



**Division of Developmental Disabilities
District Central Independent Oversight Committee
Meeting Minutes
Monday, May 20, 2019 – 10:00 AM to 1:00 PM**

Call to Order

The meeting called to order by Committee Chairperson, **Karen Van Epps** on May 20, 2019 at 10:39 am. The meeting was located at 4400 N Central Ave, Ste 900, Phoenix, AZ 85012.

Welcome and Introductions

Attendance in Person: **Eva Hamant, Carol McNulty, Andrea Potosky, Karen Van Epps, Lisa Witt, and Sherry Wilhelmi.**

Attendance by Phone: **Linda Mecham and Eduarda Yates**

Absent: **Mandy Harmon, Debbie Stapley and Heidi Reid**

Public in Attendance: **None**

ADOA: **None**

DDD: **Eric Houghtalin, Marlene Riggs** (non-voting member) and **Cathryn Richards** (Volunteer Engagement Coordinator).

ADOA and DDD Updates

ADOA was not represented at the meeting. **Eric Houghtalin** advised that ADOA had no updates to share with the committee as of the time of the meeting.

Eric Houghtalin: advised that the committee members that haven't received a new ID card should stay for a photograph before departing. He also advised that **Larry Allen**, ADOA Independent Oversight Committee Manager, and **Veronica Peralta**, ADOA, are now assigned to oversee all the IOCs in the state.

Karen Van Epps read an email from **Larry Allen**, ADOA.

Cathryn Richards asked the committee if there were any questions about badges or administrative functions.

Andrea Potosky asked why the IOC members need badges.

Cathryn Richards advised that the badge shows people that they might encounter (especially in the DES buildings) that they belong.

Eric Houghtalin advised that thanks to the collected efforts of the volunteer coordinators and DES, District North is now above the required 7 members.

He also advised that the mailed-out calendar shows a December DC IOC date and that will not take place. He advised that the committee disregard the date. He also notified the committee that, per request, there will only be one reminder email sent to the committee with a copy of the agenda.

Karen Van Epps advised that the committee needs to start working on the annual report soon.



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Discussion of Restitution

Linda Mecham wanted to know if the policy had been updated or changed. She read the letter that she wrote regarding restitution. She noted that the idea was that they could use restitution as a habilitation goal.

Karen Van Epps asked **Eric Houghtalin** to inquire about the current policy or the anticipated updates.

Linda Mecham cautioned against the potential of a slippery slope toward bad things happening if the IOC is not somehow involved in determining the ability of the member to understand.

Karen Van Epps advised that if the members aren't held accountable that they will never learn independence.

Eva Hamant advised that with oppositional defiant disorder that members should have consequences.

Linda Mecham advised that the biggest concern was that the members and families would not have someone to ask to support them.

Sherri Wilhelmi advised that the act of restitution was illegal under federal Medicare guidelines.

Eric Houghtalin advised that there will be no DC IOC meeting in December and that he will only send one email reminder of the meetings per the committee request.

Karen Van Epps advised that the annual report needs to start soon.

Discussion Article 9

Karen Van Epps advised that the DDAC spoke about the topic recently. She also noted that getting away from psychotropic meds is a bad idea. She asked **Eric Houghtalin** to inquire about the updates.

Eric Houghtalin advised that he will follow up with his supervisor.

Discussion of Article 21

Karen Van Epps advised that the big problem is that the members that are behaviorally challenged are not getting or retaining services.

Linda Mecham asked what can be done about Article 21 and what can be done to facilitate it legislatively.



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Call to the Public

No members of the public were present.

Committee Member Report

The committee asked to have changes proposed changes 200-G Diagnostic and Functional Criteria for Individuals Age Six and Above.

Karen Van Epps advised that she was at a PRC meeting and that she learned that the PRC Chair in District West wanted to remove the social and medical portion of the behavior treatment plans. She asked that behavior treatment plan discussion be added to the June agenda by **Eric Houghtalin**.

Karen read an email chain between her and **Chris Deere**, DDD Field Operations Administrator, about what she discovered. She advised that she would be including Dee Freidman, District West IOC Chairwoman.

Carol McNulty would like to discuss the policy changes regarding placement. Choice for residential discussion will be added to the June agenda. (invite policy and network to attend). Committee requested to see the policy that governs this.

Linda Mecham asked to add the restitution follow up to the June agenda.

Eva Hamant advised that she would like to discuss spending money, financial issues regarding members, and habilitation goals. Encouraging consistency in the process and financial rule understanding.

Discussion, Review, & Possible Action on Committee Membership

There was no discussion, review, or action taken on committee membership at the meeting.

Carol McNulty moved to go into Executive session.

Sherry Wilhelmi seconded the motion.

The vote was all for and none against. No members abstained.

The committee moved into executive session at 11:48 am.

(Public session ended at 11:48 am)

(Executive session began at 11:48 am)



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Incident Reports and Behavior Plans

The incident reports included 1,055 closed and 128 open for a total of 927 total reports for the April meeting.

Type	Open	Closed
Accidental Injury	9	203
Deaths	6	2
Emergency Measures	3	53
Human Rights	8	0
Legal	5	3
Medication Errors	0	56
Missing	26	14
Neglect – Potential & Imminent	29	2
Other Abuse – Sexual, Verbal, and Emotional	9	1
Other	18	559
Physical Abuse	12	0
Property Damage	1	3
Suicide	2	21
TOTALS	128	927

IRs were equally divided among the members in attendance as they chose to take them. There was some discussion of incident reports among member and DDD staff in the executive session.

James Maio raised the topic of using a tablet to review IRs in an effort to save money over the long-run.

Adjournment

Karen Van Epps adjourned the meeting at 12:43 pm.

The next District Central IOC meeting will be held on June 24, 2019 at 10:00 am.