

AGENDA
DEAF AND HARD OF HEARING SERVICES~EAST/WEST CENTRAL
EAST ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING
February 6, 2018 4:30 pm – 6:30 pm
Benton Stearns Education District Office, 517 2nd St. S, Sartell, MN 56377

I. WELCOME

II. INTRODUCTIONS

III. CALL TO ORDER

- a. Additions/Changes to Agenda and Minutes
- b. Approval of Agenda and Minutes

IV. MEMBER UPDATES

Please share any community observations as it relates to Deaf and Hard of Hearing Services and/or any other news you think is relevant to this committee. Thank you!

V. HEARING LOSS MATTERS (DVD)

10 minute break

VI. EAST CENTRAL UPDATE (Diane Leonard)

VII. MN RELAY

VIII. REGIONAL MANAGER'S UPDATE (Anne Janckila)

IX. ANNOUNCEMENTS

X. FUTURE MEETINGS

- a. June 5, 2018 4:30 pm – 6:30 pm at Benton Stearns Education District Office
- b. October 2, 2018 4:30 pm – 6:30 pm at Benton Stearns Education District Office
- c. December 4, 2018 4:30 pm – 6:30 pm at Benton Stearns Education District Office

ADJOURNMENT



DHHS East Central Advisory Committee Meeting

February 6, 2018

4:30 pm – 6:30 pm

Benton Stearns Education District Office,
517 2nd St. S, Sartell, MN 56377

Meeting called by	Anne Janckila, WOC Regional Manager
Note taker	Kris Hulett
Attendees	Members: Todd Grabowski, Shane Grom, Omar Ibrahim, Michele Isham, Suzanne Iwainat, Judy Leach, Jamie Speier Interpreters: Peggy Dolney, Jenny Johannes
Absent	Melinda Brown, Diane Schiffler-Dobe
Others present	Anne Janckila-WOC Regional Manager, Kris Hulett-DHHS Staff, Diane Leonard-DHHS Staff

Agenda Topics

Call to order / Introductions / Welcome

Anne Janckila

Discussion

The meeting was called to order at 4:30 pm. Introductions were held as some members were going to be late (they were done before the East Central Update) and members were welcomed.

Acceptance of Minutes from (December 12, 2017)

Anne Janckila

Discussion

Judy made a motion to accept the minutes as written, and Shane seconded it.

Member Updates

All

Discussion

Judy: At the last meeting, the concern related to funeral homes had been brought up, especially in the west central area. I have been in touch with Sharisse, Anne and now will be pulling in Diane as well. We are going to try to work as a team to outreach to educate and work together. If you are also interested in helping with this, please volunteer. (Michele shared that since hearing about the services, she had a student pass away and was able to share the information she had learned.) (Shane shared that he had asked for one before but it was not one he preferred and there were concerns about who was supposed to pay for it.) Sometimes the places will provide an interpreter but then will bill the family for it in the end. Sometimes funeral homes are good about paying for interpreters and sometimes they are not. (Omar said they typically don't provide interpreters for any of their services because English is not the primary language in the services. He usually relies on a friend sitting close by him.) (Diane shared that in her father's church they spoke mostly German, but has now become more English-based.)

Shane: I started my new job at the VA doing medical coding. I have now been there about a month and it's a great job. I have been working a lot with the school district. There was a woman from PACER asking a lot of questions. I got the impression the school felt trapped. The school seems willing to hire someone to learn ASL, but I want someone who is already fluent to work with my daughter. I believe they proposed the para would take on the responsibility of being the dog handler so my wife doesn't have to do that anymore. The school's goal was to train the para and the para would train my daughter. The organization that trains the dogs said that wasn't ok. There is another meeting set up for February 22 to try to resolve the ongoing issues. When I received the IEP paperwork from the school, it was written that ASL is not and will not be her primary language. Neither PACER nor I recall this discussion or agreement in the IEP meeting, and I suspect the district added this statement after our IEP meeting. It is important for parents to read through the final IEP before signing it, and to be thorough when they read the IEP. I plan to meet with the school again soon to remove the statement they added without my consent.

Omar and I do not have an update on CentraCare. We are still working with the attorneys regarding our complaint, but we haven't heard any updates recently.

Omar: Today I went to Colt Academy for my son's first day of school in St. Joseph. There was an interpreter there but I couldn't tell if they were experienced or not. In his class, there will be four kids in the room. He will be going two days a week and ride the bus. I am still doing my internship at SCSU and planning to graduate May 4. I am also taking classes on Saturdays to become a CDI. I am hoping to take and pass that test in May so I will graduate and become a CDI all in the same month.

Todd: I have been involved in a project to get the Parkwood Movie Theater to update their closed captioning devices. They did purchase new CC devices, but the new device for captions in

the movie theater is not working right. To apologize, the theater gave me a free movie ticket. I also went with Diane to talk to the manager and he is trying to figure out how to make sure it doesn't fail again (it failed twice). It's thought that the reason for the failure is that the device is picking up a signal from a neighboring screen and will start captioning that movie rather than signal from the movie that the user is watching. The theater also has listening devices for people with vision loss. They wear the device and the listening device gives an audio description of the movie.

Suzanne: Minnesota Hands and Voices had a family event in December. About 40 people showed up to attend the event. There were education topics on apps for all ages. We also tried to find some accurate YouTube videos (which is difficult) but did find ASL nook which is accurate ASL. We want to make things accessible to all people and all families. We had a lot of awesome volunteers and a lot of donations.

April 14th at the Melrose High School and in collaboration with Tracy Tammillo, we will be having a panel discussion and Diane Leonard will be one of the panelists. The panel discussion will be about talking to your child about what they can be as an adult regardless of their hearing status. We also have a college grad and a high school grad who will be on the panel. Most parents just want to know what the future holds for their children. They can drive, go to college, have families, etc. We are hoping the event will go well. The name of the event is "I Wish I Knew Then What I Know Now" and we are still looking for interpreters as well. The event is scheduled from 10:00 am – 12:00 pm.

MNCDHH Update

Michele Isham

Michele typed up some handouts for the committee. The first one (yellow paper) was the 2014-2019 plan. Some is finished and some still needs to be done. The MNCDHH is getting ready for their 5 year retreat. This will include town hall meetings and a lot of outreach. That plan will go from 2019-2024. (Anne announced that MADC will host a town hall meeting here and was wondering about a good location. Most agreed the library would be a good place for the meeting.)

Michele also had the 2018 work plan (green paper) that the commission will be working on this year. On pg. 6, the videos are very good and will soon be on the MNCDHH website. They are also available on YouTube by entering the following link into your web browser:

<https://www.youtube.com/user/MNCDHH/search?query=health+care+videos>

The MNCDHH has a new Administrative Assistant. Most of you may know her. Her name is Katie Kelly. Also at the January meeting, the new officers were appointed. Jason Valentine will continue as the chair person. Thompson Hall reps came to talk to us about renovating Thompson Hall for those in wheelchairs and deafblind people. They asked the commission for their support. There was some discussions about the changes happening in the Legislature. Senator Fischbach is the new lieutenant governor and she happens to be my old college roommate. There is concern about her losing her Senate seat. Everything is on hold until the next election.

The MNCDHH meetings are a wealth of information and it can be overwhelming.



2014-2019_5_Year_Plan.pdf

2014-2019 5 Year plan 1



2018_Work_Plan.pdf

2018 Work Plan 1

New Business

Anne Janckila

Hearing Loss Matters DVD

We watched the TV special "Hearing Loss Matters" and if you would like to see it from home, the link for the video is <http://mn.gov/deaf-commission/hearing-loss-matters>

East Central Update

Diane Leonard

Discussion

At the last meeting we had discussed an outreach project that we were going to be starting this month. Karen (TED), Kris, Anne and I have been dividing up a lot of the duties for this project. We are looking at different categories for the outreach work. Those categories include: Home Care-Home Health Agencies; Nursing Homes; Supervised Living Facilities; Long Term Care Consultants; Independent Living Agencies; ENTs; County Directors; Veteran's Service Offices;

Home Health Care & PCA Agencies; Churches; Aging Services; Libraries; and Assisted Living Facilities. We are doing a pilot to see if the outreach is effective and if we are invited to come and present to the places that were contacted. The other regional offices will be doing this as well if it is successful. I did receive a lot of positive responses while making phone calls last week. We are currently starting with the St. Cloud and surrounding area due to it being winter time and will expand into the other areas of the region throughout the year.

Our next all-day training is scheduled for May 4 in Willmar. This training is a basic explanation of all of our services. There is a lot of information and equipment demonstrations, etc. This is essentially a 101 class. We are collaborating with DEED, who is hosting the event. We will send out brochures as soon as they are ready. This class is very basic, however, and barely scratches the surface of hearing loss and its effects. The training is free to anyone who would like to come.

Minnesota Relay Report

Anne Janckila

Feedback Regarding MN Relay

Our office will be setting up a TTY this week.

Regional Manager Update

Anne Janckila

Discussion

An update was passed out. The first page is from Claire Wilson, who is our director's boss.

The request for proposals (RFPs) for the Deaf Blind Consumer Directed Services (DBCDS) grant has been released.

We will be starting our outreach to the counties soon, as Diane had stated in her update.

Agile Apps is about 50% complete, so we will hopefully have that up and running soon.

Jerry is new to the Moorhead office. He is a deaf community member from the Fargo/Moorhead area, if anyone is familiar with him. They will also be hiring an interpreter for the Moorhead office as well.



Manager's Update.pdf

Manager's Update 1

Announcements

Anne Janckila

DHHS has made a visor card to help in communication with law enforcement. We are waiting on the approval to start making the visor cards and handing them out. I have one that we can see so that you will know what it looks like.

Dates for Future Meetings

Anne Janckila

The MNCDHH has talked about changing their next meeting date. If this is the case, we may need to change our May meeting date. We will let you know as soon as possible if we need to change days. The next scheduled meetings are:

June 5, 2018 4:30 pm – 6:30 pm at Benton Stearns Education District

October 2, 2018 4:30 pm – 6:30 pm at Benton Stearns Education District

December 4, 2018 4:00 pm – 6:30 pm at Benton Stearns Education District

REMINDERS:

- You can be reimbursed for your mileage and parking expenses
- If you are unable to attend the meeting, please let Anne or Kris know.

AS ALWAYS, THANK YOU FOR ATTENDING THE DHHS ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING AND OFFERING YOUR TIME AND FEEDBACK!