

Mill Levy Advisory Council, BCCHS

Monday, May 20th, 2024

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

Meeting Minutes

ADA statement

This document contains materials from external parties that may not be fully accessible. To request an Americans with Disability Act (ADA) accommodation, please email ada@bouldercounty.gov, or call 303-441-1386. [View the county's accessibility statement.](#)

Advisory Council Members in Attendance: Annette Treufeldt-Frank, Miranda Fisher, Teresa Greene, Heidi Que

No quorum

Absent: Deana Cairo, Niccole Mascarenas, Jolie Bernstein, Robert Enderson

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.

Introduction of New Boulder County IDD Mill Levy Program staff

Ally will support Rebecca's role by working on ground level tasks/projects to free up Rebecca on higher projects/networking. Ally brings a background in IDD systems; worked at Imagine! (services and care coordination) for 10 years, was a live-in family caregiver for her cousin in IDD services, and has experience in conducting SIS & Adaptive IDD assessments.

Approval of Minutes

April's minutes were not approved – No quorum.

Imagine! Updates

Kathryn Arbour & Barb Wilkins-Crowder

Provided a written report in place of attendance:

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.

Housing Subcommittee Report Out

Annette Treufeldt Frank, Chair

The IDDAC Housing Subcommittee has been difficult to get enough participation and is not currently a functional committee. In place of the Housing Subcommittee, Annette will begin participating in IHC and ACL Advocacy Network meetings and bring IDDAC perspectives to those spaces. IDDAC will also continue to pursue housing specialist positions.

IDD Mill Levy Updates

Rebecca Seiden

Housing

- Met with housing developers w/ BCHA, Tonja, and Desiree last week to explore contract work. Recommending contract work with Desiree for 1.5hrs per month. Phase 2 is set for 2026, and can begin once Phase 1 leasing is through.
- Phone surveys to collect housing demographic data and perspectives on ideal housing options has not been going well. Clients/families are fatigued from being surveyed. Unsure if we will get meaningful data from survey. Clement, Boulder County Human Services' new data manager will help us with identifying important data to collect, and why we need it.
- Discussed the possibility in getting this data through case managers as a contractual deliverable in the future when they have more capacity to not burden families with additional requests/surveys.
- Discussed the idea of bringing in housing people to encourage them to integrate housing data collection. Could join forces with ACL to present to mountain (and other) municipalities to help gather extra data that the ACL has not gathered yet (specifically for Nederland and Lyons). Peak to Peak Housing and Human Services holds housing subcommittee meetings on the odd months. Could be a good place to start; Annette is Vice Chair of this committee and can connect us.

RFP/Budget

- RFPs have been awarded. Rebecca will send out to committee who received what and post to website.
- Still have room in budget for START and housing specialist positions.
- Half of the awards will be taken out of this year, and other half next year.
- Would like to increase budget for Social and Recreational programming.
- Neurodiversity Fair coming up on Saturday, July 27th sharing a booth with Elevated Communities. Ally will be attending for Boulder County IDD.

- IDDAC Board recruitment is open and closes July 10th! Please spread the word. Recruited members might join on August or September's IDDAC Board meeting, depending on timeline of Commissioners approval. Hoping to fill 3-4 seats and would ideally include folks with lived experience. Today is Miranda's last meeting before moving to Arizona.

Working Session

Website Ideas-take a look at our website and come up with ideas for additions and changes <https://bouldercounty.gov/departments/housing-and-human-services/intellectual-and-developmental-disabilities-advisory-council/>

- Create and upload training videos on various topics related to IDD community, i.e. disability etiquette, tenant rights, and co-responder/law enforcement training.
- Explore opportunities to feature training sessions organized by the ACL, such as neighborhood training and safety-first training. Consider reaching out to Caitlin for more information.
- Use intake resources from other CMAs/CCB in other catchment areas.
- Make the Systems Navigation page more user-friendly.
- Update the IDDAC page to provide current information and ensure it is up to par on ADA guidelines. Consider consulting with the ADA coordinator for guidance.
- Develop and include a roadmap to services, possibly in collaboration with organizations like Imagine!/A&I, to assist individuals in navigating available resources.
- Provide a link to the PASAs for easy reference and access to service providers.
- Provide links to important referral resources related to services such as Easter Seals respite and transportation/mobility options.
- Share the "Assume That I Can" video on the website to promote inclusivity and challenge stereotypes surrounding individuals with IDD.
- Provide a suggestion box feature on the website to gather feedback from users and improve the overall experience.

Housing-what other housing options should we be looking at?

- Mountain Housing Coordinators (IMA)
- Governors office
- Joe Neguse
- Kyle Brown

- Faith Communities that own houses
- Media
- Housing groups already doing the work
- Immigrant communities/refugee groups/other groups that hold community-centered values
- Forums:
 - Self-advocates
 - Natural supports
 - PASAs
 - Mobility for All/transportation

Community Education-What would you like to see presented to increase knowledge and understanding of IDD/Autism/BI? What programs do you think would be valuable for the community such as DVR, Advocacy?

Updates to the Needs Assessment

- Collaborate with the communications team to share information to the community regarding recent updates to the needs assessment.
- Highlight the need for additional support, more inclusive voices in the assessment process, and highlight emerging needs.

Community Education about Community Partners/Resource Page

- Develop initiatives to educate the community about available partners and resources.
- Consider creating a dedicated webpage or resource page for easy access to information.

Participation in Boulder County Fairs

- Explore targeted outreach strategies or organize a community resource fair to engage with the community effectively.

"Did You Know That We?" Outreach Campaign

- Establish a public engagement work plan.
- Consider launching an outreach campaign to raise awareness about IDDAC initiatives and services.
- Ensure we've communicated effectively to stakeholders and the community about who we serve and why.

Community Training and Resource Access

- Explore the possibility of creating informative videos for the website, providing links to access available resources.
- Consider filming snippets of council meetings for public viewing.

Support for Non-IDD Businesses

- Collaborate with non-IDD businesses to enhance accessibility and motivation.
- Identify and feature businesses already implementing inclusive practices.

Training Opportunities and Collaboration

- Follow up on training opportunities provided by external organizations, like the ACL's training for Mackey and Boulder Ballet's Gentle Nutcracker.
- Explore collaboration with organizations like the Human Service Alliance and St. Vrain Council to streamline data collection processes.

Community Resource Roadmap

- Develop a comprehensive roadmap outlining available resources within the community. Find already created resources at CMAs.

Neighbors Training and Outreach

- Consider participating in Neighbors Training organized by the ACL.
- Explore collaboration opportunities with organizations like the Colorado Disability Law Center to provide training on various topics.

Exploration of Alternative Options

- Investigate alternatives to the IEP process.

Development of Public Engagement Plan

- Create a public engagement plan and invite trainers to facilitate workshops or sessions for IDDAC, and invite community to come learn.
- Explore opportunities for outreach at Pride events through collaboration with OUT Boulder.

Networking and Events

- Utilize existing contacts for networking opportunities
- Attend outreach events/fairs, like the upcoming Pride celebrations in Longmont and Boulder in early-mid June.

Additional Resources

- [Sensory Guidebook from the Kennedy Center.](#)

IDDAC Training and Representation

- Clarify parameters for representation in the community through IDDAC training.
- Explore the potential inclusion of IDD in DEI efforts through PERL training.

Next Steps

- Heidi will look at CO Disability Law Center - report out (helping on a training panel and/or videos to post)
- Teresa will create a training on how to be a good tenant and bring student rights through IEP process, and will send PRIDE info
- Rebecca will report out on RFP awards
- Develop Public Engagement Plan
 - Training/presenters at meetings to engage community
 - Handout/blurb for council members to share out for recruitment (5-10 in our network)
 - Ally and Rebecca will send out blurb
 - Change for participation without being on the council
- June 17th next meeting

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