

# DDS STATEWIDE ADVISORY COUNCIL

## Meeting Minutes

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**Location:** Wrentham Developmental Center

**Date:** Nov 18, 2016

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### Attendance

DDS Commissioner Elin Howe, Christine Shane (Chair), Sue Loring, Sue Barber, Alexandra Nadworny, Diane Glennon, Jose Costa, Judy Lydon-Ruby, Asst. Facility Director (DDS) and Victor Hernandez (DDS)

### Agenda Items

1. Chair called meeting to order 9: 35am
2. Sept 16, 2016 SAC meeting minutes approved.
3. Chair initiated introductions of members and attendees.
4. Judy Lydon-Ruby, Asst. Facility Director provided a review of the Wrentham Developmental Center (WDC). WDC has a census of 275 with an age range of 24-104. Residents live on campus and also receive day supports there as well. Therapeutic clinicians are on staff as well as medical personnel. The "Friends of Wrentham" provide opportunities for on and off campus activities many were funded through their fundraising activities. Operating a developmental center can pose many challenges, the issue of aging among residents and staff is major at WDC. The average age of the residents is 68 yrs. Since WDC is an Intermediate Care Facility (ICF) under Title XIX, WDC must provide habilitative programmatic services and activities. The staff at WDC has worked there for many years and they are experiencing work related injuries due to the lifting and guiding that needs to take place. It was decided that a tour of WDC will take place at a future SAC meeting.
5. Commissioner Howe provided an update of current issues at DDS. Turning 22 continues to be a fiscal challenge with the increased class size and the lack of resources usually available in the Commissioner's Trust. The Voluntary Separation Incentive Program (VSIP) will present many challenges in the implementation. Along with the financial

payout for the participants (up to \$15,000) many of the participants are in positions that provide care and services. DDS continues to see an increase with the participants in the Self-Direction and Shared Living programs. These two programs have been a major focus with the areas and regions. The Commissioner also shared the anniversary celebration taking place at WDC for the Tufts Dental Clinic after the SAC meeting.

6. Victor Hernandez provided a review of the SAC conference in October. Overall the response was very positive and the attendees provided good suggestions for future presentation topics.
7. Chair adjourned meeting at 12:17pm

## **Action Items**

- 1) NA