

**KENTUCKY COMMISSION
ON
SERVICES AND SUPPORTS
FOR INDIVIDUALS WITH MENTAL RETARDATION
AND OTHER DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES**

**December 12, 2005
Fair Oaks, 4th Floor
Frankfort, Kentucky**

MEMBERS PRESENT

Secretary Mark Birdwhistell, Chair
Commissioner John Burt
Representative Jimmie Lee
Beth Smith
Adam Jones for Pat Seybold
Glenna Taylor
Patty Dempsey for Marsha VanHook
Malkanthie McCormick
Karen Gardner
Gayle Rees
Michael Cornwall for Commissioner
Shannon Turner

Senator Julie Denton
Senator Tom Buford
Representative Steve Nunn
Dan Baker
Louise Underwood
Kathy Sheppard-Jones for Harold Kleinert
William Shaw
Roland Mullins
Patricia Dissell
Cathy Edwards

MEMBERS ABSENT

Gwynn Royster
Herman Terry Leigh
Roy Shirley

OPENING REMARKS

The meeting was called to order by Secretary Mark Birdwhistell. He welcomed all present and led introductions.

REVIEW OF MINUTES

A motion was made by William Shaw to accept the minutes as submitted and seconded by Dan Baker. The motion passed.

SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS

Quality and Best Practices

This report was given by Karen Gardner, chair of the subcommittee. The subcommittee met on 11/30/05. Based upon discussion of the Ten-Year Plan

and issues with transition, two focus areas were identified that encompass the primary issues. These two focus areas are 1) how to best educate individuals and families to increase their access to resources, and 2) assess the quality monitoring system in the state and make recommendations for improvement.

SJR85: Aging Caregivers

This report was given by Roland Mullins, chair of the subcommittee. The subcommittee met on 12/2/05. He gave a brief review of the committee's charge to study and report on the status of aging caregivers in the state and the availability of services and alternative options. The report is due April 15, 2006. Committee members voiced their concern that such a report will not have any impact on the budget for the next fiscal year unless it is completed near the start of the legislative session. Roland agreed the committee would meet and work to provide a draft report for consideration by the General Assembly during the budget discussions. Committee members also expressed the need to generate data for aging caregivers that need services but are not on the waiting list.

Funding Sources

This report was given by Dan Baker, chair of the subcommittee. The subcommittee met on 10/18/05, 11/21/05, and 12/8/05. The following work plan was developed:

1. The subcommittee will determine and make a recommendation for an appropriate assessment tool that ensures a complete assessment of need by 3/20/06.
2. The subcommittee will provide recommendations that will define a mechanism for ongoing funding of all aspects of the MR/DD system statewide.

In addition, a recommendation was made that any savings realized via transition from any facility is to remain in the MR/DD system. Reports should be provided to the Commission from the Cabinet to ensure funding remains in the system.

WESTERN KENTUCKY UNIVERSITY PROGRAMS

Ron Wilson and Suzanne Vitale presented information about the university's has established a clinical education complex. Programs of study and focus include early childhood, communication disorders, acquired brain injury, family counseling services, and autism.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Question was raised regarding the number of slots for expansion of the SCL waiver program and additional budget expansion requests.

Response: There are currently 100 slots approved for individuals residing at Oakwood to transition to the community and additional slots for community

emergency requests for this fiscal year. A budget expansion has been requested to add 100 new slots for the fiscal year '07 and 100 slots for fiscal year '08. Additional funding has been requested for crisis stabilization; 5.7 million in the first year and 9.5 million in the second year. Additional funding has also been requested for Supported Living; 1 million for the first year and an additional 1 million for the second year of the biennial budget.

The secretary is also looking at new legislation to have more flexibility in facility realignment. He requested that a subgroup of the Commission examine and discuss the ICF/MR statute (HB449) and report on the level of flexibility present for facility realignment. Proposed members for this committee include Louise Underwood, Gayle Rees, Glenna Taylor, Patty Dempsey, Donovan Fornwalt, Bob Heleringer, a DMR representative, and a Cabinet representative.

UPDATE ON 1115 MEDICAID WAIVER

The waiver was submitted to CMS on November 4, 2005. Expected implementation date is February 1, 2006. The goal of the new waiver is to stretch resources and give consumers more choices and responsibility for their healthcare needs. A draft of the full waiver is on the Department for Medicaid Services' web site that will be adjusted according to CMS requirements.

UPDATE ON CONSUMER DIRECTED OPTION (CDO)

Contract requirements for the support brokerage and financial management with EDS continue to be developed. DMR is currently working with advocacy agencies in their efforts to assist with some outreach functions. Enrollment letters are expected to be sent to HCB participants in January and SCL participants in March, pending the finalization of the contract for the support brokerage and financial management functions.

UPDATE ON OAKWOOD

The contract with Liberty Healthcare is ongoing. Their function is to manage the day-to-day operations of the facility. Their main focus right now is staff supervision and training. A weekly report is submitted to the Cabinet and CMS.

NEXT MEETING

Next meeting date is **March 20, 2006** from **1 p.m. to 4 p.m.**
100 Fair Oaks Lane
Frankfort

The meeting was adjourned.

