Maine SILC

Minutes

May 22, 2024, 10:00am-12:00pm

Zoom Meeting

Attendance Key: P = Present; E = Excused; A = Absent without excuse.

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| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| ***Council Members:*** | | | | | |
| ***E*** | ***Darcy Gentle*** | ***E*** | ***Brendan Williams*** |  |  |
| ***P*** | ***Diane Frigon*** |  |  |  |  |
| ***P*** | ***Jessica Cyr*** |  |  |  |  |
| ***P*** | ***Lee Glynn*** |  |  |  |  |
| ***P*** | ***Samantha Fenderson*** |  |  |  |  |
| ***P*** | ***Andrew Smith*** |  |  |  |  |
| ***P*** | ***Tom Newman*** |  |  |  |  |

**SILC Staff: Cheryl Peabody**

**Members of the Public: Marita Leach; Karen Mason; Elissa Rowe; Megan Marquis; Nicole Rooney; Derek Fales**

Recorder: Jenn Williams Next Meeting: June 26, 2024 Status: APPROVED

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| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Topic | Discussion | Action | Responsible |
| Welcome & Introductions | The meeting was called to order at 10:05am and introductions were made. | N/A | N/A |
| Topic | Discussion | Action | Responsible |
| Acceptance of Minutes | April Minutes: No corrections. Accepted | Send to Webmaster | Cheryl Peabody |
| Topic | Discussion | Action | Responsible |
| DBVI- Elissa Rowe | Wants Maine to be a leader in Blind and Visually Impaired resources and program development. Shared the need for more long term staff within DBVI. Working on offering more comprehensive mental health services for those that are newly impaired. | N/A | N/A |
| Topic | Discussion | Action | Responsible |
| Nicole Rooney, OADS Waivers- Long term Services and Supports Manager,  Derek Fales OADS Waiver Director for IDD, Autism, BI, Other related conditions | Oversees in home care services and level of care assessment process.  Section 19 Waiver: disabled adults who meet criteria of needing nursing facility level of care. Services include assistive technology, care coordination, skills training, personal care, transportation, etc. Currently 2,809 receiving services through this waiver. Approval is based on functional needs and financial status, not diagnosis. Services are directed through an agency, the participant (self-determined care with support), or a combination of both. Average client stays on this waiver for 12 months. They do offer a cost share program for those that don’t financially qualify for other services.  “Waiver means you are waiving your right to an institution (intermediate care facility) in order to live in the community.”  Section 18: Brain Injury Waiver.  Section 20: Other related conditions waiver.  Section 21: Intellectual Disability Waiver  Section 29: Support waiver for IDD or Autism.  Section 21 & 29: must meet medical eligibility and be 18+ years old. Helps them develop a person-centered plan to ease with the transition from school age to adulthood. Work with a planning team to determine risks associated with their plan. Service implementation plan ensures that supports align their methods with the self-directed plan. Both include services for Home Support, Employment, Community Support, and Assistive Technology.  Section 21 Services also include:  Ancillary- such as PT, crisis management, specialized medical equipment, etc. Clients can also request an exception if they need additional service hours or a higher financial cap.  Section 29 Services also include: Ancillary- respite and home accessibility. Self-direction also available.  The department is also starting a new HCBS waiver in 2025 called the Life Span Waiver. This is designed for clients that are 14+ years old, it lasts throughout their lifetime, and includes transition services. | N/A  N/A | N/A  N/A |
| Topic | Discussion | Action | Responsible |
| Executive Director Search | A number of applicants, approximately half seem like a good fit. Some applicants had no IL experience. Welcome any help from the Council in reviewing applicants. Council Members that have particular interview questions in mind, please send to Jessica and Samantha. | Send interview questions to Jessica and Samantha. | Council Members |
| Topic | Discussion | Action | Responsible |
| Financial Report | Cheryl presented the financial information as a table and a spreadsheet with more detail via email. No questions. | Update table and Excel spreadsheet for next meeting. | Cheryl Peabody |
| Topic | Discussion | Action | Responsible |
| SPIL Activity | SPIL is due June 30th . Committee has reviewed the plan, Cheryl sent information to Council Members for review. | Send any recommended edits to Cheryl as soon as possible. | Council Members |
| Topic | Discussion | Action | Responsible |
| Activity Table | Monthly reminder to put activities into table for the Program Progress Report (PPR). Cheryl automatically puts in the SILC meetings at the end of the year. | Put activities in table that align with the SILC mission, even if they are through employment or volunteer work. | Council Members |
| Topic | Discussion | Action | Responsible |
| Committee Reports | Membership:  ABIAC Orientation Manual is not available yet. Once it is finalized Lee will have Cheryl share it with members. Members agreed to suspend Membership committee meetings until the manual is complete.  Moving Maine Network:  They have not met yet this month. At their next meeting they will discuss policy priorities for the next legislative session and brainstorm transportation access solutions.  MaineCare transportation brokerage is changing effective 7/1 State has decided to use one transportation provider (Motivcare) for whole state. Tried to appeal the decision but it was denied. Motivcare does not have a good reputation and has an F rating on the Better Business Bureau. This raises concerns about people not getting access to their care.  ABIAC: Sen. King has agreed to support the reauthorization of the TBI Act, allowing for continued funding for brain injury programs. | Share orientation manual when complete.  Email MMN meeting synopsis to Council Members.  .  N/A | Lee Glynn  Jessica Cyr  Lee Glynn |
| Topic | Discussion | Action | Responsible |
| Announcements | Diane Frigon:  Business Enterprise Program has job openings. Preference is given to those that are blind or visually impaired. If you have anyone in mind, please reach out to Diane.  Megan Marquis:  DRM is available to help with decision appeals. | Share with people that may be a good fit. | Council Members |
| Topic | Discussion | Action | Responsible |
| Public Comments | N/A | N/A | N/A |
| N/A | Discussion | Action | Responsible |
| Adjournment | The meeting was adjourned at 12:10pm. | N/A | N/A |

**People & Organizations**

**Andrew Smith – Disability Advocate**

**Brendan Williams – Disability Advocate**

**Darcy Gentle – AIVR Program Director**

**Diane Frigon – Regional Director, DBVI**

**Julie Hovey – IL Specialist/Manager, Alpha One**

**Katen Mason – Associate Director, Office on Aging and Disability Services**

**Katie George – IL Specialist, Alpha One**

**Leah Farrell – Disability Advocate**

**Marita Leach – Benefits Counseling Services, Maine Health**

**Megan Marquis – Employment Advocate, Disability Rights Maine**

**Rachel Dyer - Developmental Disabilities Council**

**Samantha Fenderson – Assistant Director, DVR**

**Tom Newman - Executive Director, Alpha One**