Stacie Rulison reported she has been working on a transition stakeholder team for changes within MDE and transition programming; reviewed school nurses document on ASD and provided feedback; coordinating family resource panel for MSU conference on July 28 at the Family-Professional Conference at MSU; presenting on June 21 at the School Nutrition Conference to School Service Directors on ASD characteristics, behaviors, universal supports, sensory issues, food aversions; coordinating resource information for Coordinated School Health & Safety Program (CSHSP) to provide information for physical education teachers.
- Jane Turner reported the Wardcliff Autism Evaluation Center evaluates 2-3 kids each week.

- Lisa Grost reported the Blue Cross Blue Shield Approved Autism Evaluation Centers' (AAECs) waitlist times to the council so they may share with agencies. A handout was provided with the detailed wait times. The Autism Section has been working on codes, Medicaid Manual updates, and several education sessions on the policy expansion. There are 2,533 children approved for Medicaid ABA services. Lisa expressed some concern about the lack of ABA providers and hope to have agencies expand and new ones expand to Michigan.
- George Mellos reported Hawthorn Psychiatric Hospital got approval for opening a new transition unit with 12-14 beds in fiscal year 2017. Individuals admitted into this unit will also work with Children's Behavioral Action Team (CBAT) to develop a plan for when they return home.
- Amy Matthews reported START has trained schools and regional areas and will be prepping for next year.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

No committee reports.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 12:15 P.M. The next Autism Council meeting will be on **August 26th, 2016** in the **Lewis Cass 5th floor Large Conference Room**.

ACTION ITEMS-

- MDHHS will create slides on the purpose and members of the Autism Council.
- Lisa will talk with GERALYN Lasher about dissemination of resources.
- Members will submit additional agencies for the dissemination list to Rachel Rick
- Members will review Autism Council documents updated and distributed and send Rachel edits by August 24, 2016.
- MDHHS will send slides presented by Diane at the May MDHHS Autism webinar.
- Joanne will send the link to the State Board of Education Meeting on Mystem.net when the Tuesday June 14 meeting is posted.