

Next Meeting – June 13, 2006 – 2:00 PM  
Appoquinimink State Service Center  
Middletown, Delaware

**GOVERNOR'S COMMISSION ON COMMUNITY BASED ALTERNATIVES  
FOR INDIVIDUALS WITH DISABILITIES  
HOUSING SUBCOMMITTEE MEETING  
MAY 9, 2006 – 2:00 PM  
APPOQUINIMINK STATE SERVICE CENTER  
MIDDLETOWN, DELAWARE**

**PRESENT:** Daniese McMullin-Powell, Co-Chair; Javier Arce, DSHA; Carol Barnett, DSAAPD; James Baynard, DDDS; Nate Beasley, IRI; Kate Cowperthwait, NMSS; Vivian Davis, The Arc; Lorraine DeMeurisse, Deutsche Bank Trust Co; Micki Edelson, Homes for Life; Brian Hartman, SCPD, DLP; Karen Horton, DSHA; Lottie Lee, DMS-DHSS; Cara Robinson, Homeless Planning Council of DE; Linda Bates, Staff

**ABSENT:** Ronya Anna, DSAMH/DHSS; Marguerite Ashley, NCCo; Merton Briggs, NAMI-DE; Regina Byers, SCPD; Pete DeKunchek, Chimes; Doyle Dobbins, DelArf; Ron Engard, GACEC; Yolanda Jenkins, DSCYF; Miranda Marquez, DOL/DVR; Bill McCool, UCP; Merle Murray, DOL/DVR; Kirsten Olson, Connections; Victor Orija, DASSPD; Dick Patterson, NAMI-DE; Tina Riley, Delaware Housing Coalition; Elizabeth Schantz, Consumer; Sandy Tuttle, Co-Chair; Paula Voshell, DSHA; Pat Weygandt, DDDS

**CALL TO ORDER:** The meeting was called to order at 2:15 PM.

**ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA**

- Daniese will update us on her meeting with Alfonso Jackson in Washington, D.C.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Motion was made, seconded and approved to accept the January 10, 2006 meeting minutes as submitted.

**BUSINESS**

**Path Forward/Next Steps Regarding Housing Recommendations**

Javier Arce updated the Committee as follows:

- Javier reported that at the last meeting we had a presentation on the Needs Assessment. A large amount of people asked for a standard form which we supplied about three weeks ago. Since then, Javier stated that they received two responses. One from NAMI and one from the State. Javier wanted the other

- committee members to complete this form; and if you have any questions, please let him know.
- It was stated that a return date for this time form should have been given. Javier said that there are two parts to the needs assessment — Demand and Supply. Javier asked that everyone please complete one form per agency.
  - Kate commented that MS does not keep this type of information because they do not have access to this type of information. Javier asked if Kate had a list. Kate commented “yes”. Javier said that you could poll a small sample of clients by conducting a random poll of participants.
  - Karen stated that they have been pricing out the cost of the needs assessment. The price for the needs assessment quadruples when you ask for the primary data and they have been working since January to find out who has the data and what is the best format? Karen also stated that they still have until August before we start doing the consultant selection--so that is why we are trying to do as much data collection now so that we can go ahead and turn that data over to the consultant.
  - It was also stated that it was thought that part of the money that was made available to this Commission was going to be accessed to do some sort of data collection—did that not happen?
  - James confirmed that DDDS has a need registry that is broken down to people who are already in residential settings and the agencies that provide information. The clients get housing, according to their particular need, through case managers. Karen asked James if he could take a shot at this template. James said sure that he will network with the people who handle their activity report that is generated to go to Marianne Smith, DDDS Director. The report breaks down types of foster care homes and apartments. James said that most people who are DDDS residential placements are 21 years and older; and about 2% in residential settings are under that age. Karen commented that they are looking at the full age range.
  - It was asked how much it would cost to collect primary data. Karen replied that it was around \$200,000 five years ago. Karen said that we coordinated with Kyle for the last two needs assessments trying to find out who are the data keepers in the State. The last needs assessment bore out what the existing data was—and they did do a lot of collaboration during that effort. We are now trying to do this month before we kick off the study. It was stated that the last study provided more general conclusions. Javier replied that if you have the list of the persons it is relatively cheap to get the information — the costly part is actually getting that list.
  - It was asked if a mailing list would be more feasible. Javier said that it is cheaper--but you don't get the response. Kate said that she got a 30% response on MS' last survey.
  - Carol stated that we all gave you the number of clients that we serve. Carol said that it is the number that you want that needs affordable housing.
  - Lottie stated that the real issue is no one has made it important from the beginning to collect this type of data. And, this has been going for years. We have not said that at some point, this is going to be a regular part of our information intake. Until we do that, we never have the data.

- Carol replied that DSAAPD cannot serve someone if they do not have a place to live. DSAAPD provide services in their homes.
- Brian asked Carol if DSAAPD could extrapolate from the list of 27 services provided on their website, so Brian assumes that they could give you numbers. Carol replied probably not because those services are contracted out—so for instance, if it is legal services, it is contracted out to Legal Aid—so they would have to give us those stats. Brian replied that their Elder Law program gives DSAAPD a report.
- It was asked if you had a consultant available to you, would they be able to go to the population DSAAPD serves and determine what their housing needs would be. If you are not asking for health information (HIPPA), that's would be okay per Carol.
- Lottie asked Carol if you could go to the client's case worker for information – Carol replied “yes”. Carol said we have had experience in another grant relating to health issues. The social workers have selected people off of their caseload; and the DSAAPD called those people to get permission to get surveyed. It was very cumbersome and took months. They received very few numbers of people that were willing to cooperate and now we are waiting for them to sign a form that we have to give to the University of Delaware who is doing the survey. Carol said that DSAAPD will be lucky to get 40 people responding out of the thousand that they serve. Carol stated that she will attempt to go back and ask them if there is a way to do this.
- Karen said the challenge is to capture what we currently do not have the data for. Karen asked for the agencies to look at the template and see if it can be part of the intake process -- maybe there is a way that you can track it and we could have these numbers on an annual basis. Karen also said that everyone needs a common recording tool.
- Lottie said that DHSS is using some of the Commission money to hire a consultant to work on a uniform assessment tool. Part of it will be collecting an array of data for planning purposes. Lottie said that she is sitting on that committee to make sure that they have a general intake process.
- Daniese stated as an example that there are 150,000 people in Delaware with disabilities. About 30% have cognitive or intellectual disabilities, 50% have physical disabilities, and 20% have other disabilities. Out of those, 60% of people are living in a situation where they need housing. Nate had told Daniese that there are 10 people from IRI in nursing facilities that are ready to move out but are there only because of lack of accessible housing.
- Lottie asked if there is some data that tells us how many people wanted to get out of nursing homes and how many people are able to be placed.
- Daniese stated that it was reported that there is 19% of people polled in nursing facilities that want to get out.
- Micki suggested placing the survey in a full-page ad (broken down by categories) in the newspaper might be a good starting point.
- Vivian stated that statistically 2½ to 3 percent of the population has developmental disability--which is 19-23,000 people in Delaware - a certain percentage of those people will need housing.

- It was stated that Easter Seals and UCP would have the broadest base of people with disabilities.
- Lottie suggested getting information from focus groups. Javier commented that the problem with focus groups is that they are qualitative and not quantitative. .
- Lottie suggested having a meeting of critical organizations—Easter Seals, MS, UCP, etc. and tell them exactly what you need and try to get the survey done within a certain timeline - design a simple survey to give to the case managers. Lottie said that she would facilitate that meeting of the group where we would identify what lists they have and lay out a simple survey and see if they have staff or volunteers to do it. Javier and Karen could come and tell us what information and data is needed within a specific a timeframe. Lottie suggested setting a meeting for the end of May to get it done! The meeting will be two hours at DHSS. Lottie, Carol and Javier will set up the meeting.
- It was also suggested another goal would be to develop a list of contacts of people who can access relevant data for their respective population.
- Lottie said another goal would be to encourage those groups in the future to add one or two more questions to their intake process.

### Home Modifications

Daniese reviewed the Home Modification Baseline Study hand-out chart.

DVR has two programs: one funds modifications (e.g. assistive devices, hand controls) on the basis of getting you to work or to get an education. The other source (SILC – Statewide Independent Living Council) covers modifications on the basis of need only. SILC and DSAAPD have \$245,000 to spend annually for home modifications and assistive technology.

The dollars spent annually for home modifications and assistive technologies are as follows: DVR—between SILC and DSAAPD about \$245,000; Paralyzed Veterans Association between \$75,000-\$100,000; ARC \$87,535 and Home Able/MS \$15,791.

Carol stated that the PVA provides funding for children when there is no other funding source available for children. Brian suggested Kyle contacting Mike Merrell from the VA to determine what they offer.

Lottie suggested looking for grants and loans from the City/County.

Brian said that he will look for information he may have on waiver modes—cost per person for home modes.

### Other Business

- Hand-outs were provided on Javier’s power point presentation; Kyle’s list of contacts for the needs assessment; and Steve Gold’s e-mail on Money for Accessibility and Home Modifications.

- Daniese received another e-mail from Steve Gold for the Voluntary Compliance Agreement with the Housing Authority in another state. Daniese will forward this as an e-mail to everyone.
- Daniese also announced that the ADAPT will meet with Secretary Alfonso Jackson on Monday, May 15<sup>th</sup> in Washington, DC. The main topic will be Access across America which is a voucher program for persons coming out of institutional settings. The person is able to come out with a Section 8 voucher so that they can afford to look for a Section 8 housing unit to live. The criteria is that you have to have been in an institution for six months. The State would have to be eligible to apply for this. Daniese said that is why a needs assessment is so important. Javier said that it would be beneficial for Daniese to include in the criteria that these vouchers be earmarked for disabled persons. Also, that number may change according to the needs assessment every five years.

The next meeting will be held on June 13, 2006 from 2-4 pm at the Appoquinimink State Service Center in Middletown.

#### **ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 3:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Kyle Hodges  
SCPD Administrator

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