

Summary of Proceedings – December 3, 2012

Most Integrated Setting Coordinating Council

Empire State Plaza, Meeting Room 6

Members

Courtney Burke, Chair	OPWDD
Mark Kissinger	DOH
Lisa Irizarry	DHCR
Greg Olsen	NYSOFA
Mary Ann DiChristopher	OASAS
John Allen	OMH
Rosemary Lamb	CQCAPD
Nancy White Martinez	OCFS
Kevin Smith	ACCES-VR
Tom Vaugh	DOT

Ex Officio Members

Linda Glassman	OTDA
Anna Lobosco	DDPC
Patrick Pascarella	DOL

Public Members

Judy Farrell	Visiting Nurse Service of NYS
Kimberly T. Hill	NYS Assembly
Bruce Darling	Center for Disability Rights
Patricia Fratangelo	Onondaga Community Living
Michael Romano	Oneida County Office for the Aging
Harvey Rosenthal	New York Association of Psychiatric Rehabilitation Services

Welcome and Introductions

- Commissioner Burke welcomed everyone in attendance. She acknowledged the advocates in the audience and thanked OCFS for creating the Braille translation of the agenda and minutes for the previous meeting.

- Commissioner Burke gave her condolences regarding the recent passing of Constance Laymon. Constance will be remembered as an excellent advocate for people with disabilities. She would be proud of the progress we have made.
- Commissioner Michael Hogan has retired. MISCC members wished him well in his future endeavors.
- The MISCC membership proceeded to introduce themselves to the public.
- Commissioner Burke provided an overview of the agenda and introduced Jim Introne, Director of Health Care Redesign.

Olmstead Plan Update

- Jim Introne announced that Governor Cuomo signed Executive Order 84 to establish the Olmstead Cabinet. The Olmstead Cabinet will consist of the applicable state agency commissioners, the Governor's deputy secretary, counsel, and budget director.
- The goal of the cabinet will be to make recommendations to the Governor concerning the development, implementation and coordination of an NYS Olmstead Plan by May 31, 2013.
- Roger Bearden, Special Counsel on Olmstead has been appointed to oversee the development of the Olmstead Plan.
- Roger thanked Jim for the introduction and was honored by the appointment. His first step is to engage the public and obtain feedback about what should be in the plan.
- MISCC members discussed some of the past challenges with Olmstead and viewed the development of the Olmstead Cabinet as an important step to creating a plan in NYS.

Public Engagement

- Commissioner Burke discussed the outcomes from the public forums on Olmstead and the suggestions gathered from the Governor's website. The most significant themes were:
 - Concrete targets in the Olmstead Plan.
 - Affordable and accessible housing.
 - Integrated employment
 - Transportation

- Independent living for seniors in the community
- Better coordination of and transition between services and systems
- MISCC members suggested that the themes could be used to outline the NYS Olmstead Plan. One member reiterated the need to have measureable objectives and targets in the plan.
- One member asked about the role of MISCC in the development of the Olmstead Plan now that the Cabinet has been formed. Jim Introne acknowledged the work that MISCC has done and felt that MISCC will continue to be an important resource for Olmstead in NYS.
- Ultimately the state agencies are responsible for the creation of the plan, but the MISCC should be consulted throughout the process and used in an advisory capacity.
- Roger Bearden committed to meeting with MISCC members collectively or individually to obtain input on the NYS Olmstead Plan.

DOH Presentations

- Commissioner Burke introduced Carla Williams and Mark Kissinger from DOH.
- Carla Williams facilitated a comprehensive presentation on the InterRAI, an assessment tool that will be used for all DOH long-term care programs.
- MISCC members asked some technical questions about the new assessment system. Ms. Williams shared that the data collected in the InterRAI uses identifiers to track the assessments, as well as the staff/entity completing the assessments. The tool can be modified to assess the needs of individuals and various health and human service sectors. Some states have used supplemental assessments to obtain more detailed information about special populations such as those involved in forensics or who are dually diagnosed.
- Commissioner Burke mentioned that OPWDD will also be using the InterRAI as part of its Coordinated Assessment System (CAS). OPWDD is working with the University of Michigan to modify the assessment so it meets the needs of individuals with developmental disabilities in NYS. The CAS will be pilot tested in 2013.
- Mark Kissinger provided MISCC members with an overview of Community First Choice (CFC). CFC is part of the Affordable Care Act (ACA) and provides states with additional federal dollars to expand community-based attendant care. There is a specific focus on self-direction that will cut across all populations.
- The CFC advisory group has met four times to develop the application that will eventually go to the federal government.

- One of the members of MISCC who also serves on the CFC advisory group felt that NYS was making progress in this area. CFC will eliminate gaps in the service system, streamline bureaucracy, and give individuals with disabilities more control over who comes into their homes.

Public Comments

- One caregiver discussed the challenges he encountered in accessing community-based services for his elderly mother. It is important for individuals to have choice in their care and choice over the funds used supports and services. His mother currently lives with him so she does not have to go to a nursing home.
- A single mother with a disability expressed her concern that her consumer directed personal attendant care hours could be cut. If that happened, she would have to go into a nursing home. As a result of her attendant care services, she has been able to go to school and get a job in the community. People with disabilities need to be included in the decisions that are being made about their services.
- One individual discussed the lack of accessible, affordable housing in the community. People with disabilities have the right to choose where they live.
- Another member of the public discussed the barriers people face when with the voting process. She believes that the MISCC could help in this area to make polling places and voting machines more accessible.

Closing Remarks

Commissioner Burke thanked everyone for attending. The next MISCC meeting is scheduled for March 2013. The date was changed to April 16th at the NYS Museum- Meeting Room A.