



**Division of Developmental Disabilities (DDD)
District Central Independent Oversight Committee (IOC)
Public Meeting Minutes Summary
Monday, June 28, 2021 – 10:00 AM to 1:00 PM**

Call to Order

Meeting called to order by Committee Chairperson, **Karen Van Epps**. The date is June 28, 2021 at 10:08 am. **The meeting took place Virtually due to COVID-19.** Physical location when meetings resume in person will be at 4400 N Central Ave, Ste (to be determined) Phoenix, AZ 85012.

Welcome and Introductions

Attendance Virtually:

- **Karen Van Epps**
- **Sherry Wilhelmi**
- **Eva Hamant**
- **Marlene Riggs**
- **Carol McNulty**
- **Lisa Witt**

Attendance by Phone:

- **Eduarda Yates**
- **Linda Mecham**

Absent:

- **Andrea Potosky**
- **Debbie Stapley**
- **Mandy Harman**

Public in Attendance:

- **None**

Health Plan Liaisons:

- **None**

ADOA:

- **None**



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DDD:

- **Octavia Lamb** (IOC Liaison)
Leah Gibbs (DDD OIFA Administrator)
- **James Maio** (District Central QI Manager)
- **Megan Dougherty** (District Central Program Manager)
- **Patricia Sandino** (PRC Chairperson)

Call to Public

There were no members of the public on the call

Mesa Group Home Incident

Karen Van Epps wanted an update on what happened to the Mesa group home that was on the news a month ago.

James Maio stated that he will have to update the committee at the next meeting because the incident occurred in another district and he did not have any information to provide.

Karen Van Epps asked what happened to the Agency? Where the responsible people removed from the home? Was there an investigation?

James Maio stated that because the incident occurred in another district, he will have to ask for an update from the district where it occurred because the QI staff does not inform other districts of the details because of confidentiality.

Article 9

Linda Mecham informed the committee that she put together a document with their comments and questions made from May's committee meeting and sent a copy to the committee and to Leah Gibbs. Leah informed her that once she gets in contact with Chris Deer once he comes back from vacation she will speak to the committee once she has spoken to Chris Deer. There was a phone meeting with Senator Barto, and others that are a part of the Article 9 work group to address all the concerns and questions about the Article 9 revision. The conclusion of the meeting is that they are going to reconvene the meeting for a later date.



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Leah Gibbs stated that there was a great deal of feedback and the work group has many pages of comments that they must read.

Q: What is the deadline for the Article 9 revision?

A: because of all the public comments that were received the Article 9 revision team will need to go back to revise the notice of proposed rule making and the deadline has been moved to February or March of 2022

Karen Van Epps stated that she was very disappointed with the Article 9 revision because there was no focus on DDD but more on behavioral health and no one from IOC was included in the revision and wanted to know who did the revision.

Behavioral Health Plans

Linda Mecham wanted to address her concern about specific issues that are stated in the behavioral plans and the team members associated with the member does not properly address the needs of the member and their rights.

There was a request to go into executive session to discuss specific behavioral plans upon returning to public session a motion was called for...

the committee is concerned with the rights issues regarding DDD members that are brought up during the PRC meeting there is no response from DDD on what will be the resolution and the committee needs to know what their role is when it comes to approving a behavioral plan when there are rights being violated

Eva Hamant- Motioned that IOC members are concerned about rights issues that IOC members brings up during a PRC meeting and a response needs to be provided from DDD how it was addressed.”

Sherry Wilhelmi- Seconded the motion.

All present members agreed by “aye” and no “nays”

Marlene Riggs expressed a concerned about members not being able to return to a specific Day Program if they do not wear a mask even when most members have been vaccinated.

Karen Van Epps stated that Marlene’s concern is valid and wants to bring this to DDD attention because Day Programs say they have the right to require members to wear masks if they want to attend. For those members that cannot wear masks are not able to attend Day Programs.



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Linda Mecham stated there are members that cannot wear a mask for health reasons and DDD has said that they cannot prevent Day Programs from requiring to wear masks and feels that the Day Programs are violating the Disability Act.

Eva Hamant stated that DDD should address this and requested a motion

Karen Van Epps said we should elevate this issue to Larry Allen and see what resolution he can provide because there are many members who have trouble breathing when wearing a mask and should not be required to wear one.

James Maio stated that the state is 37% vaccinated and there is still a pandemic going on and it's not just the concern of the members being vaccinated but staff as well. Some staff have either have not received their vaccination or they have chosen not to get vaccinated, so the agencies have to work on that as well.

Members who are unable to wear a mask cannot attend Day Programs.

Linda Mecham- motioned that a letter will be sent to Larry Allen requesting ADA/CDC guidelines be provided to the committee to address the concern for the return of DDD members to their Day Programs fulltime.

Eva Hamant- Seconded the motion

All present members agreed by "aye" and no "nays"

DDD Staff Updates

There was a request to go into executive session before Staff updates could be provided

Updates from Integrated Health Plans

No one from the health plans were present

Updates from Arizona Department of Administration

Larry Allen was not present for this meeting

Discussion and Review of Incident Reports and Behavioral Plans



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Eva Hamant asked who puts the Metadata together for the committees? Because when she was reviewing incident reports for Suicide there were more suicides read than what was mentioned on the Metadata report.

James Maio stated that there is Suicide threats and suicide attempts and wanted to know what information Eva would like as far as tracking.

Eva Hamant stated that her concern is that the number of individuals that are listed do not match the number of provider agencies that had tracked suicides. Because there is no specification on Suicide threats or attempts there is a data drop and therefore cannot be properly tracked.

Octavia Lamb Stated that the data that is provided to the committee only tracks Suicide not Suicide threats or attempts

Eva Hamant stated that it seems that with these attempts or threats the member(s) are taken to the hospital right away and is this attention seeking or is this a behavioral issue.

James Maio stated if Crisis is called then the member is taken to the hospital so they can receive the support that they need and was not sure if Eva was requesting better tracking with suicide attempts or threats or was requesting the division do something else to address her concern.

Eva Hamant stated that she noticed that the members that are under the suicide category have behavioral health plans but was not sure if the staff is using the members coping skills.

For May IRs, the Committee members have been given 583 for May incident reports in the Shared Drive. This included 58 open and 525 for closed reports.

Type	Open	Closed
Accidental Injury	4	103
Consumer Missing	2	3
Deaths	1	4
Emergency Measures	2	25
Human Rights	3	2
Legal	1	1
Medication Errors	7	43
Neglect	13	16
Other Abuse	15	12
Other-Behavior	2	196
Other -Injury unknown	4	92
Physical Abuse	3	11
Property Damage	1	1
Suicide	2	16
TOTALS	58	525



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Questions for QIM have been sent. Committee members will send the incident reports questions to the DDD Liaison **Octavia Lamb**.

Roundtable concerns from members

Karen Van Epps requested that roundtable topics be discussed at the quarterly Statewide meeting on July 21, 2021.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned by Karen Van Epps. The public meeting ended at 12:08 pm.

The next District Central IOC meeting will be held on July 26, 2021 at 10:00 am.
