

OPEN MEETING MINUTES

Name of Governmental Body: Governor's Autism Council			Attending: Council Members: Robert Johnston; Christina Krasovich; Angela Levin; Lindsay McCary; Katy Morgan; Dr. Rebecca Thompson; Daysi Jiménez; Julie Quiqley; Nissan Bar-Lev; John Jahnke Excused: Roberta Mayo; Kevin Scholz DHS State Staff: Deb Rathermel; Nicole Miller; Dan Kramarz; Kelsey Vincent; Jessica Gehr; Julia Thoe; Laura Zimmerman
Date: 8/13/2020	Time Started: 10:02 a.m.	Time Ended: 12:00 p.m.	
Location: Zoom Meeting https://dhs.wi.zoom.us/j/92432128744			Presiding Officer: Deb Rathermel, Director, Bureau of Children's Services, Department of Health Services

Minutes

Welcome and Introductions:

- Individual introductions of Council members, DHS staff and general public.
- Katy Morgan announced as a new council member.

Public Comments:

- None

Operational:

- Approval of May 14 2020, meeting minutes.
MOTION made by Bob Johnston, seconded by Christina Krasovich, to approve the meeting minutes as drafted. Motion approved unanimously.

Updates:

Department of Health Services (DHS) Updates –Provider Directory

- Kelsey Vincent gave a high-level overview of the CLTS Provider Directory. The goal of this project is to make it easier for families to navigate which providers and services are available. Council members shared their questions about family use of the provider directory.

Legislative symposium–Becky Thompson:

- Becky Thompson shared that the Wisconsin State Legislature will be holding a [Symposia Series on Early Access to Autism Treatment](#) on barriers to accessing early diagnosis and treatment for children with autism in Wisconsin. The series can be live streamed on the following dates: September 8, September 15, September 22, and September 29.

CLTS Access Advisory Committee–Daysi Jiménez and Kelsey Vincent (DHS):

- The Bureau of Children’s Services (BCS) has formed an **Access Advisory Committee** to develop recommendations for statewide intake, eligibility, and enrollment practices for the Bureau of Children’s Services long-term care programs. The most recent meeting focused on developing metrics for measuring performance.



Vision Summary_EIA
approved.pdf

Council member updates:

- Council member discussion comments included:
 - Lindsay McCary shared progress on the Echo Autism project.
 - Julie Quigley shared that the Autism Society of Southeast Wisconsin is continuing to engage with families during the pandemic including support groups via Zoom and sharing resources.
 - Robert Johnston shared that the Autism Society of Greater Wisconsin is holding the Spectrum of Colors Virtual Race across Greater Wisconsin from September 13 to October 24.
 - Katy Morgan shared concerns from families whose children are struggling with teletherapy. She also shared a concern about the process for reporting results of COVID-19 testing for staff providing in-person services.
 - Daysi Jiménez shared that there is recurring concern that many Spanish-speaking families who have a recent diagnosis for their child do not understand the next steps to take to access services and treatment. A discussion was held about the experiences of families immediately following diagnosis.

CLTS Waiver Renewal Presentation:

- CLTS Waiver Renewal Initiative overview by Jessica Gehr (BCS)
- Detailed information about this project can be found <https://www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/clts/waiver/renewal.htm>.
- Feedback from council members:
 - Christina Krasovich—parents aren't clear on what they can ask for.
 - John Jahnke feels there is a gap in families' understanding what services and supports are available through CLTS and the process for accessing those services. A discussion was held about different family experiences across counties in the request and approval process and how to teach families how to navigate these conversations.
 - Daysi Jiménez questioned how we are making services accessible to families and to have them see the benefit of it. A discussion was held about the possibility about standardized training for service and support coordinators (SSCs).
 - Julie Quigley shared that some families are frustrated with their SSCs knowing what services and providers are available. A discussion was held about addressing relationship building between families and SSCs.
- Council members may provide additional, written feedback via the CLTS Waiver renewal inbox: DHSCLTSWaiverRenewal@dhs.wisconsin.gov

Permanent Telehealth Expansion:

- Julia Thoe (DHS) briefed the Council on proposed permanent telehealth policy: [telehealth-expansion-behavioral-treatment.pdf](#)
- Council Input:
 - Katy Morgan stated that telehealth is not helpful for some children.
 - Angie Levine feels it is extremely challenging to measure the effectiveness of telehealth. Specifically, measurement to determine no reduction in quality, safety or effectiveness.
 - Christina Krasovich—in some cases, there might be an advantage to telehealth.
 - Becky Thompson—so many variables play into it. There are trade-offs with both in-person and telehealth. Research on efficacy is being conducted.
 - Lindsay McCary feels the evidence for effectiveness will emerge over the next few years, which will help in forming the development of this policy over time and that although it's not an immediate help, but good to think through for the long term.
- Questions and comments can be sent to dhstelehealth@dhs.wisconsin.gov

MOTION made by Angela Levin, seconded by Julie Quigley to adjourn the meeting. Motion passed unanimously. Next meeting on November 12, 2020.

Following the Council meeting, representatives from the Department of Public Instruction (DPI) (Julia Hartwig, Patricia Williams, Daniel Parker, and Eva Shaw) shared a short presentation on recommendations for special education services in the fall. Council members provided feedback and asked questions.

Prepared by: Laura Zimmerman on 8/20/2020.

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