

Wisconsin Council on Children's Long-Term Support Needs
Council Meeting

Minutes

January 23, 2008

LaQuinta Hotel

10:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.

Madison WI

Chairperson: Liz Hecht

Members Present: Lynn Breedlove, Hugh Davis, Melanie Fralich, Pam Garman, Pilar Guzman, Glenn Johnson, Keith Keller, Sue Gilbertson, Sally Mather, John Shaw, Julie Turkoske, Beth Wroblewski, Barb Katz,

Guests: Joyce Binder, I-Care, Fredi Bove, DHFS, Linda Kegen Family Voices

Staff Member: Julie Bryda, DHFS

- I. Welcome and Introductions
 - a. Liz Hecht welcomed everyone to the council meeting and introduced the topics on the agenda.
 - b. Introduction of council members and guests.
 - c. Pilar Guzman was introduced as the newest council member
 - d. Pam Garman announced her upcoming retirement and withdrawal as a member of the Children's Council

- II. Outcomes Workgroup Update – Julie Bryda
 - a. The workgroup created written materials which were reviewed by the Council.
 - i. The handout titled CLTS Council Outcomes Workgroup which discussed the progress of the workgroup to date.
 - ii. The handout titled “Information on Outcomes” A tool for families, caregivers and providers. The council recommended we delete the reference to the fact that the Department web based training course on Outcomes is for “professionals” and add that it is available for persons with internet access so that families can take the course also.
 - b. Outcomes are required for all waivers; children and adult individual service plans have required this since January 1, 2007.
 - c. Council recommended the subgroup meet again to discuss next steps for dissemination – Barb Katz offered that Family Voices could assist in the distribution of this document. It was also recommended that the

document be available in Spanish and Hmong. Also, the document should be at an appropriate grade level so all families will understand the document.

- d. Katie will work on dissemination state wide

III. Family Support Program Update – Liz Hecht

- a. The workgroup developed recommendations to Secretary Hayden regarding the new language in the 2007-2009 biennial budget for First Come First Serve within the Family Support Program. It had been optional for counties to provide crisis funding to families in need but with the new language counties will be required to create a priority policy for families in crisis. The recommendations from the Council were written to give guidelines but not requirements to counties. Each county advisory committee will need to develop policies that allow for crisis situations.
- b. The Department is working on the Action Memo that will formally notify counties of the need to develop priority wait lists for FSP.
- c. Julie updated that counties were informed of this in the 2008 FSP Annual Plan Memo and are required to submit their new or updated wait list policy with their FSP Plan which is due February 15, 2008.

IV. Liz Hecht and Beth Wroblewski discussed the proposed recommendations that were submitted to the Secretary for the allocation for new funding for the CLTS Waivers. The handout “Possible Concepts regarding the Allocation of new Funding in 2007-2009 Biennium for Children with Disabilities on Waiting Lists” was shared.

- a. Beth, Liz and Fredi discussed the two proposals that were submitted to Secretary Hayden for his consideration.
 - i. Distribute allocation to counties by census
 - ii. Distribute allocation to counties by wait list size, which was determined by the number of children served plus number of children currently on the county wait lists. Data from counties and from the Human Services Reporting System (HSRS) was used.
 - 1. There were concerns raised that the technical differences with the waitlist data: under reporting, over reporting, and duplicated counts, could result in an inequitable distribution of slots.
 - iii. Due to the issues raised regarding the wait list data it appeared likely that the census option would be chosen.
 - iv. As a result in the delay in the budget passing the distribution of slots will likely occur in February. There are several options being considered for the use of the first six months of unspent funds.
 - 1. Use some of these dollars for one time urgent and unmet needs.
 - 2. Provide services to children transitioning to FamilyCare at age 17. This could assist with the transition period before a

child is enrolled in FamilyCare and prevent a lapse in services or services that can support a family during the unavailability of services.

3. Assist children who are aging out of the CLTS Waivers (Non-FamilyCare Counties) to assist with the transition to adult services.

V. Additional Updates-Beth Wroblewski

- a. Reviewed the reorganization of the Division of Long-Term Care (DLTC), Bureau of Long-Term Support (BLTS). As FamilyCare Expansion moves forward it will become the Office of FamilyCare. The BLTS will include some adult systems, including the new Self-Directed Supports (SDS) Waiver and the children's section, which includes the CLTS Waivers, Katie Beckett Program, Family Support Program, and Birth to 3.
- b. The council agreed that a subcommittee would be created to review the previously drafted letter to Secretary Hayden regarding the Council's concerns on the Department's reorganization.
 - i. The Council recommended adding language that requests clarification as to what the new advisory structure to the Department is and could the CLTS Council have a representative on this committee.
 - ii. The Council recommended that the new Department Transition Team and Diane Waller, DHFS Director of Area Administration, attend a CLTS Council meeting to discuss transition issues for children into FamilyCare.
 - iii. A subcommittee formed to work on these issues:
 1. John Shaw, Sally Mather, and Glenn Johnson

VI. Beth provided an update on the Deficit Reduction Act (DRA).The Department is working through a current interpretation of when and how Targeted Case Management is provided and billed for. States have been given a short time frame by which they must provide comments to the Center for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) on the use of Targeted Case Management and how it relates to home and community based waivers. Beth will share a background paper that was written on the DRA.

VII. Lynn Breedlove provided an overview of "lessons learned" in the recent advocacy efforts that lead to securing new funding for children who are waiting for services. The Council reviewed the "Services for Children with Disabilities Lessons Learned from the 2007-09 Biennial Budget" document.

- a. Next steps were identified to develop a document addressing the efforts for children's redesign.
- b. A subcommittee was created to develop this document
 - i. Barb Katz, Sue Gilbertson, Julie Turkoske, Lynn Breedlove, Melanie Fralich, and Pilar Guzman

- c. The subcommittee will revise the existing materials, identify public strategies, and seek assistance from experts to frame message strategies. The subcommittee should consider consulting with Robert Craig. Liz and Lynn will work on securing Robert Craig's assistance.
- VIII. Beth reviewed the Vision and Desired Outcomes for Children's Long Term Support Redesign Initiative and A Foundation of A system of Long-Term Support for Wisconsin Children and Families documents. The Council identified areas that need to be updated:
- a. How far have we come since 1998?
 - b. What areas have improved?
 - c. How did the pilot counties do in making system changes?
 - d. Do we still want to focus on these five areas in five years from now?
 - e. Next steps were identified:
 - i. Possibly contract with an outside entity to review the pilot counties summaries and evaluate "lessons learned."
 - ii. Identify the next five year plan.
 - 1. Are there identified benchmarks?
 - 2. What are the future strategies to achieve this outcome?
 - 3. What are the changes in the structure of the systems?
 - f. The Council recommended an outside entity be secured to organize and write possible proposals that take into account the areas identified above.
 - g. The Council recommended that a few new areas be added to this task:
 - i. Outcomes that benefit society in general
 - 1. efficiency and effectiveness
 - ii. How children will have better lives in the future because of these services.
 - iii. Describe the future in a way that makes sense to the community at large
 - iv. Assure that children will have rich, full lives for the long-term
 - v. Address the issue of focusing on the family as a system
 - vi. Add issues of "choice" for children 15 years and older
 - vii. Discuss "self-determination" issues.
- IX. The Department will begin working on the next budget in the spring and summer of 2008. It would be helpful to have preliminary conclusions to the Department by May or June. This would allow time for the recommendations to be considered.
- X. Motion to accept minutes from September 2007 meeting
- a. Keith made motion to accept minutes
 - b. Barb 2nd motion.
 - c. Motion passed unanimously.

- XI. Family Support Standing Agenda Items – Liz Hecht
 - a. Creating a subgroup for Family Support to make recommendations to DHFS regarding inconsistency in how FS funding is used or not used for match to CLTS Waivers.
 - b. Does the Council want to make recommendations to mandate that FS funds be matched to the Waivers if it can be? Does the Council want to assure that a percent of funding is used for highly flexible needs that may not be allowable under the waiver?
 - c. The Council would also addressing consistency statewide of the use of FS funds. The Council would need to receive data regarding which counties use FSP as a match and those that do not. Also the Family Support Advisory Committees may have different views then the Council. Counties may want to maintain local autonomy and decision making.

- XII. Autism Council
 - a. Any formal recommendations from the Autism Council share with the CLTS Council.

- XIII. Future Agenda Items
 - a. Collaboration efforts across division to meet the needs of children with severe emotional disturbances.
 - b. Preliminary thoughts on budget proposals for the DHFS.
 - c. Determining how COP funding and community aids are used for counties that are in FamilyCare. What stays with children section and what transitions with the child into Family Care?