

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

**July 7, 2009  
Fair Oaks, 4<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Frankfort, Kentucky**

**MEMBERS PRESENT**

Acting Commissioner Eric Friedlander  
Carol Estes for Beth Smith  
Harold Kleinert  
Senator Julie Denton  
Representative Jimmie Lee  
Representative Carol Rollins  
Linda Sandidge  
Shannon Caldwell  
Patty Dempsey  
Clyde Lang  
Steve Shannon

Commissioner Elizabeth Johnson  
Cherri Walker Lolley  
Anne Montgomery  
Cathy Edwards  
Pat Seybold  
Gwynn Royster  
William Shaw  
Glenna Taylor via telecoference

**MEMBERS ABSENT**

Secretary Janie Miller  
Senator Tom Buford  
Stephen Ray Hendricks

Malkanthie McCormick  
Jonathan Trimble

**OPENING REMARKS**

The meeting was called to order by Acting Commissioner Eric Friedlander. He gave a brief update regarding the Department's search for a Commissioner. He also reported the Department did not receive any budget cuts during the Special Session and Medicaid Stimulus Money was used to balance the state's budget.

**REVIEW OF MINUTES**

A motion was made by Steve Shannon to accept the minutes and was seconded. The motion passed.

**MEDICAID WAIVER UPDATE**

Commissioner Elizabeth Johnson gave the Medicaid Waiver update. Medicaid was fully funded this fiscal year and received an increased federal match.

- **Money Follows the Person (Kentucky Transitions)**

As of June 15, 2009 there have been 126 referrals. Fifteen have completed transition, 47 are in process, 10 are pending, 32 were ineligible and 13 declined participation. The breakdown of those receiving services under MFP are: elderly:4; ABI: 4; Physically disabled: 5; and ID/DD: 2. A draft of the new waiver for Kentucky Transitions participants has been completed and presented to the steering committee.

- **Michelle P. Waiver**

The Michelle P. Waiver will celebrate its one year anniversary August 1, 2009. As of June 30, 2009, everyone on the SCL waiting list has been offered an assessment for the Michelle P waiver.

Presently, 945 people have been assessed and are ready to begin services.

Harold Kleinert commented on the need for a marketing plan informing other waiver program participants of the Michelle P. waiver.

Senator Denton commented individuals cannot access the Michelle P. waiver if they are receiving Passport. She requested the Cabinet contact the Centers for Medicaid and Medicare Services and request Passport not be classified as a waiver. In addition, Rep. Lee asked Commissioner Johnson how people have switched from Passport to traditional Medicaid due to this issue. Commissioner Johnson reported that Medicaid staff educate and assist people in transitioning to traditional Medicaid so that they can get other waiver services.

- **ABI Long Term Care**

This waiver began in November 2008. Twenty-eight people previously on the waiting list were allocated slots. Currently, 46 individuals participate in the ABI Long Term Care waiver.

## **FACILITIES UPDATE**

Betsy Dunnigan gave the update on the facilities. She reported staff continues to implement the strategic action plan as set forth in the Federal Court Settlement between the Cabinet and the U.S. Department of Justice. The Strategic Action Plan focuses on increased education of individuals, families and guardians regarding community support options and affords them the opportunity to move into lesser restrictive community homes. Through implementation of the Strategic Action Plan the state owned ICFs will shift to more short term behavioral and medical assessment, stabilization and treatment, increased support services to individuals, families and community providers and specialty clinic services. The Federal Court Monitor conducts semi-annual week long monitoring visits at Oakwood and will be conducting monitoring visits at each of the other state owned ICF's during 2010 and 2011. Full compliance with the Settlement Agreement and implementation of the Strategic Action plan is to be completed by September 2011. An opportunity for individuals to transition into

community homes has increased with the implementation of the Medicaid Money Follows the Person program.

Updates for each of the facilities included:

- **Hazelwood**

The current census at Hazelwood is 145. Two people have transitioned this year and 5 are in the transition process. One of the five are utilizing Money Follows the Person services.

The design phase for expansion of the Medical/Dental Clinic and the construction of the smaller homes for transition of 24 residents from Central State ICF Bingham unit is expected to be complete by the end of the month and construction is expected to start in January 2010.

- **Oakwood**

The current census is 196. Twenty-six individuals have transitioned in the last year. There are 22 individuals currently in the active transition process with an additional 22 considering alternative placement options.

The initial survey for Unit 1 was completed and no deficiencies were found. Unit 1 is currently in the 30 day Reasonable Assurance period to show maintenance of compliance with federal certification requirements. A second survey will be completed following the 30-period. Once unit 1 passes the second survey, Oakwood will be fully recertified.

- **Central State**

The current census at Central State is 34. Seven people have transitioned out, and 8 are in the process of transition.

- **Outwood**

The current census at Outwood is 61. One person has transitioned out, and there is 1 in the process of transition.

## **COMMUNITY SERVICES UPDATE**

Claudia Johnson gave this update.

- **Crisis**

During March, April and May, 124 crisis calls were received. Forty-three were diverted from a higher level of care and 107 callers remained in the community setting. There were no admissions to ICF/MR in the past quarter.

- **SCL Waiting List**

The waiting list information was included with the meeting handouts. There are currently 2734 people on the SCL waiting list. Seventy-one emergency slots are currently available with an additional 50 allotted for FY 2010.

## **COLLEGE OF DIRECT SUPPORT**

Bill Tapp gave a presentation of the work of the College of Direct Support. Their goal was to create a tool that would support the direct care staff and to keep people out of institutions. It is web based learning, which family members can participate in along with providers. Web-based training would be supplemented by demonstration of skills in the workplace. The curriculum is based on the National Skills Standards for Direct Care Professionals. The curriculum includes a career ladder and specialized training for supervisors. Mr. Tapp provided Commission members with written material about the College (see attached).

#### **SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS**

- **Workforce Development**
- **Quality and Best Practices**
- **Finance**

Co-Chairs Pat Seybold, Cherri Lolley and Clyde Lang gave a joint report to the Commission members.

All three subcommittees have been reviewing and updating Kentucky's Plan. They presented draft outcomes to the members that they hope to refine during the upcoming year.

#### **GEORGIA'S DIRECT SUPPORT PROFESSIONAL CERTIFICATE PROGRAM**

Milton Tyree discussed how the state of Georgia trains Direct Support professionals in the Community College setting. Curriculum is based on Core Competencies for Direct Support Professionals used by the national Alliance of Direct Support Professionals. During the practicum assignments, they were partnered with a learning partner for hands on, person centered practice. This program gives more face-to-face education as opposed to the computer based classes offered by other programs.

#### **PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Jim Richardson made comments regarding the low wages and high turnover rates among Direct Support Professionals.

#### **NEXT MEETING DATE**

Next meeting date is September 9, 2009.

The meeting was adjourned.