



**BEHAVIORAL HEALTH AND
IDD COMMITTEE**

Friday,

October 29, 2021

11 AM – 12 PM

3839 North 3rd Street, Suite 306, Phoenix, Arizona 85012

DRAFT MINUTES

The Behavioral Health and IDD Committee meeting of the Arizona Developmental Disabilities Planning Council (ADDPC) was convened Monday, October 29, 2021 via Google Meets (virtual). Notice having been duly given. Present and absent were the following members of the ADDPC.

Members Present	
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Scott Lindbloom, Chairperson, Telephone	Benjamin Kauffman - AHCCS
Melissa Van Hook- ADDPC Chair	Asim Dietrich – ACDL
Ebony Atkinson – DDD LEAD ADVOC	Sarah Ruf - Lifewell
Kelly Carbello	

Staff	Guests
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Erica McFadden, Executive Director Jason Snead, Staff	
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A. Call to Order/Welcome

Chairperson Scott Lindbloom welcomed everyone to the Arizona Developmental Disabilities Planning Council (ADDPC or Council) Behavioral Health and IDD Committee meeting. The meeting was called to order at 11:05 A.M. Roll call and participant introductions were completed.

**B. Discussion involving an Individual
with Behavioral Health Needs.**

Erica McFadden started by saying we have tried to address Behavioral Health and IDD issues in the past, but it has been a struggle. It was in our last Five-Year Plan and we're hoping that the integration of the healthcare system would help but there has not been as much progress as we hoped.

We have been working closely with Jon Myers and Cynthia Macluskie to address gaps in the system, but we continue to get calls about interactions with the police. The most recent one we had was involving a parent not being able to get the proper supports for her son, and they had about six interactions with the police over a 4-to-6-month period. These are not isolated incidents. The healthcare integration did not include crisis intervention which is one of the biggest areas of concern. What is happening is that crisis care is being delivered by a separate plan provided by Mercy Care, Health Choice, or AZ Complete Care. If a person receives services each of the healthcare plans are supposed to be communicating with each other. However, this is not always happening and is creating gaps in the system. A perfect example this is we had one of the justice liaisons from DDD and say that there have been only 29 incidences over the past year however we know that that information is false. Erica McFadden mentioned maybe putting together resource for families to explain what to do in situations like the one up above. Sometimes the crisis service helplines do not know what to do and the police do not know to do.

Melissa Van Hook mentioned that she had been on all those calls with Erica, and she saw the video where the officer said that suicide is not a crime (which is correct). She also mentioned another call that she took dealing with some of the same issues. Also mentioned training for police, however police retention is difficult right now.

C. Issues

Some issues are mentioned up above

Kelly Carbello mentioned that the lack of follow-up has been issued for many years. Kelly also mentioned that used to be illegal (now because of the recent change in the law is no longer illegal). Also, she mentioned Sabrina Taylor who does a lot of work in the autism community.

Scott Lindbloom mentioned putting behavioral health back into Department of Economic Security (DES) as well as collaboration being the key.

Ebony Atkinson mentioned that there is a huge behavioral health in general. One of the issues is that people believed that DDD provides behavioral health services which is completely understandable because in access policy it says that they do, however that is contracted out to different companies. So that legal language needs to change. Secondly some facilities that do inpatient services are not

equipped to handle IDD individuals which is frustrating. Aurora Health and Haven do provide services for individuals. You cannot just have a relative with IDD issues and think you are an expert.

Sarah Ruf mentioned that Lifewell has over 7000 clients in Maricopa County, 80% of them have a diagnosis of Severe Mental Illness (SMI). They do not provide crisis care however some major players in the field are Terros Health and Soleri. Also mentioned the CIT international conference, issues related to communication and knowledge of resources.

Ebony mentioned that CIT training might not be inclusive of individuals with IDD. Sometimes the police have a difficult time ascertaining the individual has IDD or is on drugs. There is a lack of collaboration and communication between agencies.

Kelly was involved in a project called David Hope which work with people and police at the same time. One of the problems was you had to go precinct by precinct.

Asim Dietrich as far as CIT we have seen our calls that is not just about CIT training is about the cultural of policing. From his perspective police should be removed from any mental health crisis that does not involve a weapon or any type of behavior. Police often focus on compliance rather than quality of care.

Erica McFadden mentioned that the director of DDD said that Mercy Care does not send reports about their members however when you talk to Mercy Care they say they send daily reports. There is a huge communication gap somewhere. The healthcare plans are basically asked to police themselves.

Erica asked where do we focus our efforts to make the biggest difference?

Asim mentioned that he has a client who calls the crisis line often and the healthcare plan I should put them on a calling plan, which is unacceptable. People are being denied access to that crisis line based on the discretion of the health plan.

D. Brainstorm

Erica McFadden mentioned changing state statute so that the please don't have to transport somebody on a 5150 hold. Also mentioned creating a behavioral health brief, hopefully to look over by the next meeting. Lastly putting out something for families and individuals as a resource. (DDD)

E. Scheduled Next Meeting

December 15, 2021 at 11 AM.

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F. Announcements

No announcements

G. Call to the public

No public

H. Adjourn

Meeting adjourned

Dated November 2, 2021
Arizona Developmental Disabilities Planning Council (ADDPC)