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# Statewide Advisory Council (SAC)

# Meeting minutes

**Location**: Microsoft Teams  
**Date**: 12/8/2022  
**Attendees**: Alexandra Nadworny, Alexandria N. Dunn, Ashley Dillon, Bonnie Bryce, Casey Seaman, Chris Klaskin, Chris Thompson, Christine Cob, Christine Shane, Commissioner Jane Ryder, Diane Glennon, Dianne Huggon, Ed Jalowiec, Ed Underwood, Elizabeth Mors,e Elizabeth Sandblom, Jeanne Clappe,r Jill Scibelli, Jose Costa, Joyce LaBelle, Kathleen Gallagher, Katie Casarant, Lotte Diomede, Lucie Chanskey, Lydia Sheehey, Maital Adam, Maren Jacobs, Mary Petricone, Michelle Harris, Nick Dantze,r Patti MacPhee, Susan Barber, Susan Griffin, Susan Loring, Tim Cahill, Victor Hernandez

**Time**: 3p-4:30p

# Agenda items

1. Welcome and Approval of Prior Meeting Minutes- Alexandria N. Dunn, Chair
2. Commissioner’s Update – Jane Ryder
3. Discussion of Annual SAC Meeting- Alexandria N. Dunn
4. Update on Self Direction – Liz Sandblom
5. DDS Provider Investment – Nick Dantzer
6. Day Habilitation Wrap Update- Liz Sandblom

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1. Adjourn

**Approval of Prior Meeting Minutes**

* Motion to Approve

**Discussion of Annual SAC Meeting**

* Annual SAC/ CAB Meeting
* April 2023
* Organization -Agenda
* Sub Meeting with a smaller group
* CAB Members connect
* Follow-up email to Develop Agenda & Interest
* State Rep supports needed
* Share Our Story

**Update on Self Direction**

* Contracted with HSRI Human Service Research Institute
* Process of developing an assessment-based budget
* Allocation process
* Interview Individual Support Member Stakeholders
* Overview of documents utilized
* Agency with Choice Waiver
* Community-Based Support tool
* How To learn about Self Direction
* How to choose Self Direction services
* How is it managed from DDS, Family IDP, and Agency with Choice
* DDS Qualified Agency
* Clarification on what is allowable and Recommendations
* Draft Guide
* Family members and DDS self-guide on how to navigate Self Direction
* Train SC that acts as Support Brokers
* 23 Dedicated positions throughout the state
* Case load work
* School systems and Family Support Centers developing staffing resources to work with PPL
* Send out a Flyer about Rewarding Work
* Rewarding work run by TIL
* Identify assessment tool/ Pilot tool with existing participants
* Stakeholder feedback
* Self-Direction growth of 1-2% consistently
* Up 7% in month-to-month growth
* Goal is 10%

**DDS Provider Investment**

* Financial Incentives to stabilize the provider system
* Finance update March 2020- FY23
* 2.5-Billion-dollar budget
* 780,000,000 to providers in the last 3 years
* Direct care worker incentive
* Work with EHS rate development to Review rates every 2 years
* DDS rate regulated
* ARPA funds - American Rescue Plan Act
* CBDS Support Employment
* 133,000,000 new funds to Day and work systems
* 647,000,000 Residential and other support service new funds
* 155,000,000 ARPA funds

*Question: Is there data tracking on retention?*

*Answer: Survey providers around retention averaged 25-40% staffing vacancies the last year*

*Question: What happens to the extra funds and how are they viewed?*

*Answer: Report every year*

*Question: Are providers taking advantage of Without Walls?*

*Answer: New model assigned, and rate progress agencies are plotting this. Any agency qualified to write a proposal to address Individual programming of Without Walls*

**Day Habilitation Wrap Update**

* 2 years of DDS and MassHealth actively transitioning Day Hab Support and Wrap funding to address individual needs Medical, Behavior, Health, Safety
* MassHealth funded services as of Oct 1st
* MassHealth is using OPTUM for Administrating Authorization
* A plan to use resources of extra funding for Wrap Around services
* 2-year transition, all individuals will remain eligible for DDS Support services – Day Hab Providers
* Financial agreements to work on with MassHealth to help support ISS service to ensure no interruption financially
* Still need Pre Auth to help standardize Net 0 change between DDS and MassHealth Adjustments

**Commissioner Update**

* DDS Staff Appreciation Week across AO, RO, and CO
* Workforce challenge/ shortages
* Supporting providers, our staff, and state staff
* Provide incentives to bring ppl back to Day Services
* Providers asked to submit grants
* Call to Care campaign to promote Human Services
* Personal contact in the new year
* Organize CAB Meeting
* Campaign help with SAC/CAB members
* Share with different networks

**Meeting Adjourned**

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