

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

**June 20, 2006  
Fair Oaks, 4<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Frankfort, Kentucky**

**MEMBERS PRESENT**

Secretary Mark Birdwhistell, Chair  
Commissioner John Burt  
Gayle Rees  
Beth Smith  
Pat Seybold  
Glenna Taylor  
Herman Terry Leigh  
Gwynn Royster  
Wayne Harvey for Karen Gardner

Senator Julie Denton  
Marsha Vanhook  
Representative Steve Nunn  
Cathy Edwards  
Louise Underwood  
Harold Kleinert  
William Shaw  
Roland Mullins

**MEMBERS ABSENT**

Senator Tom Buford  
Roy Shirley  
Malkanthie McCormick  
Patricia Dissell

Acting Commissioner Thomas Badgett  
Dan Baker  
Representative Jimmie Lee

**OPENING REMARKS**

The meeting was called to order by Commissioner John Burt. Upon his arrival later in the meeting, Secretary Birdwhistell introduced Dr. William Hacker as the Acting Undersecretary for Health Services/Commissioner for Public Health and Eugene Foster as Undersecretary for Families and Children.

**REVIEW OF MINUTES**

A motion was made by Gayle Rees to accept the minutes as submitted and seconded by Harold Kleinert. The motion passed.

**OAKWOOD UPDATE**

This update was provided by Steve Shannon, Deputy Commissioner. Thirty-three individuals have transitioned out to community-based services since 10/1, which is approximately 11% of the population. The top priority remains the health and safety of the residents (260). There have been three Type-A citations in May. About 270 additional employees have been hired, some state and some contract. The primary emphasis is ensuring that staff are well-trained and competent. There are fourteen clinical psychologists on staff. Overtime has

been reduced from an average of 123 shifts per month to 55 shifts. State guardianship staff and Protection and Advocacy remain closely involved at Oakwood.

Upon Secretary Birdwhistell's arrival later in the meeting, he reported that there have been more allegations of abuse at Oakwood with several arrests overnight. He has met with the parent group and stated that the Governor also wants to meet with this group. According to Secretary Birdwhistell, the media has called for a blue ribbon panel to address the issues at Oakwood. His preference is to create an Advisory Group as part of the Commission. Someone from his office will be in contact with several Commission members to serve on the group.

### **BUDGET/LEGISLATION UPDATE**

This update was provided by Rob Edwards, Administrative and Financial Affairs, Office of the Secretary. House Bill 380 included positive outcomes for the Cabinet and DMHMR. There were no operational cuts and existing staff positions are protected. Mr. Edwards reviewed many of the highlights, including funding for 100 additional SCL slots each budget year, funding for Crisis Stabilization for people with intellectual disabilities, new money for the Supported Living programs, capital improvement projects to maintain facilities, and the one-stop for aging caregivers (\$200,000).

### **SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS**

#### **SJR85: Aging Caregivers**

This report was given by Roland Mullins, chair of the subcommittee. The subcommittee met on 6/1/06 to discuss and formulate recommendations for the implementation of a one-stop for aging caregivers. The subcommittee made the following recommendations:

1. Structure a regional point of entry system with local contacts so people get needed information quickly about resources in their own communities.
2. Send out Requests for Proposals for all or part of the allotted \$200,000.
3. Utilize existing data management infrastructure (such as systems used by the Department for Medicaid Services, Community Mental Health Centers, Department for Mental Health/Mental Retardation Services, Department for Public Health, Area Agencies On Aging, Department for Community Based Services, Office for Vocational Rehabilitation, etc)

Roland Mullins made a motion to accept all three recommendations as submitted and seconded by Steve Nunn. The motion passed with one abstention, Harold Kleinert.

#### **Funding Sources**

Gwynn Royster reported that the Funding Sources Subcommittee has not met since the last Commission meeting.

### **Quality and Best Practices**

This report was given by Glenna Taylor, subcommittee member. The subcommittee met on 5/17/06 and 6/14/06. The subcommittee continues to receive educational presentations that result in discussions on quality monitoring and information/access to services. The Statewide Transition Committee will become part of the Quality and Best Practices subcommittee. Members of that committee are being notified and asked to join the subcommittee. The subcommittee also requests that a representative from the Community Mental Health Centers serve on the subcommittee to provide a perspective from that area.

The subcommittee developed a letter to the Kentucky Department of Education, Division of Exceptional Children Services, recommending that transition planning in Kentucky continue to begin at age 14, even though IDEA 2004 now mandates that transition planning begin at 16 years of age. Commission members received a copy of the draft letter prepared by the subcommittee. The subcommittee requests that this recommendation come from the full Commission. After discussion, Glenna Taylor made a motion to accept this recommendation with a second from Pat Seybold. The motion passed.

The subcommittee would like to receive regular updates on Crisis Stabilization planning and requested that consumers, advocates, and/or family members be added to the workgroup.

### **COMMUNITY QUALITY ASSURANCE**

This report was provided by Amy DiLorenzo, Quality and Education Administrator. Ms. DiLorenzo presented information on the quality efforts undertaken by the Division of Mental Retardation. Highlights included the Quality Assurance Workgroup, the development of outcome data to be gathered during Supports for Community Living reviews, and the provider profiles that will be posted for public access on the Department's website.

### **UPDATE ON HB296 COMMISSION ON AUTISM SPECTRUM DISORDERS**

This update was provided by Pat Seybold. Commission members received a copy of the draft state plan that is now posted on the KCDD's website. Autism Commission members have conducted one Public Forum in Louisville and have three more scheduled around the state.

### **REPORT ON THE AGING AND DISABILITY RESOURCE CENTER (ADRC) PROGRAM**

This report was provided by Undersecretary for Mike Fields. Undersecretary Fields provided a summary of the goals and objectives of the ADRC program. The Division of Aging Services will partner with the Department for Mental Health and Mental Retardation Services and the Department for Medicaid Services to coordinate with existing Real Choices Systems Change grants and Medicaid Modernization plans to support and enhance the ability of individuals to make

informed choices and to streamline access to long-term support. The Cabinet plans to pursue any and all grants to help fund further new initiatives.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS**

One person made a request that an update on Medicaid Modernization be added to the agenda for the next Commission meeting.

Glenna Taylor requested that the monitoring of Self-Determination and Self-Directed Supports be added to the goals of the Quality and Best Practices Subcommittee.

**NEXT MEETING**

Next meeting date is **September 12, 2006** from **1 p.m. to 4 p.m.**  
100 Fair Oaks Lane, Frankfort

The meeting was adjourned.