

**Governor's Commission on Community Based Alternatives  
For Individuals with Disabilities  
Healthcare Subcommittee Meeting Minutes  
October 14, 2005  
Margaret M. O'Neill Building, Dover, De.  
9:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.**

**Members Present: Daniese McMullin-Powell, Miranda Marquez, Al Rose, Kyle Hodges, Bill Adami, Doyle Dobbins, Tom Kelly, Victor Orija**

**Guests: Insurance Commissioner Matt Denn, Stephanie Judy**

- I. Introduction and Welcome by Chair – Chair sends his apologies for not attending.
  
- II. Discussion with Insurance Commissioner Matt Denn
  1. New Initiatives from the Commissioner's Office include: additional medical malpractice insurance options for clinicians in Delaware; more competition may help health care providers. Researching electronic medical records and the feasibility for Delaware. Will it mean higher quality of care for people and decreases in costs? Also, attempting to get better rates for smaller employers and individuals through legislation (S.B. #146 and S.B. # 236). SB 236 intends to regulate health insurance rates in Delaware. Aggressively audited insurance companies currently.
  2. Low Cost Insurance and new rule for prompt payment to providers by insurance companies (Delaware most aggressive State in the nation, begins November 1<sup>st</sup>). Will work on expedited adjudication between providers and insurance companies when a bill is refused by the insurance companies.
  3. The Commissioner's Office is developing an insurance information guide booklet for people with disabilities. He has invited the disability advocates to help with this booklet. It should be completed by the end of the year.
  4. The Commissioner is willing to advocate for consumers even when their insurance is Medicaid. He has already advocated for people and has been successful and intends to continue to help as many people as possible.
  
- III. Discussion with Stephanie Judy on Emergency Preparedness for People with Disabilities
  1. A handout was provided during the presentations.
  2. Resource information was disseminated at the meeting.

3. Emergency preparedness plans from DEMA and Public Health need to include plans for people with disabilities and need to be shared with the public so that we are “Prepared.”
  4. There needs to be one central coordinator for all plans and one central disseminator of information prior to the disaster event. We need to contact DEMA to ensure our inclusion in all of their plans.
  5. Stephanie will follow up with disability organizations to better educate herself and then will make recommendations to planners.
- IV. Update for the Commission on Priorities: What to Do with \$250,000
1. Money Follows The Person is a priority for this Subcommittee.
  2. Respite Care – The possibilities suggested were a one contact number for all people to access respite and the development of a volunteer system for a respite services statewide.
  3. **Medicaid Buy-In infrastructure** was one of the suggestions. This is the **top priority for the Subcommittee** to go forward to the full Commission for consideration of the funding.
- V. Involuntary Commitment Code Change: Do We Have an Opinion? We were unable to review this document at the meeting, but copies were provided along with contact information if people had questions about the draft code change. It was suggested that everyone bring the draft to their agencies for review and an opinion.
- VI. Next Meeting Date – The next meeting for the Subcommittee is scheduled for **January 23, 2006 from 10:00-12:00 at the Margaret M. O’Neill Building in Dover.** The full **Governor’s Commission meets on November 17<sup>th</sup> from 1-3 p.m.** Please plan to attend both meetings.
- VII. Adjournment – The meeting adjourned at 11:35 a.m.