

## **Payment in Adult Day and Employment Services Workgroup**

**December 13, 2018 10:00 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.**

**Attendees:** Chris Filler (OCALI), Scott Marks (OACB), Karen Blumhorst (Capabilities/We Can Too/OPRA), Gary Tonks (ARC of Ohio), Mary Thompson-Hufford (FUSE Network), Ed Stark (SEC), Lisa Mathis (OPRA), Tiffany Martin (Called In/Goodwill Columbus/OPRA), Sarah Zimmerman (SEC), Jan Dougherty (Ohio APSE), Melissa Morelli (OAAS/OPRA), Pennie Chappell (OSDA), Greg Dormer (OOD), Kraig Walker (People First), Tom Rickels(OWN for Kathy Phillips), Debbie Jenkins (Called In/OCHA), Stephanie Barber-Maynard (OSDA), Cecia David (ViaQuest)

**Members Absent:** Kristen Henry (APSI)

**DODD Attendees:** Stacy Collins, Steve Beha, Kim Hauck, Lyndsay Nash, Lori Horvath, Kristi Williams

**Facilitator:** Jo Krippenstapel

### **1. Welcome and Agenda Review**

Kim welcomed the group. Stacy reviewed the agenda and folder contents. Work group material can be found [here](#).

### **2. Purpose and Progress**

Stacy reviewed the work group purpose, reviewed accomplishments, and vocational habilitation fact sheet. Summary below:

- Accomplishments:
  - Progress is impressive – work has not gone unnoticed. We need to celebrate.
  - Ohio compared to other populated states – Ohio is number 2 in integrated employment services (2016 data pull).
  - Currently we are at 30% in integrated employment services
  - We started at 23% in 2014 and have grown to 30% in 2018. Impressive growth.
  - 2800 more people are working in the community – that is amazing! (Service data)
- Vocational Habilitation fact sheet - #'s served, age breakdown, claims data

### **3. Reviewed DRAFT Framework for Aligning Vocational Habilitation Service Delivery with Federal and State Requirements**

Stacy and Lori provided a review of the framework. This document outlines the federal requirements that impact the vocational habilitation service in Ohio. The document outlines four columns per each regulation.

- **Orange Column**- What the regulation requires?
  - **Grey Column**- How Ohio is or can meet the regulation requirements?
  - **Blue Column**- What system changes need to happen to help make the changes work?
  - **Green Column**- What tools can be created to help with the changes?
- Five Main Points to the Framework
    - **Development of New Retirement Service**- Ohio will develop a new service that will “carve out” individuals 50 and over to maintain services as they are today. It is important to note that this does leave Ohio at a potential risk because Medicaid does not fund a service to support people in a sheltered work setting to produce a good or provide a service with no end. We do feel we can justify our efforts to right size the vocational habilitation service for 18-49 year olds. We estimate this service would be available in 2020.
    - **24-month statewide time limit to Vocational Habilitation Service for 18-49 year olds**- This would be a cumulative total. Yearly extensions would be available based on ISP span. DODD will develop an authorization process for the extensions. There will be no limit to the number of available extensions.
    - **50% Wage Calculation**- Yearly, based on State of Ohio minimum wage, and BLS annual # of the average Americans hours worked per week. Employment services providers would be required to add annual wage earnings to the annual written progress report submitted to SSA’s. Written progress reports are a planning tool to aide a person’s progression on the path to community employment.
    - **Increase community based prevocational services**- 2019 (gather baseline data), 2020-2024 (set yearly targets to increase community based prevocational services)
    - **Identify available funding to provide technical assistance and training to sheltered workshops who are interested in being only an employer for individuals with disabilities. This TA would focus on business practices to discontinue being a vocational habilitation provider.**

Lori discussed with the work group that this framework would have to be viewed in its totality. DODD wants to focus on the whole picture of Vocational Habilitation and all of the Federal and State regulations that impact this service.

### **Group Discussion- Comments and Questions**

- Person Centered Planning – trumps most things – need parameters – need to look at the bigger picture as it is not just employment
  - How is it possible that we could carve out a service based on someone's age?
  - There may be other consequences – look at other states – Adult Day Services have sky rocketed or stay at home and not many people are being placed in employment
  - Vocational vs. Prevocational vs. Voc Rehab definitions are confusing for families – muddy language – need to convey a clear message
  - Over 50% what does that mean? Another round? Community? Can they come back?
  - Providers who are not doing the right thing (inducements). Paying them to clean the facility where they are going.
  - Service definitions issues – need clarification – this will be imperative
- Assessment tool? – No assessments for employment – look for that type of tool – moved to tools we can create. Moved back to “How can we do it” – justify or not if moving toward an extension. Used in a decision tree. More formalized in rule process vs. a resource. An actual process on how we can do it.
- 24-month limit – hard and fast or soft?
- Transparent process – authorizations and exceptions
- No limits to extensions and how to manage over time
- Receive Community employment and Voc Hab at the same time?
- State authorizations and extensions – keeping local vs. state
- Funding – everything including the new service – is there enough
- Entitlements system – 1:1
- More information on the new service for those 50 and older and if CMS will approve?

#### **4. Draft Communication Document**

Steve reviewed with the work group the current draft communication document. The target audience is families, individuals, providers, and SSAs.

**Next meeting January 31<sup>st</sup> 10:00 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.**