



**Division of Developmental Disabilities (DDD)
District Central Independent Oversight Committee
(IOC) Public Meeting Minutes Summary
Monday, May 23, 2022 – 10:00 AM to 12:00 PM**

Call to Order

Meeting called to order by Committee Chairperson, **Linda Mecham**. The date is May 23rd, 2022, at 10:03 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:

- **Linda Mecham**
- **Sherry Wilhelmi**
- **Eva Hamant**
- **Carol McNulty**
- **Carolyn Willmer**
- **Eduarda Yates**

Attendance by Phone:

- **Debbie Stapley**

Absent:

- **Andrea Potosky**
- **Tina Buettner**
- **Mandy Herman**
- **Lisa Ehlenberger**
- **Marlene Riggs**

Public in Attendance:

- **Chris Garcia** (potential member)

Health Plan Liaisons:

- **Karen Kramer** (UnitedHealthcare)

ADOA:

- **Larry Allen**



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DDD:

- **Jeffrey Yamamoto** (DDD IOC Liaison)
- **Patricia Sandino** (DDD District Central PRC Chairperson)
- **Katrien Filez** (DDD Behavior Health supervisor)
- **James Maio** (DDD District Central Quality Improvement Manager)
- **Leah Gibbs** (DDD OIFA Administrator)
- **Joan McQuade** (DDD Chief Advocate)

Call to Public

Linda Mecham made a call to the public. **Chris Garcia** re-introduced himself.

DDD Staff updates, Health Plans and ADOA.

Karen Kramer (United Healthcare) stated She had no updates

Larry Allen did not have any updates.

Katrien Filez mentioned that Article 9 is available for public comment.

Jeffrey Yamamoto informed the IOC that the same virtual link and phone in number is the same for all the 4th Monday regularly scheduled District Central IOC meetings.

Leah Gibbs stated

- That Statewide COVID numbers are increasing week over week for the past 4 weeks and so has the DDD COVID numbers. DDD will continually monitor the numbers and work in step with Dept of Health and CDC recommendations.
- There have not been any updates on the Public Health Emergency which is due to expire in mid-July.
- ARPA funding is going out to the Qualified Vendors who have signed heir attestations for the Direct Care Workers monies to hire and retain workers. 80% of funds must be unutilized for retention and hiring bonuses. This monies are being split between this year and next fiscal.
- DDD is looking to make all the appropriate changes to begin to include Down Syndrome as a qualifying disability for benefits coverage in DDD. This is active 90 days after the legislative session closes.
- Town Hall events on first Thursday of Month at 6:00-8:00pm
- Down Syndrome societies have been fighting to legislatively get passed and this session finally added the eligibility to DDD.

Patricia Sandino just wanted to make sure that the PRC plans were sent out and received. The IOC



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agreed they had.

James Maio stated he is only halfway done with the questions for EVA and that he's waiting on outside sources to get the answers.

Review of Motions from last meeting

Larry Allen announced that he had not received any response from DDD, but the 21-day period was not up until the next day. He said he would forward the response when he received it.

Discussion of Article 400: Eligibility

Eva Hamant asked Leah about the start of the Down Syndrome qualifiers and when it goes into effect. Eva had received her answers via off meeting conversations with Leah.

Leah Gibbs stated that the new law goes into effect 90 days from the end of the legislative session and must prove Down Syndrome and have 3 of 7 substantial functional limitations to qualify. Leah explained the 7 functional limitations at this point of the meeting.

Pain Bill update

Sherry Wilhelmi stated that the Supreme Court had determined that pain management is a human right and that as a right it cannot be taken away. The member can be treated for pain if the member or guardian asks for stronger than prescribed pain medications. This can no longer be blocked.

Eva Hamant asked that the pain management is a human right be added into in DDD Policy and in Article 9.

Discussion on Revised Article 9

Linda Mecham asked if the committee members read the proposal for Article 9. The committee replied that they did. She asked if there were any comments or statements that need to be addressed for the public comment.

Eva Hamant asked about the DDD form 1506 and is to be reviewed by PRC. Leah was not sure on that answer but stated that this may be the PRC checklist for PRC Behavior Plan. Leah would have to look it up and get back to the committee with the right answer. Eva asked that the pain management be added to the member rights to the DD community.

Chris Garcia commented that any language concerning the pain management of a member must be clearly written regarding the member and role of staff in pain management. Are they the manager of pain or the advocate for the member in pain? Linda asked that Chris write up specific wording to his proposal comment.



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Eva Hamant stated that several items in 906 and 910 are now going to be happening in DDD. She says that many times the author of the behavior plan is not familiar with the member and should be. The other statement is that the members Planning Team needs to meet if there is two emergency measure applied in a one-month period and that is reported to the PRC. Also, that the support coordinator is to have every 90 days team meeting to discuss if goals are being met and if not rewrite new goals to be achieved. All these are new oversight responsibilities to the IOCs.

James Maio stated that currently in place are the policies where team meetings are occurring if two or more emergency measures are deployed in a 30-day period and that support coordinators are meeting every 90-days to review with the team which includes the member on goals. The new revisions are just the reporting of the process, which was not stated before, but the actions have always been done. In short there is now official reporting and oversight to the existing processes.

Carol McNulty and Linda Mecham suggested that a hard copy be sent after the Article 9 and policies is passed. All agreed and **Jeffrey Yamamoto** would send out a hard copy when it becomes available. **Linda Mecham** agrees that once everything is finalized that a copy of the new policies and Article 9 be included in the IOC manual or something similar so that the committee can review and know what new oversight they have. Maybe have a trainer come in and train the committee on new Article 9 and new policies. She requests that everyone is responsible to read the final version and be familiar with the new information to do their job correctly as an IOC/PRC member.

Leah Gibbs stated that the IOCs will have to determine how they would like to receive the information to do the oversight of the new policies and Article 9. There will be a trial time on what is available to the OIFA staff and can be given to the IOCs, because we do not know what the final results are in the policies and Article 9.

Carolyn Willmer stated that in the definitions and understanding behavior is have there been a change in medications. This could cause behaviors. Another is question to pose is if any recent event could be triggers for behaviors. Both will be sent to Linda to add to her list of comments on Article 9 and Policies.

Linda Mecham assures the committee that all the IOC concerns have been addressed in the revised Article 9. She asks that if there are comments and concerns to be sent to her quickly so she can write up the District Central IOC comments and submit them to the correct reporting sources on the IOC behalf.

Linda Mecham asked the committee if she can write a “thank you letter” for the hard work that all the individuals who created the revised Article 9 from DDD and Volunteers. The committee agreed that she could write it up on their behalf.

Roundtable Reports from Members

Sherry Wilhelmi asked for follow up to update SB 1162 -Pain bill and Supreme Court decision



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Linda Mecham asked for Article 9 update bill and spend down dollars for members to be increased

Carol McNulty none

Carolyn Willmer none

Debbie Stapley none

Eva Hamant none

Eduarda Yates would like to express the importance of funding education for all children

**Motion to go to Executive Session for Discussion and Possible Action on
Committee Membership and IR questions**

Linda Mecham asked for a motion to go into Executive Session to discuss Chris Garcia Membership and Eva Hamant IR questions.

- **Sherry Wilhelmi** motioned to go into Executive Session to discuss Chris Garcia Membership and Eva Hamant IR questions.
- **Carol McNulty** seconded the motion
- **All the members present** (see Welcome and Introductions for attending members) **voted “aye” and there were no “nay” votes**

The IOC voted to go into executive session at **11:14 AM**.

Discussion and Review of Incident Reports and Behavioral Plans

For March IRs, the Committee members have been given **1011** for March incident reports in the Shared Drive. This included **22** for open and **989** closed reports.

Type	Open	Closed
Accidental Injury	2	190
Consumer missing	1	19
Deaths	1	8
Emergency Measures	0	46
Human Rights	2	20
Legal	0	4
Medication Errors	0	60
Neglect	5	34
Other Abuse	8	76
Other-Behavior	2	353
Other -Injury unknown	0	148
Physical Abuse	0	12



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Property Damage	0	3
Suicide	1	16
TOTALS	22	989

The desired IRs will be divided by the chair and equally distributed amongst the members.

Questions for QIM: Members of the committee will send the incident reports questions to the DDD Liaison **Jeffrey Yamamoto** to be forwarded to Quality for responses.

The Committee came out of Executive session and reconvened in Public Session at 11:56 AM

Motion to vote on Committee Membership

Linda Mecham asked for a motion to vote Chris Garcia to become a new member of DDD District Central IOC.

- **Sherry Wilhelmi** motioned to vote Chris Garcia to become a new member of DDD District Central IOC...
- **Carolyn Willmer** seconded the motion
- **All the members present** (see Welcome and Introductions for attending members) **voted “aye” and there were no “nay” votes**

The IOC voted Chris Garcia to become a new member of DDD District Central IOC.

Adjournment

Linda Mecham asked for motion to adjourn the meeting

- **Sherry Wilhelmi** motioned to adjourn the meeting
- **Carol McNulty** seconded the motion
- **The IOC voted to adjourn the public meeting at 12:02pm**

The next District Central IOC meeting will be held on June 27th, 2022, at 10:00AM
