



Intellectual & Developmental Disabilities Task Force

MEETING MINUTES

The Intellectual & Developmental Disabilities Task Force met on Tuesday, May 10, 2022, from 12:30 pm (ET) – 3:00 pm in Room A at the Indiana Government Center Conference Center at 402 West Washington Street Indianapolis, IN 46204. Live streaming of the meeting is available at the following link: <https://www.youtube.com/c/FSSAIndianavideos>.

(Pre-Meeting) There was a Public Comment period from 12:30 pm – 1:00 pm ET

No public comments were provided.

I. Lt. Governor Suzanne Crouch Called the Meeting to Order

II. Introduction of Task Force Members

Lt. Governor Suzanne Crouch, Representative Ed Clere, Senator Shelli Yoder, Representative Chris Campbell, Kelly Mitchell, Anne Valentine, Brian Gilbert, Cathy Robinson, Kim Dodson, Shawn Fulton, Dr. Nancy Holsapple, Jason Meyer, Pat Cockrum, Joe Langerak, Jon Barth, Austin Hollabaugh.

III. Review and Approval of Meeting Minutes from October 14, 2021

The meeting minutes were approved.

IV. FSSA Direct Support Workforce (DSW) Initiative – Peggy Welch, Chief Advocacy Officer

The state of Indiana is projected to be one of the states with the highest need of “direct service workers” in the future. The Direct Service Workforce Initiative is created to identify potential solutions. A Direct Service Workforce Advisory Board is in place with members from around the state, with a key partner in the Bowen Center for this initiative that will find answers to how can Indiana do better with recruiting, training, supporting, and retaining individuals in this space. There are meetings planned through the end of May and June to gather input from stakeholders. A recent segment on the local PBS channel WFYI was mentioned and later provided to Task Force members after the meeting. [Home health aides are hard to find – and it could get worse \(wfyi.org\)](https://www.wfyi.org/home-health-aides-are-hard-to-find-and-it-could-get-worse)

V. Task Force Discussion on DSW Initiative (1:35 pm)

The Task Force discussed the complexity of the issue and the potential of creating career pathways for DSWs and the importance of bringing the right partners to the table to create these pathways.

VI. DDRS Update on 1102 Recommendations (1:45 pm)

DDRS Director and Bureau leadership gave updates on the 1102 Task Force Recommendations.

Director of Bureau of Rehabilitation Services, Theresa Koleszar, shared information on a new grant opportunity from RSA. The grant is aimed at transitioning individuals who are employed with sub minimum wage or considering entering sub minimum wage.



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New Director of Policy and Strategic Initiatives, Kyle Ingram, was introduced to the Task Force. The purpose of his role is enhancing and improving competitive integrated employment (CIE) outcomes for individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities. Kyle gave an update on the initiatives on which he is working.

Bureau of Developmental Disabilities Services Director, Holly Wimsatt gave an update on system transformation and waiver redesign.

DDRS Director Kelly Mitchell discussed the recommendations that focused on enhancing provider capacity. She addressed a recent reimbursement rate increase, sustainability grants and stabilization grants.

Director of the First Steps program, Christina Commons, shared an update on the program noting growth of additional service providers in the state.

VII. Task Force Discussion on DDRS Update 1102 Recommendations (2:00 pm)

Discussion of the recommendations occurred during the update.

VIII. Legislative Update & 1102 Sub-Committees (2:15 pm)

Three new subcommittees are established to continue with the ongoing work of the Task Force. 1) Direct Support Professionals Curriculum and Training, 2) Waiver Trends and Support, 3) Incident Report.

IX. Task Force Discussion 1075 Sub-Committees (2:30 pm) Recommendations due at next meeting August 23, 2022, (1-3pm)

Due by September 1, send to legislative body recommendations that relate to:

1) Direct Support Professional Curriculum and Training Committee:

- The establishment of statewide training curriculum for individuals who provide services to individuals with I/DD
- Feasibility of establishing a training certification
- Feasibility of establishing a training registry
- Feasibility of a pilot project to implement any recommendations

Chair: Heather Dane

Facilitator: Erica Reaves, HMS



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2) Waiver Trends and Support (Emergency waiver) Committee:

- Current trends related to health and safety requests for the community integration habilitation Medicaid waiver or any other service
- The feasibility of the division establishing a pilot project to create special review teams to assist families or individuals in a crisis situation to identify available sources of assistance.

Chair: Holly Wimsatt **Facilitator:** Yoshi Kardell

3) Incident reporting

- Create a report to be distributed by Bureau of Developmental Disability Services authorized service providers
- To provide to the authorized service provider the name of each direct support professional who has been the subject of a substantiated incident report

Chair: Jessica Harlan-York **Facilitator:** Kim Cauley

At the next meeting of the Task Force, August 23rd the Task Force will review the recommendations and give legislators by September 1, 2022.

X. Meeting Adjourned

The Lt. Governor adjourned the meeting.