

Meeting Notes
Thursday, February 9, 2012
10:00 – 11:00 a.m.



Online via GoToMeeting

Council Members

Erin Drinnin
Meredith Field
Di Findley
Linda Matkovich
Ann Reilly
Lin Salasberry
Marilyn Stille
Anthony Wells
Greg DeMoss
Susan Odell

Guests

Connie Benton
Steve Habenicht
Bill Nutty

Staff

Jerry Addy
Stacie Bendixen
Jennifer Furler
Michelle Rich

Review of Advisory Council Final Report

Jennifer Furler led the group in a review of a draft of the Direct Care Worker Advisory Council's final report, which is due March 1, 2012. This is a compilation of the Council's recommendations and the progress on implementation. The executive summary and some transitional pieces will still be added. Discussion notes follow:

- The beginning is intended to be somewhat repetitive; the executive summary needs to be able to be a stand-alone document, but the introduction can be streamlined.
- The benefit of the portability of credentials could be emphasized more.
- The statement about standard models where only one curriculum will be approved by the board was unclear to some. It means there is only one curriculum everyone must use. The competency-based modules can have different curriculums approved that meet those competencies. Some thought this wording was confusing.
- Individuals' homes should be listed under Community Residential Settings.
- In the Career Pathways section, it was asked if this report will address estimated costs and who will be paying for credentialing. That is not addressed here, partly because IDPH is still working on long-term budgeting for the board of direct care professionals. IDPH is looking closely at what the true costs will be and carefully balancing them with the priority of the Council not to put undue burdens on the workforce. The goal with long-term budgeting is to make the board self-sustaining like other boards.
- Training Delivery and Instructors section: Do instructors need to renew their instructor certification? Yes, that is specified under continuing education. Continuing education for instructors will mostly consist of updates to the curriculum.
- Can DCPs become trained to instruct the curriculum? Yes, one of the qualifications to be an instructor is earning the DCP credential. It was suggested to emphasize the fact that DCPs can become instructors as something new and exciting, and perhaps feature that in the introduction – DCPs will have the opportunity to instruct their peers.
- Continuing Education section: Specify that this is about continuing education for DCPs (requirements for instructors are on the Instructors page). Note that the board will establish instructor continuing education requirements.

- The wording “continuing education providers will not be approved” is confusing. Clarify with something like “The board will not approve specific providers.”
- “Special circumstances” related to exemptions to continuing education requirements might include military service, disability, health issues, family issues, etc. DCPs can request an exemption from the board; clarify that a DCP has to apply for the exemption.
- Board of Direct Care Professionals section: It has been suggested before that the seats on the board for members of the public be specifically reserved for people who work with people with disabilities. A specification that the Council wants consumers represented on the board can be added, but it should not be made too restrictive, perhaps with examples, such as consumers in the areas of disabilities or aging. The intention with the members of the public on a board is that the public is a consumer; their role on the board is to bring the consumer’s perspective so it is not made up entirely of insiders.
- The dollar value of the federal grant for the pilot project should be stated.
- Specify what kinds of background checks are involved (state, federal, criminal, sex offender, etc.).

The Council’s charge is through March 1, 2012, so there are no mandated reports beyond that unless the Legislature requires them. Erin Drinnin at IDPH reports on the pilot to the federal agency because the pilot is funded through a federal grant. Data on the pilot will be collected on a monthly basis as part of an ongoing evaluation process.

Upcoming Meetings:

Thursday, March 8, 2012

Thursday, June 14, 2012