

Legislative Partnership Committee
Wednesday, November 12, 2008 –1:00 to 3:30 p.m.
Comfort Suites -- Bismarck
Minutes

Purpose of Legislative Partnership Committee

In an effort to assist our state leadership to plan and respond to the support service needs for people who have developmental disabilities, the "stakeholders" involved in DD Services will collaborate to identify support service needs for people who have developmental disabilities. It is the intent that this group will share this information with the Director of Human Services and the Governor's Office of North Dakota.

Partners –

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Senator Tom Fisher, Legislature Representative	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Paul Kolstoe, State Developmental Center
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Senator Judy Lee, Legislature Representative	<input type="checkbox"/> Sue Forester, State Developmental Center
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Representative Ralph Metcalf, Legislature Representative	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Andrea Pena, ND State Council on DD
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Senator Dick Dever, Legislature Representative	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Bruce Murry, Protection & Advocacy
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Robbin Hendrickson, DD Unit	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Sybil Wezelman, Parent Representative
<input type="checkbox"/> JoAnne Hoesel, DD Unit	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Becky Severt, Parent Representative
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Jake Reuter, State Grant Coordinator for "Money Follows the Person"	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Jim Moench, North Dakota Disabilities Advocacy Consortium
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Dianne Sheppard, Arc of ND, Grand Forks	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Barb Murry, NDACF Executive Director
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Connie Schorsch, Arc of ND, Dickinson	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Sandi Marshall, NDACF President
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Veronica Zietz, Arc of ND, Bismarck	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Sandra Leyland, NDACF
<input type="checkbox"/> Chris Seaver, Consumer Representative	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Tom Newberger, NDACF
<input type="checkbox"/> Mike Martens, Direct Service Support Staff	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Jon Larson, NDACF
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Donna Byzewski, Guardianship & NDACF	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Don Nelson, NDACF
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Gordon Hauge, NDACF
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Tim Huseth, NDACF

Guests – Jim Berglie & Mike Remboldt

I. Introductions of members & guests

II. Business

A. We review & updated progress on the "issues / assignment" list.

1. Item #1

- a. NDACF should get turnover and open position information on CNA's and compare.
- b. What does Job Service information have on number of CNA's?
- c. Senator Fischer inquired why people are leaving. He added that turnover does not necessarily decrease as wages increase. Jon Larson agreed and shared he has younger employees (ages 18 – mid 20's seem to be satisfied with the starting wage). However, he has a fairly large number of employees who average 30 years old and single parents. The current wage paid is not enough for them to make a living. Senator Fischer asked NDACF where increases can be made in this example to make a difference.
- d. The group discussed workforce development. Jake Reuter shared information about \$1.1 million to help out QSP's & DSP's in the area of recruitment and public awareness.

2. Item #7 – Senator Lee suggested that support for this legislation will have greater success if we provide examples what it means to the person who will have an increase in personal allowances from \$30 to \$50.

B. Comments

1. Senator Lee commended the Legislative Partnership for working together and coordinating provider issues and concerns. She stated that our efforts in partnering have saved time for legislators, NDACP, and other Medicaid partners because together we have identified our issues. She stated that NDACP has been a leader in this area and hoped others would follow our example. Senator Fischer agreed.
2. Representative Metcalf – urged us to work with Long Term Care during the session.
3. Senator Dever reminded us that \$1 billion of the \$1.2 billion surplus occurred during the last biennium. It is revenue that ND can't sustain nor rely on.

III. Next meeting – None scheduled

Thank you for your commitment and participation toward improving services for people who have developmental disabilities.