

CRT & Wheelchair Advisory Council

MEETING MINUTES

Tuesday, January 7, 2025

11:00 AM on Zoom

- I. Convene Meeting: the meeting was called to order at 11:03 AM by Co-Chair, Maureen Amirault.
- II. Roll Call:
 - a. Members present: Jonathon Slifka (ADS), Co-Chair, Maureen Amirault, Co-Chair, David Morgana, Farrah Garland, Michelle Johnson, Sheldon Toubman, Diane Racicot, Darrell Ruopp, Becki Jacobson, Shirley Skyers-Thomas, Ginny Mahoney, Jim Carson,
 - b. Member Absent: Joe Shortt.
 - c. Guest: Gary Gilberti
- III. Opening Remarks: Co-Chair Amirault acknowledged that Council members had not had sufficient time to review the final draft of the report and suggested a short recess to allow review prior to further discussion.
- IV. RECESS: Amirault declared the meeting in RECESS to allow time for Council members to review the final copy of the Report. Recess at 11:05.
- V. RECONVENED: Amirault reconvened the meeting at 11:19 and expressed appreciation for all the work on the report and welcomed Becki Jacobson, OHA, to the group. Co-Chair Slifka added comments of appreciation to Council members.
- VI. Approval of Meeting Minutes:
 - a. MOTION to approve the minutes of November 26, 2024, made by Johnson, seconded by Mahoney. Motion carried.
 - b. MOTION to approve minutes of December 10, 2024, made by Garland, seconded by Slifka. Motion carried.
 - c. MOTION to approve minutes of December 18, 2024, made by Johnson, seconded by Slifka. Motion carried.
- VII. Discussion of Final Report:
 - a. Morgana asked about staffing levels being included in the report. Gilberti responded the data is not included in the report but will be provided to the Council when consensus is reached regarding the approach for reporting.
 - b. Morgana asked if the companies are tracking information on recruitment, interviewing & hires. Racicot confirmed that this type of data is collected on an ongoing basis.

- c. Amirault stated Johnson submitted a written request to email a copy of the report to all attendees as an alternative to attempting to read it on the screen. Email sent by Council administrator.
- d. Toubman asked for clarification regarding the recommendation relative to prior authorization (p. 41). Slifka will find the answer regarding what applies to Medicaid, private insurance, and other scenarios.
- e. Racicot asked for clarification regarding provider reporting requirements specified in the report and showed on the screen a sample of her own end-of-year report to illustrate the administrative challenges. Toubman discussed reporting specifications in the statute. Amirault clarified the expectation for having the latest data available for inclusion in this report. Racicot and Gilberti agreed to update the data by 1/9/2025 and Gilberti suggested the possibility to submit in Excel format or a reporting form agreed upon by the next meeting of the Council.

VIII. Chair of the meeting was handed off to Co-Chair Slifka for continuation of discussion. Toubman commented on p. 8, item #6, suggesting removal of the brackets. Racicot commented the data from December 4, 2024, listed in the draft report was interim rather than end-of-year, as it should be. Slifka confirmed the accuracy of this perception. Toubman asked if staffing information would be included. Racicot clarified the form had not been prepared to reflect that and a clear decision had not been made to include it at this time. Gilberti clarified that the reporting form would need to be editable to allow reporting. Morgana made additional comments regarding the conditions for reporting staffing numbers.

IX. Amirault resumed the Chair position.

X. Vote for Transmittal to Committees Per Public Act 24-58.

- a. MOTION to transmit the final report made by Garland, seconded Johnson. Motion carried by voice vote, with one abstention (Racicot). Amirault clarified the condition that the required reports from providers would be updated prior to the transmittal of the report. A final copy will be sent to all members upon completion.
- b. Discussion on Meeting Schedule for 2025: meetings will return to a monthly schedule with the next meeting to be held in February. During the legislative session the meetings will be held on Monday or Wednesday in deference to the legislative schedule. The meetings will be held remotely using Zoom to avoid the need to schedule a room.
- c. Announcement of Date of the next meeting is to be determined. Responses from the Council members will be sought to identify a meeting date that will accommodate most members schedules.

XI. Chandra Persaud, Council Administrator, announced she has resigned and has accepted a position in a state agency. The new Human Services Clerk, Breanne Clifton, will become the Council Administrator. Amirault and several

members of the Council expressed their deep appreciation for the quality of Persaud's work and wished her well in her new position.

- XII. Adjournment: MOTION made by Johnson, seconded by Slifka. Motion carried.