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Telephone: 608-266-9354
Website: dhs.wisconsin.gov/gcpd

State of Wisconsin

Governor's Committee for People with Disabilities

Governor's Committee for People with Disabilities (GCPD) Executive Committee Teleconference Meeting Minutes

Thursday, June 10, 2021
1:00 P.M. to 2:00 P.M.

APPROVED 6-24-21.

Executive Committee Action and Motion Items

A. Executive Committee Action Items

1. **Action Item:** Ashlie Dowdell stated she would discuss GCPD's recommendations with Dr. Ryan Westergaard, Chief Medical Officer and State Epidemiologist, and any feedback/recommendations on next steps will be sent to GCPD's Executive Committee via Amber Mullett or Lisa Sobczyk.
2. **Action Item:** DHS support staff will email key points discussed and any relevant recommendations from previous GCPD letters to Margaret Kristen on how to improve the Medicaid home and community-based service system.
3. **Action Item:** David Morstad will revise the GCPD Voting Restrictions letter so that it can be finalized at the next GCPD Executive Committee meeting on June 24, 2021. Rhonda Staats and Ramsey Lee will assist with updating the draft letter.
4. **Action Item:** DHS support staff will email calendar invites for weekly GCPD Executive Committee meetings for July and August 2021.

B. Executive Committee Motion Items

1. **Motion Item:** Ben Barrett made a motion approve the amended June 10, 2021 Executive Committee meeting agenda. Rhonda Staats seconded the. Motion carried.
2. **Motion Item:** Margaret Kristan made a motion to approve the June 3, 2021 Executive Committee meeting minutes. Rhonda Staats seconded the motion. Motion carried.
3. **Motion Item:** Ben Barrett made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Rhonda Staats seconded the motion. Motion carried.



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C. Executive Committee Meeting Minutes

I. Welcome and Introductions, David Morstad, Chairperson

Executive committee members present: David Morstad; Margaret Kristan; Tom O'Connor; Rhonda Staats; and Ben Barrett.

Executive committee members absent (excused*): Tom O'Connor*.

Guests: Ramsey Lee, Member-at-Large, GCPD; Jeff Fox, Member, Council on Physical Disabilities; Daniel Idzikowski, Member-at-Large, GCPD; and Ashlie Dowdell, Director of Healthcare-Associated Infections (HAI) Prevention Program, Division of Public Health, Department of Health Services (DHS).

DHS staff support present: Ashley Walker, DHS, Bureau of Aging and Disability Resource (BADR); Monica Smith, DHS, BADR; and Lisa Sobczyk, DHS, BADR.

II. David Morstad, Chairperson called the meeting to order at 1:01 P.M.

The meeting was made available via phone at 1-844-708-2569 with Meeting ID: 834 0611 7182 and via [Zoom](#).

III. Review and Approve June 10, 2021 Executive Committee Meeting Agenda

- Ben Barrett made a motion approve the June 10, 2021 Executive Committee meeting agenda. Rhonda Staats seconded the motion.
 - Discussion was had and it was requested that *Discuss American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) Funding* be added as agenda item VI.
 - Ben Barrett made a motion to approve the agenda as amended. Rhonda Staats seconded the motion to approve the agenda as amended. Motion carried. See Motion Item 1.



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IV. Review and Approve June 3, 2021 Executive Committee Meeting Minutes

- Margaret Kristan made a motion to approve the June 3, 2021 Executive Committee meeting minutes. Rhonda Staats seconded the motion. Motion carried. See Motion Item 2.

V. Public Comment on Issues Affecting People with Disabilities

- Ramsey Lee stated that he attended the Disability Work Coalition Meeting to discuss the voting bills and how they would negatively affect people with disabilities. Ramsey Lee also spoke about concerns with losing federal funding for Special Education in schools.

VI. Discuss COVID-19 and GCPD Policy Recommendations

- ***COVID-19 Consumer Survey Results***
 - ***Discuss Feedback and Next Steps from Survey Data and Executive Summary Distribution to Stakeholders and Partners***
 - Ashlie Dowdell, Director of Healthcare-Associated Infections (HAI) Prevention Program, spoke in response to the COVID-19 Consumer Survey Results and Executive Summary, highlighting some key points and thoughts:
 - COVID-19 protocols were not intending to limit anyone's rights in a health care setting during the pandemic.
 - Proactive thought needs to be given to accommodations; directly communicating with providers about what was learned during the pandemic and information about the rights of people with disabilities need to be given upfront.



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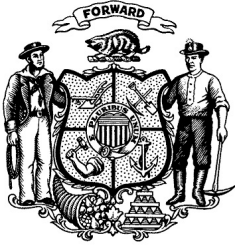
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- The DHS After Action Report related to the pandemic needs to incorporate GCPD's recommendations to ensure that the rights of people with disabilities are not violated in the future.
 - Ashlie Dowdell stated she would discuss GCPD's recommendations with Dr. Ryan Westergaard, Chief Medical Officer and State Epidemiologist, and any feedback/recommendations on next steps will be sent to GCPD's Executive Committee via Amber Mullett or Lisa Sobczyk. See Action Item 1.
 - **2021 Advancing States Collaborative Workshop Presentation**
 - Margaret Kristin stated that she will be submitting a proposal for a workshop at the 2021 Advancing States Conference; which is due June 15, 2021.

VII. Discuss American Rescue Plan Act Funding

- Margaret Kristan shared that an email was received from Curtis Cunningham, Division of Medicaid Services, regarding funding opportunities available through the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA); which has a goal to improve the Medicaid home and community-based service system.
 - Curtis Cunningham requested ideas and insight from GCPD in regards to how to spend the ARPA funding, and scheduled a call for Friday, June 11, 2021 from 1:00-2:30 P.M. for stakeholders to discuss ideas. Margaret Kristan stated she would be available to be on the call.
 - The Executive Committee discussed possible key points and ideas for ARPA funding:



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- Expanding Mental Health services; current issues with social isolation and ongoing Mental Health service shortages.
 - Training youth in transition for the caregiver field of employment; mentoring or training program.
 - Issues with overall caregiver shortages and the need to fund better training programs, paid sick time, employment incentives and hazard pay. Increase Medicaid reimbursements rates for personal care.
 - Promote an increased capitation rate for non-nursing home care for providers to encourage them to continue to provide people with physical disabilities who have complex needs can be served in the community.
 - Transportation- separation of MA funded transportation and regular transportation.
 - The MAPP expansion and cliff benefit for people with disabilities who work is too steep; needs to be more gradual asset limit and increased payments for MAPP benefits.
- DHS support staff will email key points discussed and any relevant recommendations from previous GCPD letters to Margaret Kristen on how to improve the Medicaid home and community-based service system. See Action Item 2.

VIII. Discuss Draft of GCPD Voting Restrictions Letter

- The Executive Committee discussed additional updates from legislation regarding voting restrictions and the GCPD stance of opposition to the changes impact people with disabilities.
 - David Morstad will revise the GCPD Voting Restrictions letter so that it can be finalized at the next GCPD Executive Committee meeting on June 24, 2021. Rhonda Staats and Ramsey Lee will assist with updating the draft letter. See Action Item 3.



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IX. Discuss Medical Transportation in Wisconsin

- The Executive Committee discussed the Non-Emergency Medical Transportation (NEMT) contract being awarded to a new provider in Wisconsin; and not having a lot of information about the new provider as of yet due to the contract not being effective until July 1, 2021.
 - The Executive Committee discussed having the new NEMT Provider present at an upcoming GCPD Bi-Monthly meeting; and learning more about having consumer presence at the NEMT Advisory Committee.

X. Discuss GCPD Website

- The Executive Committee discussed the GCPD website content and will have it listed as an Agenda Item on the upcoming Bi-Monthly meeting on June 16, 2021 for full Committee feedback.

XI. Discuss Council on Physical Disabilities Emergency Preparedness Communication Folder

- The Executive Committee did not get to this agenda item.

XII. Draft Agenda for June 24, 2021 GCPD Executive Committee Meeting

- The Executive Committee discussed the following items for the June 24, Executive Committee Meeting:
- COVID-19 and GCPD Policy Recommendations
 - COVID-19 Consumer Survey Results
 - Discuss Feedback and Next Steps from Survey Data and Executive Summary Distribution to Stakeholders and Partners
 - 2021 Advancing States Collaborative Workshop Presentation
- Discuss Feedback from June 16, 2021 GCPD Bi-Monthly Meeting
- Discuss Draft of GCPD Voting Restrictions Letter
- Discuss Feedback from American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) Funding



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- Discuss Council on Physical Disabilities Emergency Preparedness Communication Folder
- Draft Agenda for July 1, 2021 GCPD Executive Committee Meeting
- Adjourn

XIII. Discuss Schedule for GCPD Executive Committee Meetings

- The Executive Committee discussed and agreed to meeting weekly through the end of August 2021; and re-evaluating the need for weekly meetings in September 2021.
 - DHS support staff will email calendar invites for weekly GCPD Executive Committee meetings for July and August 2021. See Action Item 4.

XIV. Adjourn

- Ben Barrett made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Rhonda Staats seconded the motion. Motion carried. See Motion Item 3.

Meeting adjourned at 2:04 P.M.