
The Michigan Autism Council



AUTISM COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

South Grand Tower, Conference Rooms K & L
Friday, April 26, 2019
9:00 A.M. – 12:00 P.M.

COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT	ORGANIZATION, REPRESENTATION
Christopher Pinter, Chairperson	Bay-Arenac Community Mental Health Service Plan, Pre-Paid Inpatient Health Plans
Colleen Allen	Autism Alliance of Michigan, Non-profit Organization serving those with ASD
Krista Boe	Autism Centers of Michigan, Certified Behavior Analysts
Mary Chaliman	Michigan Department of Health and Human Services
Krista Clancy	Wayne State University, State Universities
Brian DeBano	Department of Licensing and Regulatory Affairs
Anthony Ianni	Michigan Department of Civil Rights, ASD Community (Self-advocate)
Rebecca McIntyre	Kent Intermediate School District
Amy Matthews	Grand Valley State University, State-funded Initiatives
Amy Miilu	Department of Insurance and Financial Services
Jenny Piatt	Michigan Rehabilitation Services, Employment
Kent Rehmann	Summit Pointe, Recipient Rights
Joanne Winkelman	Michigan Department of Education
COUNCIL MEMBERS EXCUSED	ORGANIZATION, REPRESENTATION
Stacie Rulison, Secretary	ASD Community (Parent)
Stefani Hines, M.D.	Health Care Providers
George Mellos, M.D.	Michigan Department of Health and Human Services
MDHHS STAFF PRESENT	MDHHS ORGANIZATION
Lisa Grost	Children & Adults with Autism Spectrum Disorder Section
Kara Hart	Children & Adults with Autism Spectrum Disorder Section
Mary Luchies	Children & Adults with Autism Spectrum Disorder Section
Jordan Milham	Children & Adults with Autism Spectrum Disorder Section
Farah Hanley	Financial Operations Administration
GUESTS PRESENT	ORGANIZATION
Frances Paris	Charlevoix-Emmet ISD
Reena Nami	Spark Center for Autism

CALL TO ORDER

The Autism Council meeting was called to order by Chair Christopher Pinter at 9:07 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 Christopher Pinter called for a **MOTION** to approve the February minutes. Kent Rehmann made a **MOTION** to approve the February minutes. Brian DeBano **SECONDED** the motion. The **MOTION** carried.

PUBLIC COMMENT

No public comment.

MDHHS UPDATES

- Farah Hanley reported the Senate proposed FY20 budget recommended a reduction of \$14.2 million for autism services between cost containment and rate adjustments. The House FY20 budget recommendations will be released the week of May 6, 2019. Chair Christopher Pinter proposed providing a joint statement and recommendations with CMH Association of Michigan to the department regarding this language.
- Lisa Grost provided a MDHHS BHDDA update, including partnership initiatives, autism program data, and 2019 Autism Legislative Workshop Report recommendations. In response to the 2019 Autism Legislative Workgroup recommendations, MDHHS is working on Medicaid ASD Screening, Evaluation, and Treatment Guidelines and open to standardized Prepaid Inpatient Health Plans/Community Mental Health Plans' contract language for autism services. (*see attached document*)
- Krista Clancy and Michigan Public Health Institute submitted a HRSA grant application, with the goal to improve the rate of children getting into treatment under the age of 3. This will be a collaboration between Wayne and Kalamazoo counties, including five pediatric clinics, and will promote dissemination of educational materials and educate providers. They also submitted a similar application to the Michigan Health Endowment Fund, and MDHHS provided a letter of support for both grant applications.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

- Autism Council members discussed potential priorities for 2019-2020. Amy Matthews drafted and presented a workplan that included the top three priority areas from the February 22, 2019 meeting. Kent Rehmann made a motion to put the top three priorities – Family Engagement and Involvement, Educational Supports and Services, and Physical, Mental, and Behavioral Health – to a vote and Krista Boe supported this motion.
- Chair Christopher Pinter made a **MOTION** to prioritize Family Engagement and include Educational Supports and Services and Adult Services in Council priorities. Anthony Ianni **SECONDED** the motion. The **MOTION** carried.
- An Autism Council workgroup will develop a workplan to outline and implement Council priorities. Amy Matthews will facilitate the workgroup with support from MDHHS.

NEW BUSINESS

- Chair Christopher Pinter presented at the CMH Association of Michigan (CMHAM) on April 9, 2019. CMHAM will advocate for protecting the ASD benefit and collaborate with the Autism Council in the future.
- Krista Boe and Francis Paris presented on the Autism Train-the-Trainer collaboration between Autism Centers of Michigan and Walled Lake Consolidated School District. (*see attached document*).
- Colleen Allen provided an update on the AAoM Medicaid Autism Review project. This project will examine 1,700 cases across three CMHSPs state through collaboration with a university. No progress has been made at this time. This item will be added as a standing report for future Council meetings.
- Colleen Allen reported that an Autism Council Insurance Committee meeting is scheduled for June. She discussed a recent Federal court ruling that insurance companies must make medical necessity determinations based upon generally accepted standards within the specific field (OT, PT, Speech, ABA).
- Amy Miilu informed the group that the insurance complaint process covers both public and private

insurance and anyone can contact her with concerns as needed.

- Brian DeBano provided an update on the Michigan Behavior Analyst Licensing Board. Behavior analysts must be licensed by January 7, 2020 and can begin applying on May 6, 2019. (see attached document).
- Jenny Piatt provided an employment success story, in which a student from Michigan Tech University involved with MRS received a paid internship from Hewlett-Packard. (see attached document).
- Joanne Winkelman reported that she will be retiring on May 31, 2019, and this is her last meeting. A member to represent MDE is under consideration.

STANDING REPORTS

No standing reports.

ADJOURNMENT

Chair Christopher Pinter called for a motion to adjourn. Amy Matthews made a **MOTION** to adjourn. Kent Rehmann **SECONDED** the motion. The meeting adjourned at 12:02 P.M. The next Autism Council meeting will be on **June 28, 2019** in the **South Grand Conference Rooms 1K and 1L**.

ACTION ITEMS

WHO	Will do WHAT	By WHEN
Christopher Pinter, Amy Matthews, Stacie Rulison	Review the House and Senate budget language and draft a response and recommendations.	May 14, 2019
ALL	Review draft response and recommendations to House and Senate budget language.	May 17, 2019
Christopher Pinter	Coordinate an educational meeting for legislators and staff.	TBD
Amy Matthews	Coordinate a workgroup to develop a workplan to outline and implement Council priorities.	June 18, 2019