



STATE OF NEVADA
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES
AGING AND DISABILITY SERVICES DIVISION

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Name of Organization: Nevada Commission on Autism Spectrum Disorders
Resource Development Subcommittee

Date and Time of Meeting: July 26, 2016
11:00 a.m.

Carson City: Nevada Early Intervention Services
3427 Goni Rd., #102
Carson City, NV 89706

I. Call to Order/Roll Call

Dr. Jan Marson called the meeting for the Resource Development Subcommittee to order at 11:04 a.m.

Members Present: Jan Marson, Brook Adie, Lynda Tache, Wes Haynes, Stephanie Myers

Members Absent: Sarah Dean, Jamie Johnson

Guests: Steven Cohen, Julie Ostrovsky, Art Reitz

Staff Present: Carol Reitz

A quorum was declared.

II. Public Comment (No action may be taken upon a matter raised under public comment period unless the matter itself has been specifically included on an agenda as an action item)

Mr. Steven Cohen told the Subcommittee that he would like to see repeat law enforcement training and self-advocacy. He asked about Partners in Policymaking. Dr. Marson said she would find out.

III. Introductions of the Resource Development Subcommittee Members

Dr. Marson introduced herself as an occupational therapist. She has been involved with autism since 1997 and was part of the original subgroup. She is also the legal guardian of a young woman with autism. She is on the UCAN (University Center for Autism and Other Neurodevelopment team and faculty for the LEND (Leadership Education in Neurodevelopment) program. She was the chair of the Children's Mental Health for the past 8 years but continues to be involved.

Ms. Brook Adie introduced herself as the manager of the Autism Assistance Program for the last four years. She stated that when she first began managing the program, they were receiving \$1.4 million per year and it has grown rapidly to \$14 million per year. She has been with ADSD for the last 11 years. She is a licensed social worker and has a passion for providing supports for the entire family.

Mr. Cohen introduced himself as a student of CSN and UNLV since 2006. He is originally from Saint Lois.

Mr. Haynes introduced himself as a parent of a son with autism whom was adopted. They are dealing with puberty and emotions and he wants to learn as much as he can.

Ms. Myers introduced herself as a parent of a four-year-old boy with autism. She has a bachelor's in sociology and is currently working on her master's in special education with an emphasis on autism.

Ms. Tache introduced herself as a parent of a 15-year-old with autism. He was diagnosed in 2006. She was one of the original parents that testified in Carson City for the policy that started ATAP. She was a recipient of the ATAP funding which helped her son overcome his aggression. She started the Grant A Gift Autism Foundation in 2009. The Foundation has grown to include diagnostics and treatments. She also serves on the LEND faculty.

IV. Review and Decide on the Goals of the Subcommittee

Dr. Marson suggested supporting the Nevada 211 system and having the providers fill out a form that provides all of their information. She suggested providing information and supports for social resources, leisure opportunities, first responder training, acronyms defined, self-advocacy, respite, spirituality and sexuality.

Mr. Cohen asked Ms. Tache about the College of Education. Ms. Tache said her organization is partnering with the UNLV School of Medicine. He asked whether the resource guide that the UNLV has been publishing will continue. Ms. Tache said that would be something that would need to be researched.

Ms. Reitz informed the Subcommittee that there are specific goals and objectives that were written for the subcommittee. They are listed on the ADSD website. She read the goals and objectives for the subcommittee.

Dr. Marson told the Subcommittee that the objectives of the subcommittee are broad. She state the following needs should be addressed: advocacy, working with other groups, and developing service standards for 0-6 and 7-21 age groups.

Ms. Adie told the Subcommittee members that objectives of this group are centered on to find ways for faster screenings, access to services and additional funding. The advocacy objective can come from writing letters to legislators in support or against legislation that will be occurring.

Ms. Tache informed the Subcommittee that Dr. Green was the chief medical examiner who used to work for the Governor and would be a beneficial resource.

Dr. Marson told the Subcommittee that the assignment for the next meeting is for everyone to familiarize themselves with the goals of the strategic plan. She stated she can get the standards for birth to three years old. Ms. Adie said the Department of Education submits a report to her with the number of children with an autism diagnosis. She added if additional information is identified as being needed, they can request it from the DOE.

Dr. Marson said they should work on a consistent message and compile data. Ms. Adie informed the Subcommittee that ATAP has partnered with UNR to create an online learning center. It contains training modules that discuss what is autism, ABA therapy, and ATAP for the families that are on the ATAP waitlist.

V. Confirm Dates for Future Meetings

The Subcommittee decided to meet on Tuesday, August 23rd at 12:00 p.m.

VI. Public Comment (No action may be taken upon a matter raised under public comment period unless the matter itself has been specifically included on an agenda as an action item)

Mr. Reitz told the Subcommittee that the JUSTin Hope Foundation has trained over 450 first responders in Northern Nevada and will be training first responders in the South.

Mr. Cohen told the Subcommittee that there are communication cards that are available for individuals to give to first responders. He asked Ms. Tache about making assessments affordable for individuals. Ms. Tache said they have a scholarship program that helps fund assessments and services. Mr. Cohen added that there are insufficient providers to handle people 22 years old and above.

Mr. Cohen also informed the Subcommittee that the Regional Centers no longer accept ASD as an eligibility criteria for new cases. Ms. Adie said she would get additional information.

VII. Adjournment

Dr. Marson adjourned the meeting at 11:58 a.m. |