

Mill Levy Advisory Council, BCHS

Monday, June 17th, 2024

5:00 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.

Meeting Minutes

ADA statement

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Advisory Council Members in Attendance: Niccolle Mascarnas, Jolie Bernstein, Heidi Que, Teresa Greene, Annette Treufeldt, Julie Marshall

Absent: Robert Enderson, Deana Cairo

Boulder County Employees: Rebecca Seiden, IDD Mill Levy Program Coordinator & Ally Joel, IDD Mill Levy Program Specialist

Meeting

Meeting was held through Microsoft Teams and in person at !1333 Iris Norton Conference Room. No Public Comments were scheduled.

Approval of Minutes

No approval – will approve May and June minutes at July IDDAC meeting

Imagine! Updates

Kathryn Arbour & Barb Wilkins-Crowder

Case Management Redesign (CMRD)

Imagine! is in the last six weeks of Phase Three transition of its case management operations as roughly 130 employees plan to merge with Adult Care Management, Inc. (ACMI) to form A&I Avenues. Our weekly meetings with HCPF include a review of all 10 disabilities waivers, discussions of systems and conversations of emails and other critical data, client lists as the comings and goings throughout the State continue to change membership in each CMA, and deliverables expected from the new FY 25 contract which will be signed in June.

The Colorado legislature included a request for stabilization funds from HCPF to be delivered to those CMAs that have already transitioned and to reserve some funds for those transitioning on July 1. The Governor signed the request and communications went out recently regarding their formula for determining the amount of funds that will be distributed. HCPF is basing the amount on the percentage of Members served by Medicaid waivers in the designed service area. It is expected that these funds, which will be issued as State-granted funds and not as part of the contracts CMAs have with HCPF, will be used to help mitigate the many issues that have transpired as a result of “the perfect storm” of many converging events, most of which are outside the control of any individual CMA or transitioning CMA. A reminder of the factors contributing to this environment of great instability:

- The unwind of the public health emergency (PHE) which began officially last May and went into effect in November.
- The care and case management system (CCM) which HCPF launched last summer has encountered multiple difficulties.
- Staffing, which includes challenges attracting and retaining candidates across the sector.

The A&I Avenues leadership team comprised of the CEO of Imagine!, the Executive Director of ACMI, the Director and Assistant Director of Client Relations at Imagine! and the Assistant Director of Case Management at ACMI continue to work together to provide regular communications and team building events to help employees of both organizations stay on top of the many changes in motion and to integrate with each other as a team. No layoffs have occurred as during this time of joining the two case management teams. Offer letters have been sent and everyone has accepted the invitation officially to join A&I Avenues effective July 1.

Case Management Specifics

Our work is on track to implement the new CMA serving Service Area 8 (Boulder, Broomfield, Gilpin counties). We have many details already completed or in the

final stages of completion, in addition to the offer letters distributed and accepted, including the following:

- Completing the compensation design and the outlines of a new performance management approach.
- Planning for data and equipment transfer to ensure employees will have seamless access to their case information and other critical details for successful day-to-day operations in time for the go live date of July 1.
- Communicating the alignment of health benefits and other perks to create a single menu for employees.
- Finalizing the internal organizational structure and business process design.
- Deciding the final plan for distributing Business Office staff to the CMA and to the PASA to ensure continuity for those businesses. The CMA is in the process of hiring a Controller to oversee its financial operations.

The joint CMA subcommittee comprised of Board members from both ACMI and Imagine! are mapping plans for the transition of governance as the newly forming CMA moves towards implementation. For example, new Articles of Incorporation and Bylaws have been drafted to represent A & I Avenues.

Provider Agency

Jodi Walters, the newly hired CEO of Imagine!, joins the agency officially on May 31. She and I have been meeting regularly regarding transition related matters and to ensure a smooth handoff. Jodi has prepared her first “hello” video for Imagine! which you can see at

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2YLpaHqLC9A&t=600s> to get an early glimpse of Jodi and some of her priorities and favorite things.

Other headlines regarding the transition underway:

As a result of the impending transition, separating the direct services provided by Imagine! from the case management and care coordination services, The Board of

Directors (BOD) is determining a distribution of assets to each agency going forward. In April, the BOD approved the transfer of the deed for 1665 Coal Creek Drive as the headquarters for the new case management agency, A&I Avenues. The building at 1400 Dixon remains with Imagine! and will serve as its headquarters and transfer hub for clients as they gather to be transported to community-based services. Mental health and behavioral health services will remain at Dixon as will some programming for School Age Services and Adult Community Based programs as needed. Details regarding the move are being prepared and a timeline of related work and upgrades will be distributed to staff shortly. Most of the primary upgrades and moving related business will be completed by July 1. Some work will continue over the summer, but employees and services will be relocated to their respective new headquarters in time for the start of the new fiscal year, July 1.

The Present

We stay focused on day-to-day operations while building this future state. With the coming of the warm weather, watch for summer arts nights in Lafayette and Longmont featuring the artwork of Imagine! clients for viewing and purchasing. To find dates and locations please visit <https://imaginecolorado.org/blog/Good-News-Friday-5-10-2024>.

Thank you for your support and the work you do in support of people with intellectual and developmental disabilities.

Colorado Disability Law Center Report Out

Heidi Que, Council Member

Called 2-3 times, finally was able to leave a voice message. Sent an email.

Trainings report out: How to be a good tenant & How to be involved in the IEP process as a student

Teresa Greene, Council Member

Will share trainings once she has the trainings ready

IDD Mill Levy RFP Awards & Updates

Rebecca Seiden, Staff Liaison

- List RFP scoring team.
- Direct Services - 7 agencies responded. Total amount 4,280,341.19; well over as total budget.
- Did not have as many applicants as we thought we would.
- Allocation 2.8 million. 3 out of 7 we decided not to fund for one reason or another and tried to grant meaningful minimum

Direct Services

- **CPWD**: awarded \$77,861.25 to expand employment services by hiring an Adult Supported Employment Services Coordinator.
- **Dynamic Therapy Services**: awarded \$5,000.00 to fund movement therapy for 2-5 families.
- **Imagine! (PASA)**: awarded \$2,525,942.75 for their Mental & Behavioral Health program, School Aged Services, Adult Services, Nursing, and embedded Assistive Technology programs.
- **Boulder County Public Health**: awarded \$300,000 to increase Spanish-speaking access for their Children with Special needs (CSN) program.

Social & Recreation

- **Inclusive Acres**: awarded \$7,500 to operate their Community Connections and Self-Advocacy Programs.
- **Community Link**: awarded \$25,674 to provide weekend social engagement and recreation programming.
- **Autism Society**: awarded \$6,500 to provide two recreational events at Gateway Park in Boulder.
- **Ignite Adaptive Sports**: awarded \$25,000 to increase Spanish-speaking supports to adaptive sports programming.
- **PLAY EXPAND**: awarded \$122,986 to increase therapeutic recreation programming opportunities.

Housing

- Meeting with BHP next week about new housing projects to get an “in” on new projects for IDD housing.

- Working with Ian Swallow in charge of foothills & 30th.
- Annette will attend Inclusive Housing Committee (IHC).
 - Ally working to find a venue for IHC Summit
 - Summit is ideally for early Oct depending on Venue.

IDDAC

- Propose holding meetings virtually, except for quarterly in person meetings. All members in attendance, in favor.
- 3 IDDAC member vacancies and closes July 7th.
- Working on creating follow up from the needs assessment by providing updates

Brain Injury

- Family and children services, PCS, and family resource network (EFAA, OUR Center, Sister Carmen) receiving BI training from BIA

Working Session

Develop Community Engagement Plan

What does successful public engagement look like for the IDDAC? How will we know when we have successful public engagement?

- Awareness of resources and services
- Education of the qualifying process
- Engage agencies who are already connected with BIPOC communities
- Networking with other Boulder County agencies
- Human service fairs to include a table for sys nav or new housing position along with workforce disability specialist??
- How do you pull people out of isolation/how do parents connect
- Announcements on educational opportunities - holding trainings/classes and invited folks in.
- do any of the county's roadmaps direct residents to a common source of disability resources?
- Neurodiverse fairs/events and connect with the people already doing these. (Temple Grandin school, Joshua school, etc.)
- Parent networking
- Adams County has a monthly meeting for business partners and non profits, networking event
- training for county employees, too?
- Partnership with CU Boulder

- Maybe BOCO HR can attend with their booth if we lean towards a fair as they advocate a lot hiring individuals with lived experience
- ACL support groups
- <https://1in5.learningally.org/What-is-Dyslexia> This group used to offer quarterly events with parent sessions and kid sessions targeted to middle to high school aged. The link has self advocacy videos which might be a project we might look at???
- The Taj owner used to host groups
- The OUR Center big open space for events/social time, etc.
- Bling/visual representation for people who took training

What groups/communities are we lacking engagement from who have important voices to include and how do we reach them/include them?

- Jolie open to spearhead, Niccolle and Ally, (Teresa has put on trainings) can work as a subcommittee on this - August 16th turning 70 and last day at A&I Avenues
- Annette asking community members
- Mountain region
- Spanish speaking communities
- Nepali
- Tibetan
- Deaf/HOH communities
- LGBTQ+
- Unhoused/homeless people
- Chamber of commerce/better business bureau - invite Doug Tare well connected
- Blast out about transitional ages and enrolling into services
- Comicon/Loteria and other
- Faith communities
- Fairs - farmers market mountain area
- Pride fest
- Jewish festival
- Longmont FREE themed Bingo Fridays Village Peaks mall - set up a table - DJ drag queen
- Longmont Chamber
- Faith communities
- Rabbi Green - JCC - Har Hashem, Special Shabbat

What engagement strategies can we use to garner successful engagement?

- Fairs

- Community events
- Holding classes/trainings
- Media spread with what we've accomplished
- Flyers/messaging
- "Cracker Barrell" upcoming events on the site.
- Jewish moms support groups through JCC
- OUT Boulder
- Bringing families home program
- Contacting different entities in community (above)

What agencies/who are the important contacts to collaborate with for these strategies?

- El Comite
- Family Resource Centers
- ACL
- Boulder County Area Agency on Aging

What does our Community Engagement Plan timeline look like?

- Messaging: TBD
- Fair list: TBD
- Website updates: by next IDDAC meeting

Next Steps

- Revisit housing positions again
- Invite John Tare (Julie's business contact in) - will introduce him to Rebecca
- Report out on Imagine! phone survey
- Ally will send out questions again
- Rebecca attending affordable housing tax meeting and will report out.

Meeting Adjourned at 7:30 p.m.
Minutes Submitted by Ally Joel