

State Program Standing Committee (SPSC)

February 15, 2024

Meeting held virtually by ZOOMGov

**Attendees**

**Committee Members:** Barbara Lee, Bethany Drum, Max Barrows, Ed Place, Cheryl Thrall, Collins Twing, Karen Price, Annie Jackson, Barb Prine, Chad Cleverly, David Ballou, Connie Woodberry and Jennifer Stratton

**State Employees:** Jennifer Garabedian, June Bascom, Jeff Nunemaker, Hilary Conant, Carolyn Bowen, Julie Abrahamson, Jessica Bernard, Jef Coy, Chris O'Neill, Sara Skomitz, Jeff Nunemaker, Jessica Bernard and Judy Spittle

**Guests** Lorna Mattern, Collette Wilson, Mark Prior, Katrina D, Julie Cunningham, Elise Haydon, Kara Artus, Ellen Malone, Gloria Quinn, Elizabeth Walters, Olivia Zoecklein, Kathleen White, Kirsten Murphy, Susan Aranoff, Chuck M, Marie Lallier, Christian Harris, Amy Fela, Jim Caffry, Judith Jackson, Michael Kasper, Janel Burke, Jess Moore, George McWilliam, Mary Graham McDowell

**Roll Call and Review of Agenda and minutes –**

January minutes were approved by Bethany Drum and 2<sup>nd</sup> by Cheryl Thrall

**UCS Re-Designation**

Agency Wide Standards were all met.

The following areas did not meet the standards. Please see full report for details

[\Presentations\2024 UCS DS Designation Report.pdf](#)

- 4.3 Agency Organization and Administration
- 4.7 Comprehensive Service System
- 4.8 Quality Improvement and Outcomes
- 4.9 Consumer Support, Treatment and records

Actions Required:

Agency Organization and Administration

4.3.2

Quarterly reports to DDSD addressing the status of communication quality between UCS Developmental Services leadership and staff shall be submitted beginning in March of 2024.

4.3.4

Quarterly reports addressing the status of improved morale of UCS Service Coordinators and Direct Support Staff shall be submitted to DDS D beginning in March of 2024.

#### Comprehensive Service System

##### 4.7.3

UCS will identify an internal candidate or outside consultant as a Public Safety expert to assist them in strengthening their Public Safety program, providing supervision and support, training, and case consultation to the UCS DS team working to support high acuity cases.

Please schedule monthly meetings between UCS and DDS D to review each of the Public Safety and Act 248 cases to discuss concerns and service delivery limitations, until UCS meets best practice standards and is safely supporting all people on Public Safety funding and Act 248. All plans must be in compliance with DDS D regulations.

Services in homes for people on Public Safety Funding must be safe and will align with best practices and current regulations.

Please include a status update on these actions, in the report referenced above in 4.3, submitted every 3 months beginning in March of 2024.

#### Quality Improvement and Outcomes

##### 4.8.2

UCS will follow guidance and directives from DAIL with timely and substantive responses. With the recent change in UCS leadership responsiveness has substantially improved and the expectation is that collaboration will continue.

#### Consumer Support, Treatment and Records

##### 4.97

ISA Guidelines standards must be met.

##### 4.9.9

DDS D reviews of Behavior Support Plans, Community Safety Plans, SOTIPS and VOTIPS assessments, the Annual Evaluations of Less Restrictive Placement for People Receiving Support Who Pose a Public Safety Risk, and Peggy's Law forms will demonstrate full compliance with DDS D Guidelines for these documents. Rights restrictions in support plans will include documentation of the consent, planning, and approval processes as detailed in the Behavior Support Guidelines. The State Human Rights Committee must review restrictions in Public Safety plans until further notice.

Please include a status update on these actions, in the report referenced above in 4.3, submitted every 3 months beginning in March of 2024.

With Henrietta coming in and being clearer on expectations and providing more oversight, things are improving. New leadership is putting into place new things, but it will take time.

QM need to follow-up on self-advocacy group. There were some service coordinators who were not aware of this group at UCS.

The SPSC Committee is asking in 6 months that they receive a progress report on the corrective action report from the Quality Division.

## **COI**

Gloria Quinn, Marie Lallier, Katie White

Presented a working draft of a document regarding the work so far.

Below are bullet points from that document.

- The table is meant to be used as a reference, and it not an official document that will dictate policy. DDS will work with all stakeholders on the official document.
- It is not in plain language and acronyms are not spelled out.
- It was created to list the tasks that service coordinators do including health, safety and quality.
- It will help make sure tasks aren't forgotten during the transition, so there is less disruption to people.
- Blue highlighted areas need more work, need more discussion, or have unanswered questions.
- Some sections are incomplete (work is ongoing.)
- Some tasks easily go to either the CME or Service Provider. Some tasks are shared by both. It is important to know who is responsible so there is less confusion for people.

We welcome suggestions but remember that this is not the final document. There will be a public comment period for final decisions. Note that each section is on its own page, hopefully it will be easier to follow.

[..\Presentations\VT Roles and Responsibilities DRAFT SPSC Copy.pdf](#)

Stakeholders will have time to weigh in on this document once things have been somewhat finalized.

CM will have the responsibility to facilitate the ISA. Service Provider to enact and train the plan.

This will not be the first time to discuss this.

Other than SPSC members should get a copy of this document.

GMSA, Transition II etc.

Marie will send the document to Judy to send out to group.

Looking at our service definitions -

GMSA – that 1 entity will provide oversight. It should read 2 or more entities to provide

Services that will be provided – breaking down roles. Share with SPSC next month

Getting feedback from other groups.

Timeline: RFI – Spring, RFP - Fall implementation 2025 and compete in 2026

## **Updates**

Bethany – Clara Martin – Mon and Thurs 12-5

GMSA – Voices and Choices Conference is April 23 and 24. Visit our website

DD Council – tough legislative sessions – budget requests. Make a Date to visit State House.

Contact Susan Aranoff if you want to tour the State House. Every day is Disability Awareness day buttons.

Large number of slots opening at DD Council at the end of March. Looking for self-advocates.

VCP – results Crisis report from 2023. Will send report to Judy to send out to SPSC group

Forensic facility at legislation