**Governor’s Commission on Intellectual Disability**

**June 19, 2019 Meeting Minutes**

The Governor’s Commission on Intellectual Disability met on June 19, 2019 at the Executive Office of Health and Human Services.

Present were: James Brett (Chair), Amy Carnevale, Marjorie Cohen, James Cassetta , Aaron Stone, Jo Ann Simons, Anne Fracht, Jane Ryder, Elizabeth Morse, Christopher Thompson and Victor Hernandez.

Because Chairman Brett was delayed, the meeting was called to order by Ms. Simons at 4:01pm. On a motion by James Cassetta and seconded by Marjorie Cohen the March 27, 2019 meeting minutes were unanimously approved.

Commissioner Jane Ryder introduced the new DDS Chief of Staff Christopher Thompson.

Commissioner Ryder provided an overview of the Department by updating the GCID on:

* The FY20 budget is proceeding in the budget process. DDS budget maintains an 8% increase over FY19.
* From the Commissioner’s meeting in December, 5 workgroups were developed to focus on statewide priorities. The workgroups are:
1. Service Coordination & Workload Issues
2. Transportation Challenges
3. Alternative Residential Models
4. Autism Services
5. Review of our Prioritization Process
* Review of Commissioner’s Town Meetings from 2018 and proceeding ahead with scheduling for 2019.

Mr. Hernandez provided a review of the DDS Statewide Advisory Council and Citizen Advisory Boards.

DDS STATEWIDE ADVISORY COUNCIL (SAC)

Members are recommended by Commissioner; appointed by EOHHS Secretary; and approved by Governor. Many are existing members from Citizen Advisory Boards. Members must come from one of the following professions and groups: state level medical, psychological, nursing, educational, social work, occupational therapy, or bar associations; state level associations for intellectual disability; industrial and labor groups; and the clergy. There must be at least one member eligible for DDS services and no member can be a DDS employee.

The SAC must reflect geographical and demographical diversity of the state. The members shall serve without compensation, but each member shall be reimbursed by the Commonwealth for all expenses incurred in the performance of his or her official duties.

The SAC advises the Commissioner on policy, program development, and priorities of need in the Commonwealth for services and supports and obtain the views of the area office and regional citizen advisory boards concerning the services of the Department and the need for such services

Recent initiatives of the SAC involves increasing the membership representation to other regions, expanding meetings locations to other regions and holding evening meetings to increase public participation.

The SAC continues to hold the March Statehouse Event with DDS highlighting DDS services such as T22, Aging, Family Support and Community Inclusion.

DDS CITIZEN ADVISORY BOARDS (CAB)

There are area and regional CABs along with Developmental Center Board of Trustees. Both Boards are appointed by the DDS Commissioner to serve on the board. The CAB members consist of self-advocates, family members, guardians, professionals, and other citizens. CAB members advise area/facility/regional directors on community needs and the quality of programs. CAB members contribute to positive change through legislative advocacy, quality assurance visits and community education activities to acknowledge the work and partnership of service providers and families. Many CABs do legislative outreach by visiting the statehouse, calling legislators, inviting legislators to area CAB mtgs and hosting legislative breakfasts. CAB members also participate in an effective quality assurance exercise the Family Citizen Monitoring, where member visit DDS programs from a parent’s perspective. CABs also do community outreach & education.

Mr. Stone introduced a future agenda item to review the mission and the role of the GCID. He also suggested the development of an informative binder for GCID members to provide the history and mission of the GCID. Other GCID members welcomed this as a future agenda item.

Mr. Cassetta reviewed House Bill 2671 that allows the requirement of up to 10% of employees hired under any public contract to provide services and that receives funding from the legislature tp be individuals with a disability.

Ms. Simons updated the GCID on the continuance of the “Arc Tank” for November 2019 and the opening of a home to serve those with Prader-Willi Syndrome.

On a motion by Mr. Stone and seconded by Ms. Cohen the meeting was adjourned at 5:36pm.