**Adult Services Committee January 22, 2023**

***Committee Members: Samantha Hurd, Tracie Downer, Micah Ennis and Felissa Ferrell***

Attendees:

Debbie McGuire

Trish Baker

Christa Smith

Melissa Turnage

Candice Gobble

Lori Leggett

Ashley Lantz

Karen Crowder

Kory Fisher-Wellman

Emily Parker

Teresa Hargett

Monica Smith

Marcy Mays

Katina Coston

Janeen Gordon

Bunny Critcher

David Richman

Adrian Black

Crystal Jackson

Donza McLean

Sharon McLeod

Elizabeth Childers

Tracie McMillan

Amanda McGee

Chazlyn Thomas

Stacey Elmes

Kristin Bonoyer

Joann Windley

Jamie Shepherd

M. Robinson

Sharnese Ransome

Kristen Coffey

Andrew Payne

Linda Young

Crista Ramroop

Kody Krebs

Melinda Hudson

Robert Lee

Lori Langley

Lisa Osborne

Tamica Lyons

Micah Ennis

Carol Roulhac

Shea Neal

Caroline Hedrick

Dolly Clayton

Tyrone Dillard

Felissa Ferrell

Melody Cummings

Nicholas Theuner

Valery Dambreville

Cathy Murray

Yolanda White

Karey Perez

Laurie Potter

April Black

Rich Ohmer

Sylvia Trujillo-Petit

Samantha Hurd

Sarah Richardson

Anne Cooper

Shannon Myers

Felicia Exum

Dean Bethea

Pamela Nelms

Rebecca Johnson

Gina Harris

Traci Corn

Sharon Barlow

Michelle Mitchell

Tammy Bare

Thomas Mitchell

Constance Gerald

Cynthia Ross

Kim McGuire

Matthew Hillman

Susie Branch

Sherry Daniels

Whitney McCollum

Karen Harrington

Jennie Kristiansen

Trena Riddle

Karen Young-Shaver

Rhonda Matthews

Laurie Jones

Maria Ordaz

Pamela Dennis

Rodney Franklin

Kevin Brown

Carye Dickerson

Debbie Green

Megan Lamphere

Sertia Southerland

Clifton Hardison

Eya Lewis-Overton

Carolyn Perry

Mary Rubright

Ryan Garcia

Jonah Williams

Kathleen Conner

Vincent Roberts

Carrie Friese

Tonja Davis

Tambrim Rodgers

Geoffrey Marrett

Kimberly Fisher

Angela Spencer

Angela Jordan

Bridgett Autry

Sean Dwyer

Cassandra Williams

Jannon VanHonk

Yvette Smith

Latoya Heath

Shawn Block

Monique Freeney

LaPorscha McCullough

Elizabeth Patterson

Lisa Jackson

Shanaru Spencer

Lula Jackson

Amy Seay

Annie Murrell

Carlton Paylor

Algernon McKenzie

Heather Ball

Rick Hall

Kathi Graham

Michelle Jones

Sobeida Adolphus

Raquel Jennings

**Welcome!**

**Approval of the December 7, 2022 minutes**-motion made by Matt Hillman, second by Debbie Green.

**2023 Meeting Planning Breakout Sessions:** We will have four breakout sessions for the purpose of brainstorming agenda topics for 2023. County input is crucial in helping the Tri-chairs prepare relevant topics of interest each month. Participants will be able to select the breakout room of their choice.

*Breakout Room 1-* *APS evaluations/Adult Care Home investigations - policy, ideas, concerns, county special initiatives- facilitator Samantha Hurd*

* Will Essential Services Funds continue? It’s needed for accessing resources for vulnerable adults.
* Disclosing protective services information, including right of access, exceptions, etc. Samantha recommends the SOG-“Disclosing Protective Services Information.”
* Presentation possibly from Highway Patrol on how to file for a Silver Alert
* TCLI
* Determining which county is responsible for the APS evaluation
* What to do when family is interfering in a case (case interference)
* Best Practices for when an adult, who has capacity, refuses services
* Training that Libby Kinsley did a few months ago concerning APS and facility evaluations
* What to do when a ward in the guardianship program has no funds but needs placement-brain storm ways to overcome this issue and help access resources

*Breakout Room 2- Guardianship- policy, law, concerns, county special initiatives- facilitator Tracie McMillian*

* Private Agencies-have them come and speak to our committee; what options do they have to assist with managing wards
* Placement of vulnerable adults with significant mental health challenges
* TCLI-how does that intersect with Guardianship and services; other programs
* Mental health facility placements-how do we have them be accountable and not just discharge our wards
* Gray area in jurisdiction when a vulnerable is found in a county but not a county resident; or other jurisdictional issues
* When hospitals call and want DSS to file for guardianship because they state the person lacks capacity, yet the individual can do their ADLs
* SW Safety-NOT JUST FOR CHILD WELFARE! We need CW assist for Adult services staff

*Breakout Room 3- State/County Special Assistance In-Home-policy, ideas, concerns, planning for changes- facilitator Felissa Ferrell*

* CQI material-it resembles more of what a social worker III would be doing-do we need to look at this and see if it is a SWII or a SWIII?
* With the new policy, more workload/cases, more referrals-concerns with how counties will staff up and manage it
* Tracking system-it’s a little dated. Social workers have a hard time keeping up and keying the information into the system; they don’t have enough time and struggle to keep it up to date. Often, the tracking system doesn’t match the NC FAST Medicaid system. And with the latest changes, by the time counties received the information on the changes, we didn’t have the ability to do timely notices. When the two systems don’t match or there’s an error, it is confusing or cumbersome to fix it.
* Medicaid and SA-COLA-wonderful for the people it will benefit, but difficult to have keyed by the January 1 deadline. Feels like we are always playing catch up.
* SA in home is a wonderful program-can really help people stay in their home.
* Money Follows the Person- where is the policy on this? How do you access this resource? Can it be used with other programs?
* Some counties are having a difficult time working down the waiting lists, if they have one. One county noted that when we get some off, then a whole new slate of people are put on until they can get to them. Once county has vacancies and another county is going to reclassify other positions that are vacant.
* We need funding for this to hire staff-right now, can use SSBG and MAC
* Also, with no cap-50/50 is a concern for counties-how do we budget for it?

*Breakout Room 4- Aging & Adult Services Vision 3-5 years- what is our vision for adult services collectively across the spectrum- facilitator Micah Ennis*

* Consistency of policy/practice standards, similar to Child Welfare; we need to invest in our adults like we do for children.
* Our greatest unmet need is with those who have mental health issues-we need services and resources for these vulnerable adults
* We need to have accessible and adequate placements-all placements
* Large LTC corporations-patient care is a concern as the company focuses on cutting costs. Patient care needs to be primary
* We need more prevention-what would it look like in the adult services world? We need more resources, such as people checking on the vulnerable adult who doesn’t have any relatives nearby; maybe help that adult with grocery shopping, etc.
* Vocational Rehabilitation program-have VR come and explain the program
* We need more family centered/person centered practice and programs

**Partner Updates:**

**ACLS: Megan Lamphere**

* Facility license renewal period is complete-most completed it. Certified administrators-most complied with their renewals. We also had a few that had penalties that needed to be paid before renewal.
* NC TRACKs-that system talks to our Enterprise system. IF the facility is not licensed, then the provider will not be recognized in NC TRACKs. Those facilities without a license-they have gotten multiple reminders to get their licenses renewed. We are working on those, with just a handful that may be denied. IF they are denied-the facility has the right to appeal that action, then the action is stayed until the appeal is resolved, usually through a settlement agreement. We continue with monitoring until her hear from ACLS.
* Facility closures-voluntary closures. IF your county is notified that they are closing; with the 30 day notice, counties should get it and the residents/families should get it as well. Please make sure when you receive this notification, pass this along to DHSR/ACLS. Megan will be sending out communication about this soon. Once closed, DHSR will notify local county DSS.
* Please encourage your teams to use the Share Point site. We keep procedures, forms, etc. Everything that is there is current. If your county is having IT issues, please let ACLS know and link that employee to your IT help desk, who will work with the State IT staff, if there is an issue.
* Penalty recommendation forms-whenever citing an A1, A2, B, etc. You need to complete this form. There were 2 trainings. The trainings are on the Share Point site. PLEASE use the new form.
* We have published our 2023 training schedule for basic orientation training and complaint investigation training. It is required by Statute by AHS SW and Supervisors. We know there are a number of folks who have not attended those trainings, so please make sure to sign up. They are offered on a quarterly basis.

**DAAS: Karey Perez and Sarah Richardson**

* Adult Services monthly survey is due today.
* SA/AS Statewide Consultation meeting is January 26.
* DAAS Trainings: January Trainings: Basic guardianship, Adult services supervisor training; February Trainings: APS 101 Basic training. DASS Management system site has these trainings
* Christie Danforth, Preston Craddock have joined DAAS-Welcome
* APS Essential Services fund-The total amount expended is $966,133.54. We are working on another allocation on Essential services funds for APS. Suggestion: We may consider advocating for these funds if you want them to continue after ARPA is over. A DDL will be forthcoming, either late January or early February.
* MAC reimbursement report for November Services Month: $456,418.22 for MAC and $492,884.18 for APS MAC
* SA in home is now an entitlement program. There are 379 individuals on waitlist. SA in home has declined in the past year. There are 2272 now receiving SA in home, 1136 served by TCL. This program allows adults to be able to stay in their home. DAAS is working on guidance. We are reviewing case management, possibly tiered. Our plan, for DAAS will work with the adult services chairs, on the changes, prior to the release. Parity-individuals in their home and individuals in a facility, are eligible for the full amount, unless there is an exception. We are creating an attestation sheet. Individuals will receive the full benefit, unless there isn’t a need. The economic worksheet, including the receipts, will be eliminated. For Case Management-not every case will need the same level of CM. Instead, we’ll individual it. We’ll clarify policy. If person isn’t safe at home, then an APS report will need to be made. Keep providing services based on current policy until we send out the new changes. SA and SA in home- the manuals are being updated in the next few weeks.
* Question: Will EWS no longer be required, or just certain ones based on the attestation? It’ll take away the tracker and the worksheets. This gives us time for person centered work.

**DMH: Lisa Jackson**