



**Division of Developmental Disabilities (DDD)
District East Independent Oversight Committee (IOC)
Public Meeting Minutes Summary
Wednesday, June 8, 2022 – 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 Committee Chair, **Suzanne Hessman**. The date was June 8, 2022, at 5:04 pm. The address of the meeting was Virtual, no physical address.

Welcome and Introductions

- Attendance in Person: **None This meeting was virtual only due to COVID-19 concerns**
- Attendance by Google Meets: **Susan Kingsbury (by Phone), Suzanne Hessman, Kin Counts, Sarah McGovern, Yolanda Huynh**
- Absent: **Elizabeth Bird, Sophie Stevenson, Amanda Godek, Tonia Schultz, Teresa Brooks**
- Public in Attendance: **None**
- Arizona Department of Administration (ADOA): **Larry Allen**
- Arizona Health Care Cost Containment System (AHCCCS): **Fredreaka Graham**
- Healthcare Plan Liaison (UnitedHealth Care): **Karen Kramer**; (Mercy Care): **Absent**
- DDD staff and guests: **Leah Gibbs** (OIFA Administrator), **Trudy O'Connor** (District East Quality manager), **James Maio** (District Central Quality Manager), **Brian Kociszewski** (Behavioral Health Administration), **Joan McQuade** (OIFA Manager), **Jeffrey Yamamoto** (IOC Liaison), **Michelle Rademacher** (IOC Liaison)
- **The Committee, DDD, ADOA, AHCCCS, UHC Employees** introduced themselves.

Call to Public

Suzanne Hessman: Called for public to announce themselves.

No one from the public was present.

DDD Policy and/or Legislative Issues

Suzanne Hessman commented on the scheduled DDD Article 9 meetings which are scheduled Thursday and Friday.

Leah Gibbs shared information on what the purpose of the meeting which is scheduled for the people which make recommendations back to the Division, IOC members and DDAC members. She explained the meeting was requested by **Zane Garcia Ramadan** specifically for the purpose of knowing people who are reviewing the proposal may have questions or need some clarification as



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they are writing their public comment back to the Division which is due by Monday. **Mary DeCarlo**, a subject matter expert, will review how the proposal was done and how the old policies align to the new policies and answer any questions to help people as they finalize their public comment. An evening and a daytime meeting were scheduled to accommodate anyone who is interested in attending.

Suzanne Hessman commented that there are many policies up for public review currently.

Leah Gibbs added information to explain that mostly the policies up for public review are tweaks related to the Division's operational review with AHCCCS who requested DDD input clarification on how DDD provides oversight and monitoring to our subcontracted health plans on those obligations and contracts. There were a lot of policies that needed minor changes. That is why there is so many policies up currently for public review. **Leah Gibbs** explained because Article 9 is important, that is why the Division carved out an opportunity to meet. There was legislation signed by **Governor Ducey** that affords the IOC thirty extra days to review policy before it goes up for public comment which will give the IOCs a total of 60 days. **Leah Gibbs** stated she is meeting with internal staff in hope to implement that process prior to it officially going into law. She is meeting tomorrow to finalize that process.

Kin Counts asked who made all the changes. **Kin Counts** commented that the Article 9 review and revisions are difficult to view.

Leah Gibbs stated the old article and the new article are mostly all there but in a different order as currently written since big sections are moved to different sections which makes it look like a lot of it was removed. **Leah Gibbs** stated it is not the same (the new article). **Leah Gibbs** explained about a year ago an initial workgroup with cross representation from IOCs, providers, the national association for directors on developmental disabilities, provider agencies, and BCBA's who looked at all of the concerns from the public and addressed them for this resubmitted article. There was a lot of clarifications which were put into the policies around the rule because policy is the clarification to support the rule. She explained it is helpful to look at the rule then at the corresponding policy to obtain the overall big picture.

DDD Staff Updates

Leah Gibbs reported the division is experiencing big jumps in COVID numbers with 50 cases a week that are affecting our members both in the home and residential settings. News from Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services reports the American Rescue Plan, ARPA, funding (used for parents as paid caregivers) has been extended another year, now ending March 2025 instead of 2024. The Public Health Emergency, PHE, is being talked about being extended another 90-day period. That means funding for flexibilities will continue thru end of December.



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Trudy O'Connor stated that Kelly Talbot has promoted to District East Quality Nurse supervisor. **Trudy O'Connor** states another DE QI vacant fact finder position has posted.

James Maio reported a new nursing supervisor for District East Quality came aboard last week.

Brian Kociszewski hiring for a PRC administrative assistant for District East.

Joan McQuade informed the committee that we are officially fully staffed. A contract person was just hired and accepted. As soon as we get all the system access for the full-time state redactor, she will be getting trained as well. This will enable backlog to be caught up within the next 4-5 months.

ADOA Liaison Update

Larry Allen reported the state fiscal year ends June 30. He reminded the committee of the year-end reports which can be started to be worked on in July. **Larry Allen** stated no worries to rush on those reports.

AHCCCS IOC Update

Fredreaka Graham reported no updates.

Health Plans Liaisons Updates

United Healthcare Community Plan (UHCCP) Karen Kramer shared United Healthcare is considering doing a DSNP 101 training or overview. She explained they are thinking to maybe include it in the town hall for those eligible for both Medicare and Medicaid. No specific details are available since the training is currently in initial planning phase.

Suzanne Hessman stated a presentation to IOC would be appreciated in the next upcoming months.

DDD Liaison Update

Jeffrey Yamamoto informed the committee of the DDAC public forum on June 16 at 10 am and 6 pm. He also informed the committee of the upcoming Statewide Quarterly IOC meeting on July 20. Jeffrey states he will be asking for agenda items for the Statewide IOC meeting from the chairs. He reported **Michelle Rademacher** continues with training. No committee designations have been determined for DDD IOC Liaisons yet. He reported coordinating some trainings for the new committee members.



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Michelle Rademacher informed the team that she is fully immersed in IOC liaison tasks and activities. She asked the committee to please watch for emails from her. Last week **Jeffrey Yamamoto** uploaded the April 10-16 IRs. We will be uploading the next batch by the end of this week.

Joan McQuade added that she did send out an email to all the IOC committee members with information from AHCCCS yesterday. Please keep an eye out for the email.

Discussion, Review and Possible Action on Committee Memberships

Suzanne Hessman asked for information on any new committee memberships.

Jeffrey Yamamoto communicated nothing has been forwarded to him at this time.

Discussion and Review of Incident Reports (IR) & Behavior Plans (BP)

Sarah McGovern asked if anyone had questions on who is covering what. She requests committee members send her an email if there are any concerns.

Kin Counts asked if she is overstepping on the IRs due to the dates? It was determined that she had not.

Suzanne Hessman stated there are 3 neglect folders.

Sarah McGovern will send out specific email to specific people about those weeks.

Suzanne Hessman asked for Questions/concerns/comments on IRs or BPs to discuss. No committee members had a comment.

CLOSED Categories:

Death/Suicide- Suzanne

Other Abuse/Neglect (1wk)- Sarah

Emergency Measures- Amanda

Physical Abuse - Yolanda

Human Rights/Neglect (2wk.) Kin

Neglect (4wk)- Beth

Neglect (3wk)- Beth

DA/All IRs - Sophie

PRC only – Suzan Kingsbury

None currently- Tonia



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For **March IRs**, the Committee members have been loaded in the shared drive **576** incident reports. This included **36** open and **540** closed reports. ATPC had **41** totals with **3** open and **38** closed.

Type	Open	Closed
Accidental Injury	4	119
Consumer Missing	8	3
Deaths	1	0
Emergency Measures	0	0
Human Rights	1	3
Legal	0	3
Medication Errors	2	49
Neglect	10	10
Other Abuse	2	2
Other Behavior	0	251
Other Hospitalization, Unknown injury	1	100
Physical Abuse	7	0
Property Damage	0	0
Suicide	0	0
TOTALS	36	540

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**.

Adjournment

Suzanne Hessman adjourned the meeting at 5:40 pm. The next District East IOC meeting will be held on Wednesday July 13, 2022, at 5:00 pm. The meeting will be a virtual meeting should COVID-19 concerns still be in effect.