

**MEETING MINUTES**

**Act 264 Advisory Board/Children’s SPSC Joint Meeting**

**February 25, 2022**

**FINAL**

Act 264 Advisory Board Meeting (9:30 – 10:00)		
<b>Members present: Matt Wolf, Alice Maynard, Cinn Smith, Kristine H-F, Doug Norford</b> <b>Guests: Cheryle Wilcox – DMH, Joanne Crawford – DMH, Joe Brusatto - parent, Nicole DiStasio – DMH, Sandi Yandow – VFFCMH, Ward Nial – SPSC, Ron Bos Lun – SPSC, Laurie Mulhern - SPSC</b>		
Agenda Items	Discussion Points	Decisions/Actions
Parent Reps for CSP and financial compensation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• One of the board members expressed concerns about the lack of support for providing adequate support and funding for the position of Local Interagency Parent Representatives. Needed organizational work is not happening because of this lack of support. It feels like this work is not being valued.</li> <li>• If the group would like to discuss the \$30,000 earmarked for the LIT Parent Representative position at the next meeting, Alicia Hanrahan from AOE should be included.</li> <li>• It was suggested that the group look at the LIT Parent Representative position and ensure they know the requirements and responsibilities for this position. To begin the work, an advisory group should be created to help to move the dialogue forward around payment, recruitment, and retention. This advisory group should be made up of members from the following groups, Act 264 Advisory Board, DMH Children’s State Program Standing Committee, LIT Coordinators, State Interagency Team, LIT Parent Representatives. Alice, Cinn and Matt volunteered. Cheryle will assist the advisory group.</li> <li>• A Request for Proposal (RFP) will be sent out from the Department of Mental Health (DMH) that will clarify the issue regarding the need for more peer support services for families and more support for parents in the mental health system. The amount of the RFP is \$100,000.</li> </ul>	<p>Include a list of acronyms with the minutes next month.</p> <p>Cheryle Wilcox will outreach to LIT Coordinators and SIT members in addition to Cinn, Matt and Alice who offered to create an advisory group to oversee the RFP work and scoring.</p> <p>(TBD) Invite Alicia Hanrahan to future conversations regarding the LIT Parent Rep Position</p>
2022 SOC Priorities follow up coordination	There was not enough time to discuss this item so it will be on next month’s agenda.	Add 2022 SOC Priorities to next month’s agenda
<b>Public Comment:</b>		

**Joint Act 264 Advisory Board and State Program Standing Committee Meeting (10:00 – 12:30)**

**Members present: Ron Bos Lun, Laurie Mulhern, Ward Nial, Matt Wolf, Alice Maynard, Cinn Smith, Doug Norford, Kristine H-F**

**Guests: Cheryle Wilcox – DMH, Joanne Crawford – DMH, Nicole DiStasio – DMH, Sandi Yandow – VFFCMH, Joe Brusatto – parent, Dana Robson – DMH, Dylan Frazer – Department of Vermont Health Access**

Agenda Items	Discussion Points	Decisions/Actions
IFS Update: Cheryle Wilcox	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The State Interagency Team (SIT) met yesterday, and Cheryle will forward SIT notes to the Act 264 Advisory Board and the Department of Mental Health (DMH) Children’s State Program Standing Committee (SPSC).</li> <li>• Two policy positions have opened in DMH.</li> <li>• The legislature approved 4 million dollars for building projects for the designated agencies (DA), specialized service agencies (SSA) and peer support organizations. A group will be set up to review applications. Among others, the group will include Cheryle Wilcox and Laurie Mulhern, as the rep from the SPSC.</li> <li>• The Middlesex facility building is being constructed and it could possibly open in December 2022. The facility will include 16 beds.</li> <li>• DMH put out an RFP for anyone interested in creating capacity for children and youth related to a medical facility. This is just exploratory and a way to diversify inpatient care for children that offers options in addition to the Brattleboro Retreat.</li> <li>• Jarrett House (children’s crisis bed program run by Howard Center) is back up to 7 days a week.</li> <li>• The House Human Services Committee has indicated they will recommend appropriations support for funding for suicide prevention coordination and for mobile response. The support provided for mobile response is to ensure it is available throughout the state.</li> </ul>	
Review January Meeting Minutes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Alice made a motion to approve the January minutes with the changes she suggested.</li> <li>• Matt seconded the motion.</li> <li>• Vote to pass was unanimous.</li> </ul>	Minutes passed, with suggested edits
Act 264 Board Recruitment materials update	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Matt worked on a one-page flyer for the Act 264 Advisory Board.</li> <li>• Nicole will be the contact person on the material.</li> <li>• Doug, Alice, Laurie, and Joanne will continue to work on the new flyer.</li> <li>• Laurie will work on the flyer design.</li> </ul>	Subcommittee of board will draft new flyer

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Nicole will put the flyer in Google Docs and help manage the work and pulling it together.</li> </ul>	
Dylan Frazer and Dana Robson: Home and Community Based Services Presentation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Dylan presented the Vermont Home and Community Based Services Conflict of Interest Plan. The Center for Medicaid Services (CMS) notified the Department of Vermont Health Access (DVHA) that the “choice model” submitted by Vermont, which allowed individuals and families to determine if they wanted to have a case manager separated from the service provider, that DVHA proposed was not sufficiently compliant with federal regulations on conflict of interest, so they had to come up with a revised plan. Vermont will need to ensure case manager programs are separate from direct service programs.</li> <li>The <a href="#">department’s plan</a> can be found on their <a href="#">website</a>.</li> <li>Dylan asked the group for input on the plan and the group was able to provide several suggestions.</li> </ul>	Nicole will send the PowerPoint presentation out to the group.
Discuss Guests for 2022	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The group would like to meet with the Secretaries and Commissioners for the agencies and departments as this past year. Because it may take a few months for a new Agency of Human Services (AHS) Secretary to be permanently appointed, the group would prefer to meet with the Acting Interim AHS Secretary.</li> <li>The group would also like to meet with the President of the Police Chief’s Association, the new Department of Corrections (DOC) Commissioner, the two Title VII Indian Education Directors and the Director of the Abenaki Arts and Education Center.</li> <li>Matt and Cinn will work on a letter to the Title VII Directors and the Abenaki Arts and Education Director. Joanne will then send an email to them with the letter attached.</li> </ul>	Joanne will provide Matt with letter
Christina Thompson	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Christina has accepted a position with the VDH, so she will no longer be supporting this group. Her last day with DMH is March 11. She will be in the Maternal and Child Health Division.</li> </ul>	
<b>Public Comment:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Sandi Yandow - Parent Representatives (PR) are not employees of the Vermont Federation of Families for Children’s Mental Health (VFFCMH.) VFFCMH is simply a fiduciary. VFFCMH is looking to the Advisory Board to help with the challenges of the PR position throughout the state. The money available to VFFCMH to train parent representatives from the Agency of Education (AOE) was not used because there was no one to train.</li> </ul>	
<b>Adjournment</b>	The meeting ended at 12:23.	

