

MEETING MINUTES
Act 264 Advisory Board/Children’s SPSC Joint Meeting
April 23, 2021

Act 264 Advisory Board Meeting (9:30 – 10:15)		
<p>Attending: Alice Maynard, Kristin Holsman-Francoeur, Cynthia Smith, Teresa Sunderland, Laurie Mulhern, Matt Wolf, Doug Norford, Heather Freeman Guests: Nicole DiStasio – DMH, Joanne Crawford – DMH, Christina Thompson – DMH, John Habershaw – News 7, Sandi Yandow - VFFCMH, Kheya Ganguly – UCS, Pam McCarthy – VT Family Network</p>		
Agenda Items	Discussion Points	Decisions/Actions
Review Parent Rep Survey	<p>The group discussed the survey results and how they would be used. Members of the group will go through the results outside of the meeting and come up with specific recommendations. The three categories the group will focus on regarding the Parent Representative position are the following:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Recruiting, training, tools, supervision, and support. 2. Formalizing the job 3. Qualifications for the job <p>Once the group has their recommendations, they will share with SIT for their feedback.</p>	The group will work on the three categories outside of the meeting and discuss at the next meeting.
Joint Act 264 Advisory Board and State Program Standing Committee Meeting (10:15 – 12:10)		
<p>Attending: Alice Maynard, Kristin Holsman-Francoeur, Cynthia Smith, Teresa Sunderland, Laurie Mulhern, Matt Wolf, Doug Norford, Heather Freeman, Ron BosLun, Ward Nial Guests: Nicole DiStasio – DMH, Joanne Crawford – DMH, Christina Thompson – DMH, John Habershaw- News 7, Sandi Yandow – VFFCMH, Kheya Ganguly-UCS, Pam McCarthy – VT Family Network, Cheryle Wilcox – DMH, Alison Krompf – DMH, Shayla Livingston - DMH</p>		
Agenda Items	Discussion Points	Decisions/Actions
IFS Update	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Laurel Omland and Dr. David Rettew from the Department of Mental Health (DMH) provided testimony before the legislature yesterday regarding children’s healthcare. Their testimony laid out all the programs needed to keep children’s healthcare moving forward. There is a recording and written document available on the Vermont legislature website. • The monthly Local Interagency Team (LIT) Connection Meetings will keep meeting as long as people are showing up and engaged. Cheryle will continue to send out notes from the meetings. • The State hiring freeze has been lifted. 	Cheryle will send out a link to the group for the testimony recording and documents.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There has been a second round of interviews for the Director of Trauma Prevention and Resilience Development position. Cheryle will be able to provide the group an update at next month's meeting. • DMH has created a Communications position for the department using grant funds. • The State Interagency Team (SIT) would like to see more diversity in committees and groups. • 420 children are currently living in a hotel in Vermont 	
DMH Update	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Alison presented a data brief from the Vermont Department of Health (VDH) on emergency department (ED) visits in youth and discussed the data with the group. • A report from the New England Poison Control Center shows an increase in poison for children 9 to 16. They shared the data with DMH. • Follow this link to order free suicide prevention resources: https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/HELPOrder • Alison presented youth data gathered from the Crisis Text Line. 	Christina will send out links to the group and Poison Control Center report.
Meet new DMH Directors	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Nicole DiStasio, the new Assistant Director of Quality for DMH introduced herself to the group. • Shayla Livingston, the new Director of Policy for DMH introduced herself. 	
Finalize Questions – State leaders	The group continued to work on questions they have prepared for state Commissioners and Secretaries. Deputy Secretary Heather Bouchey from the Agency of Education (AOE) will be at next month's meeting.	Everyone will continue to work on questions via email.
Review March Meeting Minutes	Alice moved to accept the minutes; Doug seconded. The March meeting minutes for the Act 264 Advisory Board and Children's State Program Standing Committee were approved.	
Public Comment:	No public comment.	