



New Jersey Council on Developmental Disabilities

Elaine Buchsbaum *Chair*
Alison M. Lozano, Ph.D., M.P.A.
Executive Director

COUNCIL MEETING

July 24, 2008

A regular public meeting of the New Jersey Council on Developmental Disabilities was held on Thursday July 24, 2008, at the Lafayette Marriott Hotel in Trenton, New Jersey. The meeting was called to order at 10:12 a.m. by Elaine Buchsbaum, Chair, who presided.

The meeting notice was published in the *Newark Star Ledger* and the *Trenton Times*. It was posted on the bulletin board at the Mary Roebling Building on State Street in Trenton.

MINUTES – The minutes from May 22, 2008 were reviewed. There was no quorum during the morning session so the minutes were set aside. During the afternoon session it was declared a quorum and upon motion and seconded the minutes from May 22, 2008 have been approved.

INTRODUCTIONS – Elaine Buchsbaum, Chair

All government agencies, DD Act agency representatives and council staff were thanked for submitting their activity reports in a timely manner for member review. Time allowed for further discussion:

- Division of Disability Services – William Ditto, Director

The Personal Preference Program (NJ Cash and Counseling Program) is in the process of becoming a regular Medicaid service instead of being a federal waiver by expanding services to individuals under the age of 18 who qualify for Medicaid Personal Care Assistance (PCA) Services. Federal approval of this change is expected by August 2008. This information will be sent out to families. The State funded Personal Assistance Services program (PASP) is also changing, Legislation was introduced which will allow the PASP to operate using “cash and counseling”. This change will permit greater consumer control and choice and will make more efficient use of the \$11 million state appropriation for that model. The Division of Disability Services’ (DDS) has recently hired three new Information and Referral Specialists who will be helping to increase the call capacity. This is the first step in the Division of Developmental Disabilities (DDD) case management redesign effort. The referrals will go to the DDS while the application process will fall under the DDD. This process will be very beneficial to families.

- NJ Protection and Advocacy – Joseph Young, Acting Executive Director

The Agency has changed their name to “Disability Rights New Jersey” beginning October 1, 2008 to join in the national association’s recent change to the National Disability Rights Network. This name change will be a clearer statement to the public of the goal of the agency.

- The Boggs Center – Katherine Robinson
 - The Boggs Center conducted the last two sessions of the Spring 2008 Developmental Disabilities Lecture Series in May 2008.
 - The Seventh Annual NJ Self Directed Supports Conference was held on May 10, 2008.
 - Making a Difference: A Direct Support Professional Conference is scheduled for September 25, 2008
 - The Fall 2008 Developmental Disabilities Lecture Series is scheduled for October 3, 10, 24 and November 18. Registration began in August.
- NJ Department of Health and Senior Services – Pauline Lisciotto
 - Effective July 1, 2008 the NJ Early Intervention Service is regionalizing the system for referral. This toll free number replaced the direct referral for early intervention through 21 county numbers. The new number is 1-888-NJEI-INFO, or 1-888-653-4463.

PUBLIC COMMENT – Elaine Buchsbaum

No public comment.

PLANNING COMMITTEE – Ellie Byra and Dennis Rizzo

5-Year Plan Revisions

Discussion

Everyone on the committee was thanked for their assistance with the revisions. Washington has asked that the following categories be included in the State Plan:

- Employment
- Education
- Housing
- Health
- Transportation.

Upon committee discussion, the revised plan is now being presented to the Council for review and approval. A Statement of Principals was created to streamline individuality because several projects have similar outcomes.

Action:

A motion was made to approve the revised State Plan and was seconded. Motion approved with no abstentions and none opposed.

A MOTION WAS MADE TO GO INTO CLOSED SESSION. Seconded and approved.

A MOTION WAS MADE TO COME OUT OF CLOSED SESSION. Seconded and approved.

GRANTS COMMITTEE – Purnima Hernandez and Dennis

Discussion

A Powerpoint presentation was used to give specific detail to the committee's task of choosing which proposal to recommend to the Council. Several proposals didn't have quarterly outcomes, some didn't encourage collaborations and those are just some of the factors that the members asked themselves. If the project can be completed in one year? There were 25 proposals and of them, 11 were recommended to the Council for funding. Below are the 11 grant requests that were reviewed and approved:

- **Ageing Well** – implementing a Train The Trainers program for DSP's was approved for \$28,000;
- **Point Breeze Horticulture Project** – assisting 12 consumers in developing a horticulture business that they will own and operate was approved for \$93,000;
- **Job Creation in the Visual Arts for PWDD** – aims to create an income stream for persons with DD by selling images of their artwork on the retail market to foundations, corporations, local boutiques and card stores was approved for \$42,420;
- **Reducing DSP Turnover in NJ** – this is the second year and was approved for \$84,740;
- **Promoting College for Youth with Developmental Disabilities** – to further establish college as a viable option for youth (18-25) in NJ and enable them to further their education was approved for \$66,500;
- **Get Fit** – a two pronged approach to promote early detection of health issues was approved for \$32,000;
- **Promoting Inclusion by Using Quality Indicators** – this is the second year and was approved for \$28,000;
- **School Facility Design Guidelines for Inclusion** – this is the second year and was approved for \$82,775;
- **Employment Plus Project** – this is the second year and was approved for \$39,200;
- **Emergency Preparedness Project** – this is the second year and was approved for \$28,500, and;
- **The Outreach Life Safety Project** - is focused on using an emergency management tool to reach out to and engage older adult parents and their adult children living in their homes, was approved for \$25,000.

The committee was thanked for their participation.

OTHER BUSINESS

The Education Task Force has created a document regarding advice on out of district placement for the Council to review and consider. After discussion it was requested to include the Education Law Center and the formerly named NJ Protection and Advocacy as other resources. The title of the document was also discussed as it does not match the body of the document. This information will be addressed during the next Education Task Force meeting.

David Tag commented about a comment made by Michael Savage regarding autism. He would like to send a letter to the organization because he was offended by the comment. It was suggested to go on the website of the commentator to post his comment.

During the May Council meeting, nominations for Council Vice-Chair and 2 at Large members were requested. The voting will be held during the September 25, 2008 meeting.

Council Staff offices have moved from the 7th floor to the 6th floor of the Mary Roebing Building. All contact numbers remain the same.

ADJOURNED – 1:21 p.m.

Upon motion, seconded and carried.

DISTRIBUTED FOR INFORMATION

May 22, 2008 Meeting Minutes
 Administrative Budget
 The Elizabeth M. Boggs Center on Developmental Disabilities Report
 NJ Department of Health and Senior Services
 NJ Protection and Advocacy, Inc.
 NJ Division of Disability Services
 Out of District Issues document

ATTENDANCE:

Self Advocates, Family Members & Guests

Elaine Buchsbaum, Chair	Kysee A. Baw
Lorraine D'Sylva-Lee, Vice-Chair	Christopher Miller
Purnima Hernandez	Karen Kircher
Larry Jones	Lowell Arye
Ellie Byra	Ellen Dionisio
David Tag	Jillion Hudspeth
Carolyn Hayer/no show	Eric Joice
Gary Rubin/no show	Robin Sims
Mercedes Jimenez-Ramirez	Cindy Bartman
Jennifer DeMauro/no show	Alison Malnak
Donna Holden, Sign Language Interpreter	Mary Keublen and Bill Hahns

DD Act Agencies Representatives

Katherine Robeson, Representing The Boggs Center
 Joseph Young, Acting Executive Director, NJ Protection and Advocacy, Inc.

Government Agencies

William Ditto, Director, Division of Disability Services
 Kenneth Ritchey, Assistant Commissioner, Division of Developmental Disabilities
 Pauline Lisciotto, NJ Dept. of Health and Senior Services

Public Member

Frank Caragher, ARC of Union County

Staff

Alison M. Lozano, Ph.D., M.P.A., Executive Director
 Doug McGruther, Deputy Director
 Gail Furrer
 Jacinta Williams
 Pat Krupka
 Sharian Mackins-Gist
 Norman Reim
 Dennis Rizzo