

## Healthy Delawareans with Disabilities

Friday, September 9, 2011

10:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon

DelDOT Administration Building, Farmington-Felton Room  
800 Bay Road, Dover, DE, 19903

**In attendance:** Kim Cawley, Beth MacDonald, Eileen Mapes, Lisa Becker, Suzanne Tuthill, Helen E. Arthur, Fred Breukelman, Kyle Hodges, Al Rose, Linda Gottfredson, Dr. Sanjai Rao, Eileen Sparling, Dana Sedlik, Katie Borrás

### Introductions

Approval of Minutes - Minutes of the June meeting were approved.

The group reviewed the Advisory Council Meeting schedule for 2011/2012.

### Domestic Violence Response for Women with Disabilities

Lisa Becker

This project is a 3 year-grant intended to improve services for women with disabilities with domestic violence. It is a collaboration between the Center for Disabilities Studies (CDS), the Coalition Against Domestic Violence, and the National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI).

This project is exploring the intersection of disability, mental illness and domestic violence and conducting a needs assessment to better serve women with disabilities in Delaware.

- Women and men with disabilities, including mental illness, are more vulnerable to violence, assault, sexual abuse and crime;
- Children with disabilities have a higher incidence of sexual abuse;
- Service providers don't always understand or believe reports of abuse and responses are not always appropriate; and
- Service provides don't always understand safety planning.

Lisa Becker will be reaching out for help, especially with the Needs Assessment. Contact Lisa at her email [lbecker@dcadv.org](mailto:lbecker@dcadv.org) if you are interested in participating.

Thanks to Suzanne Tuthill from National Alliance on Mental Illness Delaware (NAMI) for sharing information on this collaboration between CDS and their organizations.

### HDWD Program Updates

#### CDS Needs Assessment

The Center for Disabilities Studies (CDS) and its Community Advisory Council are developing the Center's next five-year plan and would like your input on the status of services and current priorities for people with disabilities in Delaware. CDS has created a needs assessment that will be used to shape the five-year planning process. Please take

a few moments to complete the needs assessment before September 15 by visiting our online survey at <http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/H8HRCMK>.

#### Emergency Preparedness for Individuals with Disabilities

##### ***Emerging Landscapes: The Law Related to People with Disabilities and Emergency Preparedness and Response.***

September is Emergency Preparedness month. On September 21, from 1:00 p.m. -2:15 p.m., a webinar series is being presented with Brian Parsons (Special Advisor in the federal Office of Homeland Security). Brian will explain what individuals with disabilities should know about their civil rights regarding how the government responds to disasters. He will address legal obligations for accessibility in public information, evacuation, transportation, sheltering, supports and services, and community recovery. The presentation will enable participants to develop expectations about what should happen and not happen in an emergency, know how to get involved in community preparedness, and better understand their own responsibility to be prepared. This information will be of interest to individuals with disabilities, family members, care givers, and service providers.

Register now at <https://www2.gotomeeting.com/register/562452778>.

The webinar will also be broadcast live in room 132A at the Center for Disabilities Studies at the University of Delaware, 461 Wyoming Road, Newark, Delaware. If you wish to attend this broadcast, please RSVP to [pguiniva@udel.edu](mailto:pguiniva@udel.edu) by September 19 and provide your name, phone number and any accommodation that you may require.

#### **Family Emergency Preparedness Day**

**Saturday, October 8th, from 10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.**

Agriculture Museum, 866 N. DuPont Highway, Dover

The Delaware Citizen Corps will sponsor its 7th Annual Family Emergency Preparedness Day next month. The day will provide residents with FREE FOOD, free training sessions on citizen emergency readiness, writing a plan and building a kit, emergency preparedness for pets, and preparedness games for kids. Exhibitors, such as Citizen Corps, the Delaware Emergency Management Agency (DEMA), the Medical Reserve Corps, Public Health, the Retired and Senior Volunteer Program (RSVP) and the Red Cross, will distribute materials listing supplies and tips on the key points of a family emergency plan. Local emergency responders, fire trucks, police vehicles, and more will be on hand. Many exhibitors will have interactive displays that all ages can enjoy, and free disaster preparedness/emergency kits will be raffled off. Learn more at the Citizen Corps website, <http://www.delawarecitizencorps.org/>.

#### Inclusion Training for YMCA Sports Directors and Volunteer Coaches

The Developmental Disabilities Council put out a proposal to develop training to facilitate the inclusion of children with disabilities in the sports community. CDS was

awarded this funding and began work on September 1, 2011. There is no current resource for a coach who has an athlete with disabilities. The training would include information on accommodations, resources, documents and/or a reference website and training with sports directors. Dana Sedlik is the graduate research assistant hired to lead this project. Dana can be reached at [dsedlik@udel.edu](mailto:dsedlik@udel.edu).

### **Effective Communication for Health Care Providers: A Guide to Caring for People with Disabilities**

Disability can impact communication. This guide will provide information to help you communicate effectively with your patients with disabilities. Identifying a patient's disability and its potential impact on effective communication is the first step in reducing the risk of miscommunication. The type of disability – whether intellectual, sensory, mobility or mental health – will help determine the kind of accommodation needed. Usually minor accommodations can be made to ensure effective communication. There are many options for auxiliary aids and services to ensure effective communication. Health care providers and their staff can develop skills and acquire tools that will allow them to successfully provide accommodations to patients with disabilities.

Copies of this document can be requested by contacting Eileen Sparling at [sparling@udel.edu](mailto:sparling@udel.edu) or 302-831-8802. This document is also available online at [http://www.gohdwd.org/documents/Effective\\_Communication.pdf](http://www.gohdwd.org/documents/Effective_Communication.pdf)

### **Funding Updates and Opportunities**

- Children with Special Health Care Needs State Implementation Grant: AWARDED
- Dental Capacity for People with Disabilities: AWARDED
  - Preventative dental care will offset costs
- Children with Autism Spectrum Disorders State Planning Grant: AWARDED
  - Develop a plan across the life span; 2 year grant
- YMCA Youth Sports/Volunteer Coaches Inclusion Training (DD Council): AWARDED
  - 1 year; online training
- Lend Grant: DECLINED
  - To establish a curriculum for professionals and students on how to work with children with special health care needs
  - Expectation was the state was ready to go by the time funding was received. Delaware needed about 6 months to get ready.
  - Set up and learning module
- Community Transformation Grants (DPH): PENDING
  - No official news, update on September 15<sup>th</sup>
  - 5 year cooperative grant; competitive
  - Achieving health equity through addressing health disparities

## **HDWD Planning for the Future**

### *Council Review and Discussion*

In our final year, hopefully CDC will be issuing a funding opportunity announcement for renewal (likely to be a 3-year renewal)

- Exit and Sustainability Plan
  - Plan for possibility of no renewal
  - What should we exit? What should we sustain? Input from the Advisory Council was consistent: nothing to exit, everything sustained. This was a vote of confidence but not helpful in setting priorities.
  - Looking at the activities and what was captured from the Council on where this work might go
- Input from AC: What are the priorities?
  - Increase accessibility: problem with health care should be first on the list
  - Not enough psychiatric support for people with mental illnesses
  - Lack of providers, knowledge of providers for people with disabilities
  - Funding for medical support (Medicaid)

## **Updates from Partners**

Linda Gottfredson: Diabetes self-management

- Feedback from providers who care for people with diabetes and disabilities
- Consulting those with diabetes (specifically those with intellectual disabilities)
- Tasks that are more critical to health and tasks that are more difficult to learn are the top priority for instruction

Beth Appenzeller-MacDonald: [beth.macdonald@state.de.us](mailto:beth.macdonald@state.de.us) or 302-223-1355

- Special Needs Alert Program (SNAP) - recognizes children with special healthcare needs for Emergency Medical Services (EMS) providers. It is a pre-hospital notification program for any child who has special emergency care needs. When a child is registered in SNAP, EMS providers are alerted that the call is for a SNAP child. If medical information is available, providers will be able to give appropriate emergency care for the child and reduce the level of stress often experienced by the family when there is an emergency. In the event of a 911 call, the emergency medical service team, together with the family will determine the child's most important needs.

<http://www.dhss.delaware.gov/dph/ems/emscsnap.html>

## **Wrap Up and Adjournment**

**Next Meeting: Friday, December 9, 2011 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.**

Center for Disabilities Studies, 461 Wyoming Road, Newark, DE