

**OCDD Council Meeting
Mill Creek Inn, Salem
December 18, 2009
Approved MINUTES**

Members present: Kathy, Debra, Gayle, Tom, Mar, Julia, Barbara, Marcie, Ione, Kim, Corissa, Sally, Becky, Jan, Kristi, Eddie.

Guest: Marilyn, Sherri, Julie, Mary Lee Fay, Mike Maley, Sara Jane Owens, Angie Eberhart

Staff: Bill, Kathryn, Laura, Judy, Yoshi, Cynthia, Carol, Becky

Welcome, Introductions, Celebrations & Announcements

- Chair Mar Goodman welcomed new Council member, Eddie Plourde (self advocate), and applicants Julie Sanchez (self advocate), Sherri Osburn (self advocate), and Marilyn Hartzell (agency representative, Child Development and Rehabilitation Center, OHSU).
- Oregon Technical Assistance Corporation (OTAC) celebrated its 25th anniversary yesterday.

Business Items

- Approve September 2009 meeting minutes: Kathy Drew moved that the minutes be approved, Julia seconded the motion. Motion approved. Kristi, Corissa, and Eddie abstained.
- Financial Report: The report was reviewed and accepted.
- Approve draft Program Performance Report 2009: Sample data and narrative sections of the report were reviewed. The report is due December 31. Kim moved, Eddie seconded to approve the draft report.
- 2010 Council meeting schedule changes: Because of state furlough days, we need to make adjustments to our meeting dates. Council members confirmed the following dates (all on a Friday except the retreat): March 5, June 11, September 14-15 (retreat), and December 17.

Reports from Areas of Emphasis Workgroups

- Group A: Debra - The Council often played a mediator role on advisory group considering controversial changes to state contracts set-aside program. School for the Blind closure controversy: school had not been accredited for 25 years and

- buildings needed lots of repair. Fund established for community school services to students with visual impairments. Fairview Trust fund at risk of being cut or eliminated.
- Group B: Need to stay focused on health services and development of Oregon Health Authority as it splits off from DHS. Recreation should be viewed as being part of the world, fostering social engagement/relationships, health benefits. Look into and try to spread best practice in schools and special rec programs. Need to inform families about changes to abuse rule and definitions.
 - Group C: Reviewed QA section of 5 Year Plan. Discussed State's role in protecting people from abuse in their own home or family home. State should do training/information dissemination about changes in the law and how to comply. State is revising rules related to abuse. Criminal history checks even for family members who are paid. No exceptions for different cultural practices within the family home, so education is important. Request that Council members receive information about new abuse initiatives/rules. We will commit to working with the state on educating families and providing them with the services, supports and technology they need to keep family members safe within the limits of the abuse law. Consider prioritizing applications to the Fairview Trust that would help families avoid violations of abuse law by making modifications to keep family members safe. Could Council develop FAQ document related to issues such as what to do instead of locking a bedroom door? State has training on using safe restraints when necessary. Behavior plans can protect family from breaking the law.

Executive Committee & Chair's Report

Mar reviewed the Executive Committee meeting minutes, which were include in the packets. She also updated the Council on her son's transition from school.

Director's Report

- Bill suggested that the Council take an official position on proposed cuts to the Fairview Community Housing Trust Fund. It is not General Fund and should never have been on the cut list. Such a vote would aid Council staff in their advocacy on this issue during the February legislative session. Eddie moved,

- Debra seconded that the Council go on record as opposing cuts to the Trust Fund. Motion passed.
- Rep. Sara Gelser was nominated by President Obama to the National Council on Disability, which advises the White House on disability policy.
 - A federal bill that would regulate the use of seclusion and restraints in schools was introduced. Sharon Lewis, former PIP grad and OCDD contractor, had a major hand in drafting the legislation.
 - Bill also handed out a written report.

Presentation on State Employment First Policy

Mary Lee Fay and Mike Maley from the Office of DD Services presented on the following:

- EOTC closed. Staff felt they had completed their job, which was to move people into the community. Some staff went on to create employment and foster services for former residents.
- Policy decisions today should not distract us from our state vision for employment. All working age adults should be considering employment before anything else other than residential services. Last June we had reductions in family support and \$7 million reduction in employment and community inclusion. Tried to manage by delaying enrollments and through absences, but had increase in cost and case loads. Will need to make cuts in employment and community inclusion. Meeting Monday with staff and advocates, including Council, to go over the cuts.
- Mike reviewed the Employment First Policy. This was years in the making. Oregon was a national leader, but more recently we've been moving in the wrong direction. Council staff helped push this issue by forming the DD Employment Task Force. Similar dialogue was happening around the nation. Decided the first place to start is having a state level policy statement. First page says why it's important. The message between the lines is: There are limits to what the state can afford to do to support desired lifestyles, which is why work is important. On second page, note the word "integrated" – where people will have the best chance of quality outcomes, e.g., wages, social benefits, etc. 60% coming into DD services are children, so policy is important to get ahead of new generation of working age adults.

- Implementation will include skill training and awareness. \$75,000 from MIG grant will be used for training, developing tools for case managers and personal agents, and building awareness among all stakeholders at regional forums.
- Collecting data on employment outcomes for people in support services. About 3,800 in Comprehensive Services getting employment services. The state can only do so much to produce employment outcomes. This is a “we” thing – we need to work collectively. Eddie asked if self advocates will be part of this effort. Mary Lee Fay asked that SAAL do training to raise awareness that people be looking at the employment option. Kim asked how we can keep people motivated when the ongoing supports aren’t there. Answer: Creativity is essential. Keep momentum through these tough times toward our vision for employment. Build the business case. Ione asked how to build expectations in young students. Answer: Some of the training referenced above could address this issue. Earnings can give people the choice to improve their lifestyles on their own. Offsets issue addressed through Employed Persons with Disabilities Program. Work with benefit planners at DRO and Work Incentives Network (WIN) to maximize benefits and wages. Will there be training for providers, etc., to motivate people who don’t choose to work? ReBAR is addressing what the state’s obligation should be to support someone who chooses not to work. Policy allows for a balance of work and social/recreational activity. The goal of services is a meaningful life.
 - State level discussions are taking place about roles/responsibilities related to transition. Two meetings have been held. Need to understand what the school’s responsibility is so brokerages can add to their efforts but not supplant. VR and Oregon Department of Education reps will be brought onto SIG to broaden the discussion.

Agency Hot Topics

- Marcie Ingledue, The Arc of Oregon. The Arc US has a new executive director and he’s reaching out to corporations. Wal-Mart partnership resulted in \$3 million in grants for state projects to assist with high school transition to community. 50

grants of various sizes will be given; requires match of dollars or in-kind contribution. 1-3 years. FACT, DRO, OCDD, OHSU/OIDD are partners on grant application. OVRS, ODE have been approached. If funded, will offer intense training based on PIP model. Plan to pilot it in Portland metro area – also asking ODE about possible locations. Must be sustainable. Going for \$100k with \$100k match. Begin training next year. Application due in January. Kathy suggested pilots in large, medium and small communities.

- Lone, Provider Representative – Providers are focused on passage of ballot measures during January election. Measures uphold tax increases passed by the legislature to fill budget hole. ORA has produced lawn signs and other voter education materials. If the measures go down, could lead to total cut in employment and community inclusion services.
- Barbara, Creative Supports Inc. – Brokerage support services may be shut down if measures do not pass.
- Julia, DRO – DRO investigated Mt. Bachelor Academy, a program for youth with behavioral challenges. Program has since closed.
- Debra, UO - EARLY program (Early Autism Research and Learning in the Young) educates their students about autism.
- Corissa, SPD – Amending all program rules to conform to changes in abuse rule with the passage of HB 2442; emergency temporary rules went into effect January 1. Reorganizing in Office of DD Services. Corissa is taking lead in field operations for support services. Mike taking lead on larger operations, systems, budgeting role. Development team to meet complex needs of people coming into system. Looking at doing better job of addressing crisis proactively.
- Marilyn, Maternal & Child Health Program/CDRC, OSU – Title V programs for children with special health care needs were trimmed because of budget issues, but still running effectively, including public health nurses and outreach to families.

Committee Reports

Communications & Outreach – Kristi, Vice Chair

- We are producing a special issue of *Oregon Perspectives* on the Fairview Community Housing Trust Funds. Will use this

- issue as an advocacy tool to prevent legislators from taking money from the trust to help balance the budget.
- Committee minutes with details about the rest of the meeting were made available.

Self-Advocacy – Jan Staehely, Chair

- Welcomed Eddie and Sherri and took time to learn more about them. Talked about the employment first policy. Suggested a couple names for the DD Champion award.

Family Issues –

- Discussed nominees for DD Champion Award in February. Discussion about grant application and curriculum for The Arc transition grant.

Policy – Julia Greenfield, Chair

- The committee met Nov. 20, began updating OCDD Employment Policy statement. Will bring draft to full Council at future meeting now that we have had a presentation about the direction the state is taking.

Public Comment Period and Good of the Order

- No public comments were offered.
- Meeting every three months seems like a long time between meetings.
- Julia is taking a 5-6 month leave from her job and the Council to spend family time to get better understanding of daughter's needs. Bill suggested Julia turn to family members of staff and Council for advice during her leave.
- Council members wanting a list of potential budget cuts should read the latest GO! Bulletin.
- SAAL is working on bylaws so they can become non-profit. Changed the name of *People First Connection* magazine to *SAAL Connection*.
- Wish we had more chat time, less presentation.
- Don't forget to vote in January.
- Stand for Children is a good organization to partner with.
- Marilyn has been at CDRC for 22 years. Has son with special health care needs who is graduating from college. Adopted daughter from China with attention deficit disorder.
- Appreciate staff taking furloughs.