

DHHS ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING

January 26, 2016

4:30-6:30 p.m.

CentraCare Plaza, Hughes-Mathews Room

Meeting Facilitator: Melinda Brown

Notetaker: Kristina Hulett

Interpreters: Anne Janckila and Intern Jessica Huppert

Call to Order/Welcome

Introductions: two new members joining us, Omar Ibrahim and Kristin Francois

Additions/Corrections to agenda and approval of minutes – see minutes from September 2015

MCDHH Report –

Regional Update-

Rich – Regional Manager Report

Diane – East Central Regional Report

TED Program –

Guest Speaker – Sara Krieling from DeafBlind Consumer Directed-Service (DBCDS)

Announcements or Information Sharing – All

Adjournment

Next Meeting Date:

Tuesday, May 24, from 4:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m.

Location- CentraCare Plaza, Kremers Room

Tuesday, September 27, 2016, Same Time,

CentraCare Plaza, Plaza-Kremers Room

DHHS East Central Advisory Committee

Minutes, January 26, 2016

Members: Melinda Brown (Chairperson), Rosemond Owens, Shane Grom, Judy Leach, Mary Bauer, Brenda Hommerding, Kristin Fancois, Omar Ibrahim

Staff: Christina Costello, Diane Leonard, Rich Diedrichsen, Sara Kreiling

Interpreters: Anne Janckila, Jessica Huppler (DHHS Intern)

Note taker: Kris Hulett

Absent: Jean Euteneuer

Meeting called to order by Melinda Brown our Chair person. No changes were made to the minutes from the last meeting. Minutes were reviewed and approved. A special welcome to Kristin and Omar as our newest committee members.

MCDHH Report- Jean Euteneuer was appointed as the representative for the East Central region. Jean was unable to make it to the meeting tonight so Rich will provide an update on her behalf.

Regional Update- Jean Euteneuer is officially the East Central region MCDHH representative, although she has yet to receive her letter stating so. The legislative agenda for this session is sparse. One of the citations in program materials cites the right law but the wrong paragraph. This is really the only thing we have for the legislative session at this point. Other than the change in the citation, there's not a whole lot from the commission. We recently received new equipment through the Star Program to loan out for client use. Our new equipment should be here in the next 6 weeks. Star teamed up with DHHS due to a lack of resources on their part to get the equipment out there for clients to know about and use.

DeafBlind Consumer Directed Services currently has approximately 21 people in it state wide. Sara will talk more about that program later.

There are currently two studies in progress: TED and DHHS. The TED study is due to be finished by April 15 and more information on that study will follow in the TED report. The DHHS study is due to be finished June 30. This study's focus is the service delivery model, which has been the same since 1980. Some of the things that will be looked at include: Where should offices be; When offices have large regions, are services delayed; and is personnel appropriate? We currently have three areas that have managers with dual roles, with the roles being office manager and DHHS specialist. These three areas are: Northwest, Central and South. Although, the South region currently has a staff member working out of class to help with some of the specialist responsibilities on the manager.

Judy Leach asked about the ASLIS study that was concluded a while ago. Rich will connect with Jean regarding a report on this study.

Past Events:

- ✓ Deaf, Deaf World at St. Cloud Hospital in October was very interesting. It was set up like an island and CentraCare employees were frustrated because they could not

communicate with mock deaf health care providers by using their voices, but they also did not know how to sign. They had to figure out how to communicate with the deaf providers. With this experience, the hope is that they will understand how to better communicate effectively with patients who are deaf.

- ✓ Project Homeless Connect at Civics Center in St. Cloud was a special event for homeless people. DHHS did a booth there to help spread the word about our services for persons with hearing loss.
- ✓ Minnesota Association of Deaf Citizens (MADC) conference was held here in St. Cloud in October. MADC is a political organization and it helps to change the lives of deaf people for the better. Bobbi Cordano was recently elected as president of Gallaudet University. She was a speaker at MADC conference.
- ✓ In November, Diane and Rick MacPherson, an attorney from MN Disability Law Center, provided two trainings on how to communicate efficiently for persons who are deaf and hard of hearing to the St. Cloud Police Department.
- ✓ In December, Socialization Networking Advocacy and Parental Support (SNAPS) group had their winter snowflake party.

Upcoming events:

- May 3-All day training on Dispelling the Myths will be in Mora. This training is free and a training brochure will be coming out in February.
- Deaf Expo will be April 2.
- Deaf Awareness Event April 23.
- CentraCare will have a Communication Access Event with ASLIS on April 29.
- Latino Health Fair in Melrose on February 7.
- Ability Event at St. Cloud State University on February 19.

At the MADC Conference, the Mental Health department of DHHS was recognized with the Gordon Allen Award.

TED Program- Karen was not able to be here tonight so Diane provided a TED update on her behalf.

The TED study started December 21, 2015 and is moving along. The Improve Group is working on phase 1. They are currently finalizing the evaluation plan to be approved by DHS. DHS will determine if the data collection is ethical and will be following data privacy practices. The evaluation plan includes the research questions that will be asked to TED consumers, non-TED consumers, family members and service providers. Once the evaluation plan is approved, Phase 2 will begin to collect the data.

A Request for Proposals was published for the TED Program to distribute iPads and iPhones. The proposals were rated and now the Department of Administration is having final negotiations with the vendor. Since the contract hasn't been awarded yet, Sarah (TED Program Administrator) can't announce the vendor. In the meantime, Sarah and Sharie (TED Program Assistant Administrator) are working on drafting the specifications of a pilot program. A small workgroup will be formed to collect feedback on the draft. Initial meetings will be early February. Sarah hopes the pilot will start in March or April.

TED received the final audit report and David (DHHSD Director) sent it out to staff. There were two main recommendations offered to the TED program:

- 1) TED does not perform periodic reviews of changes to client's status. Client status is only updated when the client contacts us. Create a process in reviewing the client status.
- 2) Outreach for MN Relay and TED is not well defined. There are no formal plans and goals set at the beginning of the fiscal year. TED should create a formal outreach plan where the effectiveness can be measured.

Diane then provided a little more information that she knew of related to the TED pilot program. Currently, the Improve Group is looking for volunteers for the pilot program. From the volunteers, they will then pick a sample of people and ask them to try out the program. They would like both TED consumers and non-consumers of the TED program to participate. The program is related to communication access and they would like to contact as many people as possible. If you or your children/family members have a hearing loss, speech problems, physical limitation, are deaf or hard of hearing, please consider volunteering for this pilot program.

Guest Speaker- Sara Kreiling is our new DeafBlind specialist down in St. Paul. Her position was made possible by legislative money given to establish her position. She is not here to replace Lee Clark, but her new position in DeafBlind Consumer Directed Services is given money to help DeafBlind people in the greater Minnesota areas. The main goal is to help people who are DeafBlind to access services. Sara also helps to monitor the money that consumers are given to ensure they are getting the most of this money. She will also do some consulting with greater Minnesota offices.

Announcements or Information Sharing- Christina shared that the National Deaf Conference will be in June in Faribault, MN.

Brenda was happy to announce there were approximately 70-75 people at the Snowflake event. Two teachers also came and gave out books to children. This is one of the events that was put on in collaboration with Minnesota Hands and Voices. They have been focusing more on events and have a current goal of four events in each region. The tentative schedule of events is:

- April in Elk River
- June in Buffalo
- September in Freeport
- December in St. Cloud

There will be a different topic at each event. Some of the topics include: transition, ADA and Mental Health issues. On April 23, there will be an event here in St. Cloud with the NE African Parent Guide, specifically for NE African families. A SE Asian Parent Guide has also been hired. ARMs (Adult Role Models) training for volunteers to have at events continues in Fergus Falls, Duluth, Rochester and also in St. Cloud area as well. Today Lifetrack hired someone to oversee the development of the ARM Program.

Mary (CMCOA) shared that they are still trying to find a way to work with everyone to provide services for all in need. Most people ages 50-65 who are still working are not living healthy lifestyles. We are trying to educate them about themselves, hearing loss, and working with employers.

Judy shared that Anne had set up a group for interpreters. This group allows interpreters to talk about events that really work well, share workshop information and put together workshops. Deaf Club was big and Judy described a feeling of being disconnected as interpreters. This group will allow interpreters to pull together and learn from each other. It will also help to identify needs, support each other, and serve to communicate better. This group and meetings will also give them the ability to inform new interpreters and connect them with a mentor. Judy was also happy to announce that we now have a CDI (Certified Deaf Interpreter) in the area named Jamie Spier. A CDI makes communication access more native and culturally acceptable. There are currently only three or four CDIs in the state.

Anne shared about MRID and the spring conference coming up on April 9 and 10. This is a two day workshop on interpreting in the black community. There will be a panel of both Deaf people and interpreters that are Black.

Rosemond shared that Life Legacy has an Advanced Directives training at the St. Cloud Hospital on February 15. April 30 is the ASLIS Community Chat and they will be using CentraCare as a HUB. A new video will also be shown at this event.

Our next Advisory Committee meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, May 24 from 4:30 pm to 6:30 pm in the Kremers Room at the CentraCare Health Plaza-Woodlands entrance.

TED Study

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iPad/iPhone pilot project

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TED Audit results

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