

MEETING: The Vermont Deaf, Hard of Hearing, and DeafBlind Advisory Council

DATE: 11-15-16 Time: 10:00am – 1:00pm

Attendee Committee Members: Deb Charlea Baker, Missy Boothroyd, Jennifer Bostwick, Rebecca Chalmers, Keri Darling, Ralph Gallo, Sharon Henry, Bill Hudson (Vice-Chair), Monica Hutt, Susan Kimmerly, Kelley Rohrer, Elena Shapiro, Sherry Sousa, Amy Williamson.

Conference Phone: Linda Hazard (Chair), Judy Vreeland

Additional Attendees: Patricia Thompson (minutes), Cory Brunner (interpreter), Kristal Hier (interpreter), Barbara Pine (Vermont Legal Aid), Tracy Roux (AT Access Specialist), Norma Miller (White Coat Captioning – CART)

Next Meeting: Tuesday, January 10, 2017 10:00am – 1:00pm, Waterbury State Office Complex

TOPIC	DISCUSSION	DECISION
<p>Welcome, Convening of Council and Introductions. Linda Hazard - Monica Hutt</p> <p>Bill Hudson – Introduce Guest for Assistive Technology</p>	<p>Bill Hudson introduced Tracy Roux, AT Access Specialist, Phone - 1-800-750-6355 Email - dail.atinfo@vermont.gov</p> <p>Tracy discussed –</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Types of assistive technology2. Passed devices around for experimentation3. Pre-ordering4. Usage- individual and meetings5. Reserving equipment6. Shipping availability7. Maintenance – short-term and long-term8. Delivery – Bill Hudson available to deliver	<p>Attach – Vermont Assistive Technology Program brochure</p>

Updates from Council Members

School – Age, Susan Kimmerly

1. Hired 2 Educational Interpreters
2. Birth–3 PIP (Parent Infant Program) not sustainable with current funding structure (Medicaid and EHDI). CIS cut supplemental funding approximately 6 years ago based on number of children being served not type of services
3. Notified CIS, Children’s Integrative Services.
4. If no funding available by 1/1/17 - stop services.
5. School – Age funding is OK for now.
6. Medicaid dollars do not sustain Birth – 3 Program.
7. EHDI is supplemental to PIP
8. CIS (Children’s Integrative Services) used to be IDEA Part C (Individual with Disabilities Education Act)
9. Reach out to Danielle Howes

EHDI update, Linda Hazard

1. Utah State University and NCHAM put together a Parent Engagement Survey called Snapshot.
2. There will be National Results and Vermont Results

Transition in State Government – Monica Hutt

1. Council created by a statute not by Executive Order.
2. Council is established and will continue on.
3. Transition will begin at AHS, Commissioner’s Office.
4. If there is a change with AHS, Com and Hal Cohen

1. Reach out to Danielle Howes, Part C Administrator, AHS
2. Linda Hazard will reach out to Breena Holmes, Dir. Of MCH.
3. Linda Hazard, Monica Hutt and Bill Hudson will put a letter together and present to Danielle Howe’s Boss, Terry Edgerton, and Dir. CIS and to Breena Holmes, Dir. MCH.

Snapshot Survey Results to be shared when available.

	<p>changes, possibility Monica Hutt, Comm. DAIL will change.</p>	
<p>Hearing Aid Coverage, Barbara Pine, Legal Aid – guest speaker</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Representation by a Staff Attorney 2. Complaint against BC/BS failing to cover hearing aids – by Antidiscrimination provision of the Affordable Care Act (ACA). 3. Non-hearing impaired individuals are able to obtain BC/BS coverage for habilitative rehabilitative and prosthetic devices. 4. HH individuals are not provided equivalent coverage. 5. Currently Vermont Legal Aid, Inc. represents Rebecca Chalmers, plaintiff. Might have one or two more plaintiffs and one organizational plaintiff. 6. Hope is to file complaint by Mid-March 2017 	<p>Attach – Vermont Legal Aid, Inc. Memorandum</p>
<p>Gap Analysis – What’s Next Monica Hutt</p>	<p><u>Next Steps after the Gap Analysis:</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Each subgroup to restructure their reports to fall into the grid we originally suggested (school age subcommittee already done) 2. Trish to adjust the format for the grid and to resend to subgroups for their work 3. Each subgroup to clearly delineate recommendations and to do some preliminary work on prioritizing those recommendations 4. Council to review each report, as a group, to arrive at consensus on recommendations 5. Use the agreed upon recommendations to chart short term, mid-term and long term goals for the 	<p>Attach - Report – Grid Format</p>

	<p>Council</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 6. Identify any common themes across all four subgroups for advocacy 7. Develop a strategic plan of action with the short, mid and long term goals and common themes 8. Use that strategic plan as a starting point for an introduction to the new Administration 	
<p>Sub-committee Reports</p>	<p>All subgroups are to restructure reports in the grid format.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Birth -3 – process of re-organizing, put report into grid format. • School-Age – determine who will be chair – report completed. • Adults – put report into grid format • Seniors – put report into grid format 	
<p>Letters to the Legislature due January 15, 2017</p>	<p><u>Legislative Reports:</u></p> <p>Small groups to work on the two January 15th reports due- send to the Council by January 5th for final approval at January 10th meeting</p> <p>Global Annual Report: Bill, Linda, Deb, Sharon</p> <p>One Time Interpreter Regulation Report: Keri, Amy, Jen</p>	

<p>Adjourn</p>	<p>Motion to Adjourn– Susan Kimmerly 2nd the motion – Linda Hazard All in favor – all Motion passed</p>	<p>Items attached to minutes –</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Vermont Assistive Technology Program brochure 2. Vermont Legal Aid, Inc. Memorandum 3. Report – Grid Format
<p>Action Items for next meeting.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Review and approve Legislative reports • Check in with Subcommittees about membership and identify/re-appoint chairs • Discuss role of subcommittees and chairs going forward • Discuss the issue of a “hub” to respond to questions about deaf, hard of hearing and deafblind issues and services • Discuss ensuring that minutes are signed and posted appropriately • Review one report: School Age?- to review recommendations and reach Council consensus on recommendations to inform a strategic plan 	<p>Next Scheduled Meetings –</p> <p>Tuesday, January 10th – Waterbury – AHS – WSOC Oak 49 RM A283 Tuesday, March 21st – Waterbury – AHS – WSOC Oak 49 RM A283 Tuesday, May 16th – Waterbury, AHS – WSOC Oak 49 RM A283</p>