



Olmstead Advisory Committee

Meeting Minutes

Friday, March 19 1:00 p.m.-2:30 p.m. (Central Time)

1. Welcome

The following persons were present:

Advisory Members Present:

Name:	Representing:	Name:	Representing:
Mary Angus	Self-Advocate	Kathy Hoell	NE Statewide Indep. Living Council
Keri Bennett	Brain Injury Advocacy Organization	Randy Jones	Area Agency on Aging
Mark Bulger	Self-Advocate	Sherri Jones	Univ. of NE – Dept. of Spec. Ed.
Diane DeLair	Disability Rights NE	Patricia Jurjevich	Behavioral Health – Region 6
Kristen Larsen	NE Council on DD	Hannah Weiger	NE Occupational Therapy Association
Tobias Orr	Asstive Technology Partnership	Mark Smith	UCEDD
Jim Restau	Dept. of Veterans Affairs	John Wyvill	Commission for Deaf and Hard of Hearing
Gloria Eddins	Dept. of Administrative Services – ADA Coordinator		

Advisory Members Not Present:

Name:	Representing:	Name:	Representing:
Anita Doggett	Scottsbluff Housing Authority	Sharon Dalrymple	Family Member
Tony Vargas	NASP	Lindy Foley	NE Vocational Rehabilitation
Candace Bottorf	NE Dept. of Corrections	Martha Hakencamp	Lincoln Housing Authority
Penny Clark	LTC Ombudsman	Peg Huss	DD Advisory Committee
Deb Anderson	Dept. of Labor	Cindy Kadavy	NE Healthcare Assoc. – Asst. Liv.
Lauri Holman	State Advisory Committee Mental Health	Bill Reay	Omni
Kari Ruse	Dept. of Transportation	Crystal Rhoades	Public Service Commission
Julie Smith	Probation-Juvenile Division	Carlos Servan	Commission for Blind & Visually Impaired
Roger Stortenbecker	DD Service Provider	Joni Thomas	Self-Advocate/Nebraska Total Care
Allison Hatch	Dept. of Economic Development	Marna Munn	Equal Opportunity Commission
Jenifer Acierno	Leading Age	Payne Ackerman	Family Member
Thomas Arnsperger	Legislative Aide-Senator Walz	Julie Scott	Probation

DHHS Staff Present:

Tony Green	Director – DDD		Linda Wittmus	Deputy Director - DBH
Heather Leschinsky	Olmstead Administrator - DDD		Roger Robinson	Deputy Director – CFS
Caryn Vincent	Acting Deputy Director - DPH		Josie Rodriguez	Office Health Disparities and Health Equity– DPH
Brenda Moes	Office of Consumer Affairs - DBH			

Powerpoint presentation shared and then closed captioning was lost; meeting paused until closed captioning restored.

2. Overview of the Year One Evaluation Report

- Written and submitted to DHHS by contractor, Technical Assistance Collaborative (TAC);
- Summarizes progress of strategies and outcomes by each goal for plan year One, July 1, 2020-June 30, 2021 (evaluation of the first 6 months of plan implementation);
- Highlights achievements, challenges, and recommendations for each of the seven goals;
- Reviewed achievements identified in the report;
- Report available upon request;
- DHHS determined the need to establish three workgroups to address further implementation of the plan strategies;
- Overall goals of the workgroups is to ensure the completion of strategies identified for year one of the plan or identify revisions to current strategies, and to ensure the plan is moving Nebraska forward in meeting the overall vision of the Olmstead plan in each of the seven goals.

Powerpoint presentation was shared again with closed captioning capabilities continuing.

3. Discussion on Olmstead Workgroups

a. Education and Employment

- Focus areas: Special education, post high school transitions, and increased access to integrated employment;
- Emcompasses strategies identified in goals number four and seven;
- One workgroup meeting held March 2, 2021;
- Will meet the first Tuesday of every month at 9:00 am.
- Next meeting will identify priorities of the workgroup for the next three months.

b. Housing

- Focus areas: Community-based and accessible housing;
- Emcompasses strategies identified in goals number one, two, and three;
- Strategy 2.4 is being met by a cross-divisional workgroup facilitated by the Division of Behavioral Health;

- Olmstead Housing workgroup will work collaboratively with the cross-divisional workgroup and focus on supportive services, reducing homelessness in youth ages 18-24, barrier removal, and non-production strategies;
 - Kick-off meeting tentatively scheduled for March 24, 2021, at 3:00 pm.
- c. Data
- Focus areas: Data collection and sharing;
 - Emcompasses strategies identified in goals number three and six;
 - First meeting was with DHHS representatives as goal six has several strategies around DHHS collecting, aggregating, and evaluating data across DHHS;
 - Next meeting is April 7, 2021, at 11:00 a.m.;
 - Future meetings will include representatives from the other state agencies on the Steering Group.

4. Discuss Identification and Engagement of Persons with Disabilities for each workgroup

- Seeking volunteers from people with disabilities and representatives from advocacy organizations for each of the workgroups;
- Volunteers can send their interest to Heather Leschinsky or the Olmstead email address: DHHS.NEOlmstead@nebraska.gov;
- Application is being developed and will be posted to the website and sent to advocacy organizations asking to send out to listservs;

5. Public Comments

- Discussion on urgent need of people with disabilities with underlying health conditions to be vaccinated; DHHS is working hard to make sure the vaccine is available to priority populations outlined in the vaccination plan. Home and Community Based Waiver participants and staff (approx. 10,000 participants) were prioritized in Phase 1A. Current vaccination plan focuses on CDC recommendations by age group. Additionally 10% in Phase 2A is being set aside for people with high risk medical conditions. Discussion included involving individuals from the local health departments in the Olmstead effort if there isn't an already established relationship with the disability community, advocates, and local health departments.

Next Meeting: Tuesday, May 18 10:00 a.m.-11:30 a.m. (Central Time)