



IDD Mill Levy Advisory Council
Meeting Minutes
Mill Levy Advisory Council, BCHHS
IDD Advisory Council Meeting
Fri, September 18, 2020 12:00 PM - 2:30 PM (MDT)
Microsoft Teams

Advisory Council Members in Attendance: Robert Enderson, Teresa Greene, Timothy Maxwell, Bob Lawhead, Katie Ashburner, and Anna Stewart

Absent: Dana Scritchfield, Miranda Fisher, Deana Cairo, Teresa Greene

Boulder County Employees: Rebecca Seiden, Sara Boylan

Meeting was called to order at 12:05 p.m. by Chairperson Julie Marshall. Meeting was held through Microsoft Teams due to safer at home order by Governor Jared Polis.

Timothy Maxwell made a motion to approve minutes as read. Anna Stewart seconded the motion. Motion to approve minutes was unanimously approved by Advisory Council.

There were no community members on the call for public comment.

Center for People with Disabilities Presentation

Maria Stepanyan, Executive Director of CPWD presented an overview CPWDs mission is to provide resources, information and advocacy to assist people with disabilities in overcoming barriers to independent living.

- CPWD has been overcoming barriers to independent living since 1977
- 1960's-Disability Rights movement started in tandem with Civil Rights Movement.
- 1972-First independent living center was established in Berkeley, CA by Ed Roberts.
- 1975-Atlantis Community was founded in Denver as alternative to nursing homes for individuals with disabilities. Atlantis was the first Center for Independent Living (CIL) in Colorado
- 1977-CPWD was found by Judy Dixon and Homer Page.
- 2020-There are 9 CILs in Colorado and 400+ in the United States.

Independent Living Philosophy

Independent living means having control over your own life and being able to make decisions about life, work and play in the same ways that people without disabilities do.

- Shift away from the Medical Model
 - Important decisions must be made by the individual, not the professional
- Consumer Control
 - Every person MUST have control over his life and all decision-making
 - Staff provide support and empowerment
 - More than 50% of staff and board of directors at CILs are individuals with disabilities

- Peer Support
- Advocacy
 - Knowing how to get support from other to do what you and/or need to do

What are requirements of becoming a customer?

- Self identify as an individual with a disability as defined by the ADA
- Have an Independent Living Goal-goals are often disguised as problems
- Specific program or services may have additional requirements

Misconceptions of CPWD

They are not:

- A Case Management Provider
- Emergency Human Services
- A Housing Provider

Core Services and Programs

Core Services:

- Independent Living Skills Training, Information and Referral, Individual and Systems Advocacy, Peer Support, and Transitions

Programs

- Home Health
- Veterans Independence Program (VIP)
- Employment and Benefits Counseling
- Nursing Home Transition Services
- Youth Transition Services
- Beyond Vision
- Independent Living Advisors (ILA)

Systems Advocacy

- Public Information and Education
 - Disability Etiquette
 - Low Vision Simulation
- Transportation Councils
- Testimony for Bills
- Building/Public Space accessibility
- Consumer Engagement
 - Peer Group Advocacy

Community Transition Services-Institution to Independence

- Works with individuals on the Boulder County CTS waitlist
- 32 people on the wait list
 - 6 consumers in the past 12 months
- 2 biggest barriers=affordable accessible housing + limited home health providers

Employment

5 Key Services

1. Walk ins
2. DVR
3. Ticket to Work
4. Benefits Counseling
5. Technical Assistance to Employers

Services during COVID

- All programs and services are continuing

- Services are available over the phone and video conferencing
- In person services have resumed by appointment only and adhering to social distancing
- Creative solutions to meet the needs of our consumers

Top 3 Virtual Services

- Daily Peer Support Groups hosted on Google Meets
 - Facilitated by CPWD staff every day
 - Wednesday is Chair Yoga
 - 3 times/week youth groups
 - Weekly low-vision groups
- Skill Training
 - Assistive Technology-zoom, google, iPhone, Android, smart home, etc.
 - Application Assistance- benefits, housing, and employment
- General Information and Referral

Contact information

303-442-8662 or email info@cpwd.org

Technology Solutions for Community Engagement

Presentation by Shea Tanis, Co-Director of Policy and Advocacy at Coleman Institute for Cognitive Disabilities

The following is taken from the Media Presentation

Mission of Coleman Institute for Cognitive Disabilities is to catalyze and integrate advances in technology to promote a meaningful quality of life for people with cognitive disabilities and their families.

- The Rights of People with Cognitive Disabilities to Technology and Information Access
- Technology as a Basic Utility
- Community is No Longer a Physical Location but an Experience That Includes Digital World
- Department of Justice has expanded its Olmstead work to look beyond just where people live to examine how people live and spend their days.
- Technology Solutions Provide Opportunities to Achieve High Quality Community Living
- Lack of Access to the Digital Community is Lack of Access to Community Living
- Digital and Technology Gaps are Widening
- Barriers to Technology include:
 - Lack of universal design
 - Digital literacy and technical skills
 - Equal opportunity – gatekeepers
 - Knowledge translation
 - Social context
 - Systemic Barriers
 - Failure to address “use worthiness” alongside usability
 - Economic Barriers
- Colorado Emergency Response Desktop
 - Cognitively accessible software that leverages evidence-based tools to address the immediate needs of social connection, accessible information, and advance digital skills for people with intellectual and developmental disabilities.
 - Developed by AbleLink, Coleman Institute for Cognitive Disabilities, Colorado Developmental Disabilities Council
- What does it do?
 - Accessible email with pictures and audio

- Cognitively accessible information on COVID
- Immediate access to state emergency response information
- Interactive activities for Health and wellness
- Tutorials for daily living tasks
- Weekly interaction and feedback
- Equipment needed includes Desktop computer and Windows 10
- The Arc of Colorado through the Calabrese Life Opportunities Fund has resources to support computers
- Persons who can participate person with an intellectual or developmental disability, person who has been displaced by COVID-19, person living on their own in their own home/apartment, person living at home with their family, member of Colorado Speaking for Ourselves
- Process to get it includes completing the engagement form, get email download from Coleman Institute, download software on your computer, get started
- There are weekly webinars and technical assistance if people need help
- Software addresses barriers
- Other states are implementing this software
- The software is an outcomes-based investment

Shea discussed how this software aligns with the IDD Advisory Council Priorities through System Navigation, Case Management and Advocacy, Self-Advocacy, Engagement, and Social Connectedness, Mental Health, and Ongoing Monitoring and Evaluation. She further explained that Boulder could invest in hardware/broadband access – loan programs, invest in gatekeeper awareness and technical assistance trainings -family members and service providers, invest in peer-t-peer technology supports and advocacy, and invest in 24/hour response team for technical support. States are investing in Technology First which is a “framework for systems change where technology is considered first in the discussion of support options available to individuals and families through person-centered approaches to promote meaningful participation, social inclusion, self-determination and quality of life.” Tanis, 2019. States are investing in Technology First because it soles the most pressing challenges in our field today which are: 1. Promote autonomy, self-direction and community integration 2. Address the direct care workforce shortages and 3. Drives more efficient and effective practices – cost efficiencies. Coleman Institute for Cognitive Disabilities at the University of Colorado is convening the Colorado Technology First Advisory Council on October 27, 2020.

Rebecca Seiden asked if Boulder County would be able to purchase licenses. Shea stated yes. Rebecca Seiden asked if Autistic and TBI population could be included as defined in Mill Levy language and Shea stated that this is an excellent software for anyone with cognitive disabilities.

Updates

COUNTY NEWS

Boulder County is still on safer at home level 2. Website is

<https://www.bouldercounty.org/families/disease/covid-19/state-dial-framework/>

ST VRAIN VALLEY SCHOOLS NUTRITION SERVICES

Nutrition Services Department will continue curbside meal program at the following sites:

Lyons High School
Hygiene Elementary School
Timberline PK-8
Centennial Elementary School
Soaring Heights PK-8
Thunder Valley K-8
Northridge Elementary School
Sunset Middle School
Mead Middle School
Frederick High School
Altona Middle School
Erie Middle School
Alpine Elementary
Longmont Estates Elementary
Mountain View Elementary
Niwot High School
Burlington Elementary
River Valley Community
Eagle Crest Community

BOULDER VALLEY SCHOOL DISTRICT NUTRITION SERVICES

Student meals will be served from 11 a.m.-12:30 p.m. Monday through Friday and a sack lunch and breakfast will be offered daily. Meals are offered at no charge for any child 1-18.

Serving free meals to any family with a child 18 years and younger; as young as an infant. No student enrollment will be verified, or ID required from you or person picking up on your behalf. They are providing 14 meals (7 breakfasts and 7 lunches) for each child, and children do not need to be present for pick up.

Pick up is every Monday from 9-11 a.m. and 4-6 p.m. If school district is closed on Monday then the program is shifted to Tuesdays.

Pick up locations:

Columbine Elementary School
Crestview Elementary School
Manhattan Middle School
Emerald Elementary School
Sanchez Elementary School
Louisville Middle School
Nederland Middle High School (this site has only morning 9-11 a.m. pick up)

IDD EFRT

Referral from was used. We are presently assisting one family with emergency lodging. \$850.85 has been spent so far. During this process we have been working with the case manager to make referrals for stabilization and long-term assistance

HOUSING HELP LINE

We have approved \$288,928 in rental assistance for families impacted by COVID-19 with IDD. We had budgeted for \$300k. The County is planning to use CARES funding to cover these expenses, so we will not need to use IDD funds. Currently **\$112,481** of the \$289k has already been re-coded to CARES (from IDD). The remainder will be direct coded to CARES quarterly and won't even hit the IDD books.

IDD Rental Assistance Budget	\$300,000
Approved through 9/17/20	\$288,928
Remaining Budget	\$11,072
Re-Coded to CARES as of 9/17/20 (Remainder to be coded quarterly)	\$112,481

Rebecca is attempting to schedule Sub-Committee meetings and is waiting for more responses to Poll sent out.

Motion to adjourn and seconded. Meeting adjourned at 2:10 p.m.

Submitted by Rebecca J. Seiden