



**Division of Developmental Disabilities (DDD)  
District East Independent Oversight Committee (IOC)  
Public Meeting Minutes Summary  
Wednesday, Sept 8<sup>th</sup>, 2021 – 5:00 PM to 7:00 PM**

**Call to Order**

**This meeting is being held virtually due to the Coronavirus (COVID-19) concerns.**

Meeting called to order by Suzanne Hessman. The date was Sept 8<sup>th</sup>, 2021 at 5:02 pm. The address of the meeting was Virtual, no physical address.

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**Welcome and Introductions**

- Attendance in Person: **None This meeting was virtual only due to COVID-19 concerns**
  - Attendance by Google Meets: **Sarah McGovern, Susan Kingsbury (by Phone), Suzanne Hessman, Kin Counts, Tonia Schultz, Elizabeth Bird, Amanda Godek (by Phone)**
  - Absent: **None**
  - Public in Attendance: **None**
  - Arizona Department of Administration (ADOA): **Larry Allen**
  - Healthcare Plan Liaison (UHCCP): **Karen Kramer (Mercy Care) Vera Kramarchuk**
  - DDD staff: **Jeffrey Yamamoto-DDD IOC Liaison, Megan Taylor-District Program Manager for District East, (DPM), Richard Kautz – DDD IOC supervisor.**
  - **The Committee, DDD, Mercy Care and UHCCP Employees** introduced themselves.
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**Call to Public**

**Suzanne Hessman:** Called for public to announce themselves. There were no public on the call.

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**DDD Staff Updates**

**Richard Kautz** gave a summary of the DDD updates from the DDD COVID-19 webpage from 9/7/2021.

- 46,066 members being served by DDD
  - 41,039 members are living in their own home/family home
  - 5,027 members are living in licensed facilities
- 3,150 members tested positive for COVID-19
  - 1,983 residing in their own/family home
  - 1,167 residing in licensed facilities
- 76 Member deaths attributed to COVID-19 (32 lived in a family/own home & 44 lived in licensed facilities), an increase of only 1 who lived in their own home this past month.
- Tracking weekly counts, Data above is from 9/7/2021



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- Currently there are 50% of the available members who can receive the vaccine has been vaccinated.
- DDD Town Hall meeting is on October 7<sup>th</sup> from 6pm to 8pm.

**Megan Taylor** (District Program Manager for District East, DPM) updated the committee. She informed the IOC that in District East there are currently around 11,100 members being supported by DDD. There are approximately 70 vacancies in DE support coordination and supervisors yet to be filled.

**Megan Taylor** also added that the Division is moving to a new “Person-Centered Planning Document” and that the form/document is rolling out now. Training on the form is finishing up for Support Coordination now.

**Suzanne Hessman** did ask clarification that this is replacing the ISP from before.

**Megan Taylor** answered that this will be replacing the old ISP/Planning document.

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**ADOA Update**

**Larry Allen:** Updated the committee that the Annual Report was due by the end of the month, the IOC guidelines are still awaiting Director signature and asked if anyone of the members had received their new badges. The response was “No” from the committee. Larry said he would check up on it.

**Suzanne Hessman** acknowledged that she understood the deadline for the annual report. She’s working to finalize it.

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**Health Plans Updates**

**United Healthcare Community Plan (UHCCP) Karen Kramer** was present. Karen informed the Committee that she did not have any updates for the IOC. She asked for question but there were none.

**Mercy Care liaison Vera Kramarchuk** was present for the call. She informed the Committee that she did not have any updates for the IOC. She asked for question but there were none.

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**Discussions of DDD Policy and/or Legislative Issues**

**Suzanne Hessman** informed the committee that she has added this topic as a permanent topic on the agenda. She announced that she is a part of a Disability Planning Policy group and that there are many topics they discuss which concerns the IOC and her. Topics concerns that were notated by Suzanne were:



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- Rate of Direct Care Workers (DCW) pay rates from provider agencies.
- Adult Protective Services (APS) funding for wages and increasing workers. Concerns of substantiation rate
- ARPA funds (Federal funds) and its allocations, including in Habilitation.
- Continuation of Special Education funding
- Group Home inspections
- Transportations issues for disabled population
- Supported decision making vs. guardianship
- Appropriate sex education instruction for disable population
- Employment First
- Legislative contacts to change policies

She will send out the notes and recordings to the IOC members in the committee.

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**DDD IOC Liaison Updates**

**Jeffrey Yamamoto** asked Megan about the criteria for each level of service (ALTC, Targeted and DDD only.)

**Megan Taylor** answered that it was an AHCCCS guided servicing.

**Richard Kautz** responded that the tiers were financially controlled by AHCCCS, but the determinations were set by DDD and AHCCCS. For AZ Long Term Care (ALTC) the member is covered for all services from DDD and AHCCCS. For Targeted members, they are covered for Acute care only from AHCCCS and specific DDD services. For DDD Only, they do not qualify for AHCCCS but qualify for limited DDD services. Support Coordination only once a year and information on resources and goal setting. This group usually is being covered by private insurance.

**Jeffrey Yamamoto** asked Amanda Godek if she would like to tell the committee about her time working with the committee re-writing Article 9.

**Amanda Godek** replied that she there was a lot of wasted time discussing very minor points to the Article 9. Behavioral Health participants wanted to eliminate much of Article 9 but the IOCs and DDD Training persuaded the committee to keep many of the proposed cuts. The conclusion from the committee was that much of the existing Article 9 will stay in effect and that only minor changes will occur. The final draft will be given to the Article 9 committee members for final discussion before it is released for public comments probably before the end of the year.

**Jeffrey Yamamoto** informed the IOC that weekly IRs are being downloaded and that the redaction team has caught up all August IRs.



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**Action Items:** Follow up. Send Kin Counts a link for Residential member rights. Suzanne was going to send the committee her notes and possible recording for the Disability Planning Policy group she is on. As well as invitations to the next meeting.

**Discussion of Membership for the IOC**

**Suzanne Hessman** asked what efforts have been done for recruitment. Can an announcement be made at the DDD Town Hall events?

**Richard Kautz** informed the committee that there have been announcements for IOC recruitments made at the Monthly Town Halls

**Discussion of Incident Reports (IR) & Behavior Plans (BP)**

**Suzanne Hessman** asked the only categories they wish to review are the CLOSED Emergency Measures, Death, Neglect, Physical Abuse, Human Rights and Other Abuse.

**CLOSED Categories:**

*Death- Suzanne*

*Other Abuse- Sarah*

*Emergency Measures- Amanda*

*Physical Abuse- Susan*

*Human Rights- Kin*

*Neglect- Tonia*

For August IRs, the Committee members have been loaded in the shared drive **567** incident reports. This included **50** open and **517** closed reports. ATPC had **61** totals with **22** open and **39** closed.

<b>Type</b>	<b>Open</b>	<b>Closed</b>
Accidental Injury	<b>1</b>	<b>94</b>
Consumer Missing	<b>0</b>	<b>13</b>
Deaths	<b>3</b>	<b>9</b>
Emergency Measures	<b>0</b>	<b>5</b>
Human Rights	<b>6</b>	<b>6</b>
Legal	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>
Medication Errors	<b>2</b>	<b>37</b>
Neglect	<b>15</b>	<b>14</b>
Other Abuse	<b>2</b>	<b>2</b>
Other Behavior	<b>0</b>	<b>182</b>
Other Hospitalization, Unknown injury	<b>18</b>	<b>147</b>
Physical Abuse	<b>1</b>	<b>4</b>



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Property Damage	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>
Suicide	<b>0</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>50</b>	<b>517</b>

**The desired IRs will be divided among the members.**

Number of Questions for QIM: members of the committee will comment on incident reports directly and the liaison will send to QIM.

Number of Behavior Plans turned in by IOC Members: 0

The Program Review Committee (PRC) is being attended to by Susan Kingsbury and Kin Counts.

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**Adjournment**

**Suzanne Hessman** adjourned the meeting at 5:44 pm. The next District East IOC meeting will be held on Wednesday Oct 13<sup>th</sup>, 2021 at 5:00 pm. Will be virtual meeting should COVID-19 concerns still be in effect.