

MT SELN Team Meeting

Date: February 28, 2013
Time: 10:00 – 2:00 pm.
Location: 2401 Colonial Dr., 3rd Floor Conference Room

Attendees: Rita Schilling (Job Connection), Laurel Gebo (ESGW), Suzn Gehring (Reg. 3 Regional Manager), Kelly McNurlin (DDP), Greg Olsen (Helena Industries), Jenice Sharkey (ORI), Jeff Sturm (DDP), Peggy Olson (Family Outreach), Kurtis Mayne (ORI), Jannis Conselyea (DDP), Tim Plaska (DDP), Mike Hermanson (VR), Charlie Briggs (ESGW), Lori Durrin Lundberg (DDP), Karen Cech (recorder).

Legislative Updates:

HB12 the Legislative subcommittee passed the 2% Department (DPHHS) wide provider rate increase that is included in the Governor's budget. DDP is waiting to see how this will be dispersed. This will be a permanent 2% increase for Fiscal Year 2014 and 2% increase for Fiscal Year 2015. This came from a 2% reduction to MDC.

HB123 to change MR to ID has passed to the Senate.

There have been no waitlist appropriations.

Subcommittee was pretty lenient on DDP but not so much for CMHB and MDC.

Kelly mentioned SB 185 sponsored by Jon Sesso. This senate bill is a bill that give preference to an honorably discharged veteran or disabled veteran or people with disabilities for existing job vacancies for which the person qualifies. We may be able to use this to help DD individuals into the public job sector.

Mike Hermanson reported that VR went through Legislation smoothly and is waiting for the outcome of the 2% provider increase.

Rita Schilling commented on the good job the VR is doing at getting individuals out into the job sector.

HB2 is an additional 2% to go to all departments. DDP is waiting to see if there are any conditions attached to this funding. DDP would like to start initial talks on how the 2% could be dispersed. Jeff says he has data to support putting it into services.

Federal rules are changing and becoming more broad and accommodating. Individuals could start with a volunteer job, internship, or job training and move forward into a job position.

Peggy Olson commented that she does well with job placement with the private employers. Montana State does not do well hiring individuals with disabilities. She has

positions to fill – VR has no one for the positions so she is approaching the VA to find individuals.

***SELN workgroup suggested that a couple of meetings with the State of Montana would be beneficial to get support for employment with individuals with disabilities at the state. Jeff Sturm will approach Richard Opper, Director of DPHHS. Charlie Briggs will set up a meeting with Cindy Stergar to meet with some providers, DD, VR, and AMDD to talk about state hiring more disabled individuals and how jobs may possibly be carved out for them. Human Resource will need to be on board with the idea, too.

Suzn Gehring has an individual working for them in the Region 3 Office in Billings. Suzn developed a list of jobs that needed to be done at the office and gave the list to Rita to see who may The FTE maybe reclassified as ¼ or ¾ time. Jeff mentioned the state has more flexibility with contract jobs through Weststaff to get an individual into position quicker.

Jeff mentioned DDP is looking for someone to help with phones up at Central Office. Greg and Peggy mentioned that phones are difficult to find a person with DD to cover.

Rita Schilling and Peggy Olson said they go into businesses and observe the daily operations to see what possibilities there are for jobs (job carving) for individuals with developmental disabilities.

RFP for Employment Specialist Training & Selection Committee Volunteers –

Jannis gave an update on the RFP. The RFP was posted February 1st at 4:30-5:00pm for training curriculum development. The set amount for the RFP is \$75,000. The vendor interested must develop the curriculum to be written in such a way that it can easily be put into eLearning software such as Adobe, Captivate, or Moodle. The information on the RFP can be found at the following website <http://svc.mt.gov/gsd/onestop/SolicitationDetail.aspx?SolicitationID=6974>.

- The RFP response is due March 29th by 2:00pm.
- Deadline for receipt of Written Questions is March 6th.
- Deadline for Posting Written Responses to the State's Website is March 15th.
- RFP Response Due Date is March 29th.
- *Notification of Offeror Interviews/Product Demonstrations is April 12th.
- *Offeror Interviews/Product Demonstrations are April 18-19th.
- *Intended Date for contract Award May 1st.
- - *These dates are subject to change.*

When this RFP has been completed another RFP for \$25,000 will be created for the curriculum to be put into training.

Jannis will be selecting a committee to review the submitted responses to the RFP. If you are interested in being on the committee contact Jannis Conselyea at (406) 444 6817 or e-mail at jconselyea@mt.gov by mid-April. Rita Schilling and Laurel Gebo

asked to participate on this committee. Jennifer Garza from the DPHHS Office of Procurement and Contracts will oversee the process and help with the scoring. Jennifer mentioned that "Part of the RFP procurement process is designating a sole contact. This means that Jennifer is the only one that can answer and/or provide information regarding the RFP, no matter how minute the inquiry is, please do not respond but rather send the information to Jennifer. This is very important to ensure the integrity of the process".

Updates on New Services/New Waiver/Rates - Kelly thanked everyone for their feedback on billing for services. It has been decided that no change in the billing will occur at this time. The waiver will move forward with the new definitions. The new definitions and a document explaining changes in the Waiver can be found on the DDP website <http://www.dphhs.mt.gov/dsd/ddp/medicaidwaivers.shtml> .

The Waivers are being reviewed by Mary Dalton. Once Mary has approved the Waivers they will be submitted to CMS. Please watch the DDP website for updates. DDP will be posting changes on a regular basis.

Community Supports (CS) Waiver is scheduled to be end on June 30th, 2013. Individuals in the CS Waiver will be entered into the new **Supports for Community Working and Living (SCWL) Waiver** or the 0208 Waiver. The **Supports for Community Working and Living (SCWL) Waiver** will be self-directed services only with 2 options: (1) self-directed by agency with choice or (2) self-directed where the consumer, family member, or representative functions as the employer of these workers.

Individuals in the CS Waiver transferring to the SCWL Waiver with \$7800 will have the opportunity of accessing the \$20,000 cap for self-directed services with an emphasis on working. There will be a limit of thirty individuals in this waiver. Individuals 16 years and older that are on the waitlist for more services at or less than around \$20,000 may be considered for the SCWL Waiver. The process for screening for the CS Waiver is proposed for the ongoing screening of the SCWL Waiver.

Individuals in the CS Waiver who do not wish to move to the SCWL Waiver will be moved into the 0208 Waiver. The chart below show equivalent services:

0371 waiver service	Equivalent service in 0208 waiver
Social, Leisure, and Recreational Supports services	Respite, Adult Companion, Residential Habilitation
Educational	Individual Goods and Services
Health/Health Maintenance/Safety Supports	Individual Goods and Services and PERS
Specialized Medical Equipment and Supplies	Individual Goods and Services

***Rita Schilling suggested that a sub-committee from the SELN group be put together to discuss and work specifically to promote supported employment definitions and work on the rates. Kelly said she can get some good data and run some numbers to bring to this group. The group can work on rate for supported employment, what is needed to change amount or change hourly rate, and what rates will work in provider corporations.

Kelly will send a notice out in the next couple of weeks for a meeting through WebEx.

It was asked what is the state getting with the National SELN. DDP has underutilized the National SELN. The SELN workgroup meetings were on the same day as the National SELN meeting. Now that our meetings are on a different day Kelly will be able to participate. Old meetings can be listened to on the National website. The link is <http://www.selnmembers.org/>. The National SELN group is acquiring more states to their group. DDP sent new waiver definitions to Rie and John for comment. They made some suggestions on wording only and there were no significant issues with the content of the definitions.

Discussion with MT VR and Washington VR – A call was conducted between Washington State VR and Montana VR with Mike Hermanson and Kelly McNurlin. VR had specific questions. How do VR and DD work together? Departments work very closely together. Not sure if Washington's organizational chart is not the same as Montana's. Washington has more funding coming from State and County to utilize and is not as dependent on Medicaid funds. Linda Rolf was the leader in pushing Employment Services in Washington and is now retiring.

Suzn Gehring commented that in her understanding of the process that Montana is ahead of a lot of states.

Rita and Suzn mentioned an interagency agreement being created between the Billings VR and looking at developing a state wide VR cooperative agreement to have a consistent process across the state. Mike mentioned that VR is having a Regional Managers meeting and will be asking the Managers for feedback on their process. Suzn said she will comments from other Regional Managers and get them to Kelly and Mike.

Kelly mentioned that VR and DD need to talk about timelines with job placements and when follow along begins. She would also like to consolidate the forms to simplify the process between DD Providers and VR.

50/50 Rule Update – Jeff reported that DDP had a call with CMS a couple months ago and CMS mentioned that the 50/50 Rule will no longer apply when the 3.6 version of the Waiver comes out. The 3.6 version of the Waiver is ready for release anytime. If/when DD does a waiver amendment after version 3.6 is released, then DD will have to submit amendments and meet requirements of version 3.6.

Jannis informed the workgroup that Senior Long Term Care (SLTC) PD Waiver was denied by CMS. CMS is questioning the amount of individuals in a licensed setting and if larger settings meet the intent of 'community living'. CMS would like to see 4 individuals in these settings. Montana will have to address this and provide justification for what we do.

Montana is adopting Community 1st Choice. This will change personal care for individuals. There will be greater accountability for individuals and the training of staff. Individuals will be living in the community and services will need to be created to accomplish this. DD will also have to determine what services can be used for the personal care for individual in the community.

Discussion Points –

Brief discussion on focus on Olmstead- 31 states are now being looked at for compliance with Olmstead.

Utilize Micheal Smull's recommendations on Employment – contract to do assessments.

Data collection – How should we do this? What will need to collect for data?

MMIS will be up and running in 2015. Rate will need to be re-examined. Most services work except congregate services.

IFSP within the schools should be looked at.

VR – have Transition Coordinator to come and explain what VR's process is in the high schools.

VR has developed a video of individuals with developmental disabilities. This video can be shown at the SELN workgroup meeting.

Comment from last National SELN presentation was that states should not get hung up on who is going to fund but to focus a consistent process among state departments.

Plan on what SELN focus is and create focus groups.

Upcoming Areas of Focus –

The last six months the focus has been on employment services. The group reviewed the Major Focus Area Summary from September 29, 2011. Based on discussion, the group agreed to now focus on these main areas for 2013: (some intertwine and are related to each other, so they have a common theme but are listed as they look in the document):

- Develop systematic approach to supporting transition and improving collaboration during the transition process
- Develop an employment outcome data strategy
- Develop DD communication and outreach plan for employment
- Establish mechanisms for collaboration and sharing across providers and state systems
- Develop standard practices for coordination between VR and DDP
- Create a resource guide that maps the pathway to employment and available resources

Kelly will call other stakeholders – OPI, Job Service, etc. – on the list to let them know that our focus is now on individuals transitioning out of school and getting individuals into the work force.

Next meeting will be March 28th, at the Wilderness Room – 2401 Colonial Ave., Helena. Meeting time is from 10 – 2:00 pm.