



**Division of Developmental Disabilities
District South Independent Oversight Committee
Meeting Minutes & Action Items
Monday, May 9th, 2022 – 1:00 PM to 3:00 PM**

Call to Order

Meeting called to order by Committee Vice Chair, **Keith Jansen**. The date is May 9, 2022, at 1:03 pm. **The meeting took place Virtually due to COVID-19.** Physical location when meetings resume in person will be at 400 W. Congress Street Ste. 500, Tucson, AZ 85701.

Welcome and Introductions

Attendance Virtually:

- **Keith Jansen**
- **Genevieve Valenzuela** (by phone)
- **Sharon Moyer**
- **Mario Gutierrez**

Absent:

- **Chere Solorzano**

Public in Attendance:

- **Octavia Lamb**

Health Plan Liaisons:

- **Vera Kramarchuk** (Mercy Care) (by phone)
- **Karen Kramer** (UnitedHealthcare) (by phone)

ADOA:

- **Larry Allen** (by phone)

DDD:

- **Jeffrey Yamamoto** (DDD IOC Liaison)
- **Leah Gibbs** (DDD OIFA Administrator)
- **Andrew Miller** (District South Quality Improvement Supervisor)
- **Joseph Jensen** (District South Quality Improvement Supervisor)
- **Katrien Filez** (PRC Administrator District South)
- **Joseph Tracewell** (District South Quality Improvement Manager)
- **Joan McQuade** (OIFA Project Manager)
- **Michelle Rademacher** (DDD IOC Liaison)
- **Marilyn Gonzales** (DDD OIFA)



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Call to Public

Keith Jansen announced Call for Public.

Octavia Lamb was present. She introduced herself as United HealthCare Case Manager. She is interested in joining District South IOC. Further information from Octavia is located in the Membership discussion.

Updates on Posting of Article 9 for Public Comment

Keith Jansen announced he saw that go out. He states he saw it, at least two of them. There were small changes. **Jeffrey Yamamoto** states he has not read or seen it. See below for more information.

Updates from Statewide IOC Meeting

Keith Jansen asked if **Sharon Moyer** or **Genevieve Valenzuela** was present at the statewide meeting. Both reported they were not. **Keith Jensen** reported he was present. He states the meeting went pretty smooth, no major changes, just updates. Waiting for public comment period to happen on Article 9 and other trainings to happen. Changes will be discussed in the next state meeting. No major changes had been made. The other committee members, **Sharon Moyer** and **Genevieve Valenzuela**, did not have questions from the state IOC meeting. **Jeffrey Yamamoto** said there are a lot of bills that are and have been going through House and Senate for Arizona legislature. Those bills that have been signed by the Governor and are coming up as a law will not go into effect as a law until 90 days legislature has closed session. A significant bill for example, Down Syndrome diagnosis approved as qualifying condition for DDD benefits. To qualify, individuals will need to meet 3 of the 7 functional limitations. DDD IOCs specifically, after 90 days from legislature closure, IOCs will receive a 30-day prenotification of any changes that will happen within DDD policy, anything that is released for public comment. 30 days prior to the general public comment. **Jeffrey Yamamoto** added information that the Pain bill has passed, doctors can now prescribe more medication for chronic or disabled individuals. **Keith Janson** added it was a legislative action. **Keith Jansen** referred to Direct Care Workers pay funds which were discussed.

Update from the DDAC Forum on COVID vaccines and testing for members



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Jeffrey Yamamoto states, with that, there was an open DDAC forum, like a town hall. DDAC is a disabilities advisory council which reports to the governor's office. A couple of questions posed at the forum: one about COVID vaccine & Testing, the other on ATC services (direct care services). Both of those topics will be presented at the DDAC actual meeting. The next meeting is scheduled for May 11, 2022, 9:00am to 12:00pm. **Keith Jansen** reports the COVID testing kits can be found in USPS website for order of 4 rapid antigen tests. If this is the first time you are doing this, ordering for delivery to your house, you can order 4 for free. Each and every time you click "this is my first time", you get 4 for free. They do not cost a thing. This is not dealing with your insurance. The federal government is sending these out. **Keith Jansen** states there are some confusions at the pharmacy where your insurance may or may not cover the cost of COVID the home tests.

Updates from the DDAC Forum on ATC services

See above reference on this topic.

Volunteer appreciation

Keith Jansen reports the volunteer appreciation luncheon went very well. Numerous people showed their appreciation. The link was placed into the meeting chat. **Jeffrey Yamamoto and Michelle Rademacher** can provide a copy of the link:

https://azdes.zoomgov.com/rec/play/IW184B184QCp7wAgtutqjIL8xjFbiDLdwmxlwlaAFJMuFT8FxDPGgMBb86f28MeVnMEoyEVvOTeczpJx._k-yaI72m5UtlVYq?startTime=1650405635000

Michelle played an excerpt from the presentation of **Zane Garcia Ramadan's** recognition to **Karen Van Epps**. The timestamp for the recording is 40:08minutes. **Keith Jansen** commented that was an example of how much you can achieve and that you can help thousands of people by being a voice for them.

DDD Staff Updates

Joseph Jensen, Andrew Miller, and Joe Tracewell had no updates for the IOC. Question for **Keith Jansen** and **Genevieve Valenzuela** posed by **Jeffrey Yamamoto** to clarify if the IOC committee members have the link to access the questions. **Joseph Jensen** states they would notify the IOC Liaison. He reports they do not want to release until absolutely sure that the follow-up has been completed appropriately for IOC and the responses are ready for review. Once the questions were answered we would notify the IOC Liaison. **Octavia Lamb** reports when responses were sent to the IOC liaison, then IOC would have access. The IOC liaison would send a link to the IOC committee



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members for review. Also, the old way was performed with copy and paste onto an excel spreadsheet and emailed to the IOC members.

Katrien Filez informed that **Barbara Carty**, PRC chair, is out this week. PRC meetings, for tomorrow morning and Wed. this week, have been rescheduled for 3 weeks out. Everybody should have received notice. **Keith Jansen** states he is aware of that.

Joan McQuade reports she is in the process of adding one more person to our team. She is waiting on everything to go through HR, and we will have another redactor.

Leah Gibbs entered the meeting later, and this is her update:

Leah Gibbs gave information she would normally present from the DDD COVID-19 webpage from 5/4/2022. This is now only updated weekly on Wednesday. This corresponds to the ADHS updates on the same day.

- 47,070 members being served by DDD
 - 4,2004 members are living in their own home/family home
 - 5,066 members are living in licensed facilities
- 6,808 members tested positive for COVID-19 (monthly difference of 396)
 - 4,809 residing in their own/family home
 - 1,999 residing in licensed facilities
- 101 Member deaths attributed to COVID-19 (47 lived in a family/own home & 54 lived in licensed facilities). There were not additional member deaths since last reporting.
- Tracking weekly counts, Data above is from 5/4/2022

Leah Gibbs informed the Committee the PHE has been extended. That date now goes through mid-July. All the flexibilities currently in place will remain in place through Sept. 30th. We will continue with funding parents as paid caregivers and funding delivered home meals. Come the end of Sept, the funding for parents as paid care giver and the home delivered meal service will be funded through ARPA and extend into March 31, 2024. AHCCCS has posted updated FAQs related to that end of funding. AHCCCS intends to discontinue parents as paid caregivers for their minor children come the end of March 2024. The plan is that ARPA will have built a stronger network of providers and direct care workers by that time to meet the needs of our members without paying parents to be caregivers. Also still, an unclarified response to whether funding will continue for both attendant care and habilitation or just attendant care per the time when ARPA will pick up the funding. AHCCS is waiting for a response from Centers for Medicare and Medicaid on the continuation of habilitation to be funded. **Keith Jansen** asked for update on the number of our member on COVID.

Leah Gibbs reported the good news that our DDD member positives for COVID over the last several weeks is low being consistent at 11, 11, 10, 11 members per week on average. Last time member passed from COVID was around 3/10/22. She stated we are not seeing the spike in cases in Arizona currently.



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Keith Jansen mentioned the fires burning currently. **Leah Gibbs** states we are tracking the fires and making outreach to those families that are at risk due to the fires.

Update from Arizona Department of Administration

Larry Allen had no updates.

Health Care Liaisons Update

Vera Kramarchuk (Mercy Care) had no updates from Mercy care.

Karen Kramer (UnitedHealthcare) had no updates from United Healthcare.

DDD IOC Liaison

Jeffrey Yamamoto informed the IOC about who will be their liaison. He reports we will not make any decisions for up to two months on who will get which committee. There are five committees. We will split the double week meetings between both of the liaisons. We are not sure who will get what. **Michelle Rademacher** is attending every meeting from every IOC district that she is available to.

Discussion, Review, and Possible Action on Committee Membership

Keith Jansen asked for a motion to vote to have **Octavia Lamb** voted in a new full voting member of the District South IOC. I have known her since she was our liaison. She is a very hard worker. She cares very much for the people we serve. She will be a good source of information for us. **Octavia Lamb** provided her background. She started with DDD as a Support Coordinator for three years. She joined OIFA as the IOC Liaison for two years. She is currently employed with United Healthcare as a Case Manager for the insurance sector. **Sharon Moyer** provided her background. She is an attorney and worked over the years in probate doing guardianship stuff, touched the disability world. She is a guardian for her brother who is a member. She wants to learn more and get more involved.

- **Sharon Moyer** motioned to vote in **Octavia Lamb** to be a member of the District South IOC.
- **Genevieve Valenzuela** seconded the motion.



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- A vote was taken and all present (see Welcome and Introductions attendance) voted “Aye”, there were no “Nay” votes. Motion was passed and **Octavia Lamb** is now a member of the District South IOC.

Keith Jansen asked **Jeffrey Yamamoto** to send out a new list of IOC members with emails and phone numbers to the committee members. **Jeffrey Yamamoto** added that the district committee members are spread out across the South district, therefore, meetings would probably continue virtually. Reviewable incident reports for the IOC will be added to the drive after auditing and input into correct folders. He is hoping Wednesday they will be sent out to the committee.

Discussion and Review of Incident Reports (IRs) and Behavioral Plans (BPs)

Keith Jansen asked the committee members if there were any questions on the IRs or BPs. The committee members did not have any questions on IRs or BPs.

Keith Jansen asked **Sharon Moyer** and **Octavia Lamb** if they had any categories of interest.

Genevieve Valenzuela wanted to know if due to Down’s Syndrome becoming eligible for DDD now, do the members have to have that dual diagnosis? Will the currently eligible member have a change to the current diagnosis of eligibility? **Jeffrey Yamamoto** reported the Down’s Syndrome applicant would need to meet the functional limitation requirement of three out of seven. Genetic testing would be the proof. The legislations go into effect 90 days after session closes. **Leah Gibbs** commented that DDD Eligibility is meeting currently to determine how the Down’s syndrome eligibility will be introduced into DDD. She explained that the currently eligible member, if not in a redetermination period (age 6 or 18) would continue to receive supports and services that they are receiving. **Keith Jansen** asked. How will DDD get the word out? It will be going out on the electronic newsletter. It will go out to the internal agencies. Public town hall meeting mentioned it. It will go out through a variety of ways. **Keith Jansen** suggested past applicants get a call to inform the diagnosis has been approved and the individuals can reapply. **Leah Gibbs** states she will relay that recommendation.

For all of Feb IRs, the Committee members have been given **560** for Feb incident reports in the Shared Drive. This included **25** open and **535** for closed reports.

| Type | Open | Closed |
|--------------------|------|--------|
| Accidental Injury | 4 | 123 |
| Consumer missing | 0 | 12 |
| Deaths | 1 | 14 |
| Emergency Measures | 0 | 2 |
| Human Rights | 2 | 3 |



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| | | |
|-----------------------|-----------|------------|
| Legal | 0 | 1 |
| Medication Errors | 1 | 52 |
| Neglect | 7 | 37 |
| Other Abuse | 2 | 7 |
| Other-Behavior | 0 | 153 |
| Other -Injury unknown | 3 | 116 |
| Physical Abuse | 5 | 15 |
| Property Damage | 0 | 0 |
| Suicide | 0 | 0 |
| TOTALS | 25 | 535 |

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

Number of Questions for QIM: members of the committee will send the incident reports questions to the DDD Liaison **Jeffrey Yamamoto**.

Adjournment

Keith Jansen adjourned the meeting at 2:07 pm on May 9th, 2022.

The next District South IOC meeting will be held on June 13th, 2022, at 1:00 pm.
