



Nebraska *Olmstead* Advisory Committee Charter

(The charter should define how the group operates, including the operating principles, functions, and the organizational structure.)

A. Background and Current Purpose

The Olmstead Advisory Group was formed and began meeting in August 2018 in order to assist in the drafting of Nebraska's first Olmstead plan, in collaboration with the Olmstead Steering Group. The initial plan was completed and submitted to the legislature in December 2020.

The current purpose and design of the the Advisory Group is to serve as the stakeholder voice and group that advises on and reviews the status of plan strategies, objectives, and outcomes of the Olmstead Plan. The Advisory group includes individuals with disabilities, providers and other state agencies not represented on the Olmstead Steering Group. The specific functions of this Advisory Group are described below.

B. Membership:

Pursuant to Neb. Rev. Stat. § 81-6,122, the Chief Executive Officer of the Department of Health and Human Service shall appoint and convene a stakeholder advisory committee to assist in the review of the Olmstead Plan. The Advisory Committee, pursuant to Neb. Rev. Stat. § 81-6,122, includes representatives from:

1. The State Advisory Committee on Mental Health Services;
2. The Advisory Committee on Developmental Disabilities;
3. The Nebraska Statewide Independent Living Council;
4. The Nebraska Council on Developmental Disabilities;
5. The Division of Rehabilitation Services in the State Department of Education;
6. The Public Service Commission;
7. The Nebraska Commission for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing;
8. The Nebraska Commission for the Blind and Visually Impaired;
9. A Housing Authority in a City of the First or Second Class;
10. A Housing Authority in a City of the Primary or Metropolitan Class;
11. The Assistive Technology Partnership;
12. The Protection and Advocacy System for Nebraska (Disability Rights Nebraska);
13. An Assisted Living Organization;
14. The Behavioral Health Regions;
15. Mental Health Practitioners;
16. Developmental Disability Service Providers;

17. An Organization that advocates for Persons with Developmental Disabilities;
18. An Organization that advocates for Persons with Mental Illness;
19. An Organization that advocates for persons with Brain Injuries;
20. An Area Agency on Aging;
21. Two Persons with Disabilities representing Self-Advocacy Organizations; and
22. At the Department's discretion, other persons with expertise in programs serving persons with disabilities.

C. Open Meetings:

Where appropriate, Advisory Committee meetings will be open to the public and conducted in accordance with the Open Meetings Act, Neb. Rev. Stat. § 84-1407 et seq.

D. Member Expectations:

1. Attend Advisory Group meetings;
2. Volunteer for or, as requested, serve on workgroups;
3. Prepare for participation in discussion and providing input by reviewing meeting materials;
4. Inform the member's agency or stakeholder group about Advisory Committee activities and actions; and
5. Perform such duties as required to fulfill the obligations of the Advisory Committee.

E. Duties of the Advisory Committee:

1. Assists in the review and development of the *Olmstead Plan*, the strategic plan for providing services to qualified persons with disabilities in the most integrated community-based settings pursuant to the *Olmstead* decision;
2. Provides advice on the many topics addressed by the *Olmstead Plan* and topics important to Nebraskans with disabilities;
3. Guides and advises DHHS and State agencies;
4. Reviews recommendations put forward by the workgroups and determines which recommendations are forwarded to the Steering Group;
5. Identifies recommendations relevant to the *Olmstead Plan* goal, outcomes, and strategies to forward to the Steering Group; and
6. Provides input on *Olmstead* plan revisions, new technology, surveys, and more as determined by the workgroups or Steering Group.