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**Summary of Proceedings – April 27, 2011**  
Most Integrated Setting Coordinating Council (MISCC) Meeting  
Empire State Plaza, Meeting Room 6

**Agency Members**

*Commission on Quality of Care and Advocacy for Persons with Disabilities*  
*Department of Health*  
*Department of Transportation*  
*Homes and Community Renewal*  
*Office for the Aging*  
*Office For People With Developmental Disabilities*  
*Office of Alcoholism and Substance Abuse Services*  
*Office of Children and Family Services*  
*Office of Mental Health*  
*State Education Department*

**Ex-officio**

*Department of Labor*  
*Developmental Disabilities Planning Council*  
*Office of Temporary and Disability Assistance*

**Public Members**

Patricia L. Fratangelo,  
*Onondaga Community Living*  
Kimberly T. Hill,  
*NYS Assembly Task Force on People with Disabilities*  
Lisa Holmes,  
*Tompkins County Office for the Aging*  
Constance Laymon,  
*Consumer Directed Choices*  
Dr. Karen Oates,  
*Mental Health Association of Rockland County*  
Carol Raphael,  
*Visiting Nurse Service of New York*  
Harvey Rosenthal,  
*New York Association of Psychiatric Rehabilitation Services*

Members

Courtney Burke, Chair	OPWDD
John Allen	OMH
Roger Bearden	CQCAPD
Greg Olsen	NYSOFA
Tom Vaughan	DOT
Lisa Irizarry	HCR
Brian Daniels	OCFS
Mary Ann Anglin	DOH
Debora Brown-Johnson	ACCES-VR
Kathleen Caggiano-Siino	OASAS

Ex Officio Members

Sheila Carey	DDPC
John James	OTDA
Mario Musolino	DOL

Public Members

Constance Layman	Consumer Directed Choices
Kimberly Hill	NYS Assembly
Judy Farrell	Taskforce on People with Disabilities
Lisa Holmes	Visiting Nurse Services of New York
Patricia Fratangelo	Tompkins County Office for the Aging
	Onondaga Community Living

**Action Items for Next Meeting**

- At the August meeting, each MISCC participating agency should plan to present a status update of the goals identified in the short-term MISCC Plan.

**Commissioner Burke’s Welcome Remarks**

- The meeting was opened by acknowledging and thanking all in attendance. Commissioner Burke asked those who were making comments during the public comment period to keep them brief so as to allow ample time for everyone that would be speaking.
- OCFS was thanked for providing translation of materials for the meeting.

**MISCC Plan Discussion**

Commissioner Burke noted that the Transportation Committee will provide an overview of their committee this month, and the Housing Committee will provide their overview at the August meeting.

### **Transportation Committee—Tom Vaughan DOT**

The need for state agency coordination was stressed. Department of Transportation (DOT) is trying to create integration of mobility programs. Outreach has been done to ARC chapters in rural communities. It is important to think beyond traditional public transportation providers. We need to assess who is providing transportation, at what cost, are there opportunities for collaboration and can we reduce duplication?

There was mention of a DOH grant related to transportation which covers from Hudson Valley to Glens Falls.

One of the newer themes is “mobility management,” and there are many mobility managers cropping up around the state, and not just those that are funded by DOT. DOT is working with a consultant on mobility management, and is expecting to work with other state agencies as well, and to offer a half-day refresher course at the local level.

The federal requirement related to local planning was also mentioned. Coordinated plans need to be reviewed every 4 years. Local input is needed in this process. Meeting participants were encouraged to become involved in their local planning processes. More information is available on the DOT website.

An update was given on legislation to make taxis more accessible. There is a NYC Council Resolution requiring “universal vehicles” and a requirement that a percentage of a taxi fleet include these vehicles.

Finally, Mr. Vaughan briefly discussed some of the DOT funding programs, and reminded everyone that the 5310 requests for vehicles for the elderly and disabled are due on May 4<sup>th</sup>. He said that a number of vehicles were awarded last year, and that there are approximately 1,000 such vehicles in the State right now.

Constance Layman asked the Committee to look into how Medicaid funding can be used to creatively meet transportation needs.

Lisa Holmes reiterated that the non-emergency transport that crosses county lines has been and continues to be a significant issue that needs to be addressed, particularly in rural communities.

### **Implementation of the MISCC Plan**

Commissioner Burke asked the public members to review the short-term MISCC plan, identify any barriers or challenges to its implementation, and report them and any recommendations at the August meeting.

Constance Layman noted that several things are unresolved related to the SAGE Commission and Medicaid Redesign. The MISCC plan and focus may need a complete overhaul given the current fiscal situation in the State, and that needs to be more clarity on the Governor's commitment to the role of MISCC in government reform efforts.

Greg Olsen commented that one of the shifting strategies is how we use the Title V Program. He said that NYSOFA is making sure that items that they had committed to in the MISCC plan are completed. He noted that nine of the 11 NYSOFA goals in the MISCC plan have been addressed.

Kathleen Caggiano-Siino advised MISCC should seek to play a role as a recognized stakeholder in the SAGE Commission.

### **New York Makes Work Pay**

Pat Dowse, Chief Operating Officer of the NYS Rehabilitation Association spoke briefly about the Inclusive Workforce Work Group comprised of 16 trade associations across disability systems. They are focused on the strong need for a system change related to providing employment to all individuals with disabilities who seek it. The State must have effective partnerships with employers in order to meet their business hiring needs and the needs of job seekers. This collaboration must include the resources necessary to help individuals attain and retain employment. The Executive Summary and Power Point presentation will be posted to the MISCC website.

John Allen from OMH provided a comprehensive presentation on the One-Stop Operating System (OSOS), which is a collaborative effort out of the MIG-NY Makes Work Pay initiative. OSOS creates a great tool to cross agencies and databases in order to provide comprehensive and relevant data on employers and employment opportunities. He noted that the DOL advised that, on any given day, 3,000 job opportunities open and close within the same day. This means that a small employer doesn't have to wait 30 days to hire someone. They are able to hire the first qualified candidate, with or without a disability, who can perform the job. We need to look at how we advertise jobs and match candidates, meeting the needs of the individuals that we serve, so the One-Stop Operating System website was created ([www.laborny.jobs](http://www.laborny.jobs)). There was also a discussion of Career Zone as a way to provide job matching for youth as well as the ability to match individuals with volunteer opportunities. The power point materials related to this presentation will be posted to the MISCC website. **\*Please note since the time of the April MISCC meeting the OSOS has been renamed.**

Constance Laymon briefly discussed some of the payment options, as it relates to Medicaid, insurance, and the Healthcare Exchange, and the need to work through the gaps and to integrate all of the systems as best as we can. Mr. Allen advised that they are already looking at that, and are building in technological changes that will serve to enhance the system.

Bill Panepinto from OASAS suggested that OTDA be engaged to target homeless individuals for supported housing. Individuals who are seeking housing often need employment as well.

Mr. Allen responded that discussions have started with OTDA and the independent living centers. Mario Musolino from DOL commented that this is a very big initiative, and that they see this eventually involving all of the Human Services agencies in the State.

Lisa Irizzary from HCR suggested that linkages be made between the OS2 system and nyhousing.gov

## **Public Comments**

- The Housing Education Coordinator and Systems Advocate for Independent Living in Newburgh, NY spoke about the continuing need for housing, and shared a story about a sister agency that came to Independent Living in search of a referral for a woman with 3 developmentally disabled children who was facing homelessness. He is a referral agency, and funding is a big issue. He reiterated that if you don't have a place to live, then your entire life is upside-down, and thanked everyone for their work, and reminded everyone that we are all under an obligation to do what Olmstead put forth.
- Five individuals spoke on behalf of the New York State Self-Determination Coalition, and each relayed a personal story about how OPWDD provided assistance through the Consolidated Supports and Services (CSS) program, and how it is critical to maintain funding for it as part of the 1115 waiver process.
- An individual from the Center for Disability Rights spoke about the need to move the system forward, and away from the segregated models, and that we shouldn't use the fiscal crisis as an excuse to stop moving forward. He urged support for continued funding for CSS.
- An individual representing 3 organizations: Center for Disability Rights, NYS Association for Independent Living, and NYS ADAPT, urged MISCC to stand up to the requirements of the NYS law. Disability advocates are eager to see what MISCC is able to achieve under its new leadership. They would also like to see MISCC re-invigorate the committees so that advocates can have a real voice. Would also like the member agencies to see Olmstead as a fundamental obligation to civil rights. The speaker asked each member agency what they are doing to help people who are living in nursing facilities to live independently, in the most integrated settings.

## **Closing Remarks**

Commissioner Burke thanked everyone for their comments and the MISCC members for their participation. She noted that the next meeting is scheduled for **Wednesday, August 17, 2011 at 1pm in the same location.**