



SCAAIDD

Executive Committee Meeting

March 26th , 2010

- I. Call to Order-Chair, Rick called the meeting to order. In attendance at today's meeting was: Rick Wagner, Terry Schilling, Renee Staggs, Ron Lofts, Jay Altman, Dean Redd, John Hitchman, and Heather Waddell.
- II. Review/Approval of Minutes- Review of Minutes from our January 22nd meeting occurred. There was a motion made by Terry Schilling to approve the minutes and was seconded by Renee Staggs. The minutes were approved and motion so passed.
- III. Treasurer's Report-Jason Tavenner, Treasurer was not in attendance at today's meeting. (However, Rick received a copy and it was passed out to all members at the meeting). Renee did mention that she was going to ask Jason to prepare a conference budget by next month's meeting.
- IV. Committee Reports:
 - a. Membership-Committee Chair is Terry Schilling
Ms. Schilling reported that we currently have 59 members. John asked if membership was down and Terry stated that we have three more members than at January's meeting.
 - b. Education and Training-Committee Chair is Amanda Diaczenko
Ms. Diaczenko was unable to attend the meeting today. However, the committee did discuss state that Amanda has done very well in setting up trainings throughout this past year. Deb was not in attendance at today's meeting however, she did state at our meeting held in January that she will talk with Amanda about continuing to chair "Education and Training" and the committee did discuss in our conference committee held earlier today that there needs to be more emphasis placed on our approach to marketing the training sessions that Amanda lines up. There was also some discussion held regarding setting up trainings so that staff can gain credentials in becoming CRCF Administrators. This is a need in our state as more providers are offering this residential option.
 - c. Direct Support Activities-Committee Chair is Nikki Bramlett
Nikki was not in attendance at today's meeting however; Jay did state that he feels Nikki would like to continue with her role as chair of "Direct Support Activities". It was mentioned that Nikki and Amanda could collaborate on training opportunities for direct care staff.

- d. SCAAIDD Newsletter- Committee Chair is Ron Lofts
Ron stated that he would send the next newsletter out in late May hopefully to include an upcoming training session that we will sponsor.
- e. Conference Committee-Committee Chair is Renee Staggs
Renee chaired the meeting today and let the committee know that the overall census of the group was to hold a one day conference with one or two additional trainings throughout the year. Renee and Heather are going today to look at a possible conference location, Brookland Community Resource Center. Renee will update the committee the first of next week regarding possible prices, etc. We did decide on targeting for the month of October to hold our one day conference. We will be discussing Keynote Speakers and concurrent sessions at next month's meeting.
- f. Legislative News-Committee Chair is Rufus Britt, III
Rufus was not in attendance at today's meeting however, he did provide a report via John Hitchman. He included the following: **American Workers, State, & Business Relief Act of 2010:** The United States Senate passed by a vote of 62 to 36 the American Workers, State, and Business Relief Act of 2010 (H.R. 4213), which includes an extension of the Recovery Act's increased Federal match for state Medicaid programs. The passed bill extends the increased FMAP through June 30, 2011, which is estimated to provide states with an additional \$25.5 billion in FMAP and an additional \$1.2 billion in adjustments to help states with the Medicare Part D payments states are required to make to the federal government. The bill requires approval from the House of Representatives. **Fiscal Year 2011 Forecast:** The SC House of Representatives is proposing funds to be appropriated to DDSN and other human services agencies to restore and or sustain services to the state's most vulnerable citizens, to include children and adults with disabilities and special needs. The spending plan of the House also includes a proviso intended to extend early intervention services to children categorized as "at risk". The SC Senate will have the option to accept the spending plan prepared by the House or amend their recommendations, in part or as a whole. **Thank Our Legislators:** Our elected officials are really working diligently to address the needs of those we serve and their families. In addition, it's important to emphasize the kindness the General Assembly has demonstrated towards SCDDSN, DSN Boards, and Qualified Providers in years past and their continual responsiveness to the needs of our stakeholders. SCAAIDD members were encouraged to "thank" our legislators for their responsiveness, both past and present.
- g. AAIDD News/Development- Dr. David Rotholz was not in attendance at today's meeting however, as of May 17, 2010 Dr. Margaret Nygren will serve as the Executive Director of AAIDD. She is focused on supporting the most forward-thinking government policies and best practices for professionals, and institutional research to ensure individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities can live full, rewarding lives in the community.

- V. Old Business: The committee had questions regarding our By-Laws to include Members-At-Large and Dean Redd stated that he would review the By-Laws and provide the committee feedback at next month's meeting.
- VI. New Business: The committee discussed the recent lawsuit regarding the "In the United States District Court for the District of South Carolina Greenville Division: The action for declaratory and injunctive relief for violation of Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990. The lawsuit states that "South Carolina has continued to expend its resources providing services in the most expensive congregate, institutional facilities, where person who have disabilities are stigmatized and isolated from their families, their friends, and their communities. SCDDSN continues to expend a large portion of its budget on services provided in ICF/MR facilities, which are highly regulated and isolated nursing facilities for person who have mental retardation and related disabilities. Plaintiffs are South Carolina citizens with profound multiple disabilities who bring this action to enforce their rights to receive services in the most integrated setting appropriate to their needs, which is in their homes and communities. Defendants have reduced and threaten to further reduce Medicaid Waiver services which Plaintiffs need to remain safely in their homes and communities".
- VII. Adjourn: Rick adjourned the meeting. We will meet again on April 23rd.

Prepared by Heather G. Waddell, Secretary