disABILITY LAW CENTER

Protection & Advocacy for Virginians with Disabilities

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OF VIRGINIA

PAIMI Meeting

January 23,2021

Participating:

PAIMI members: Brandon Cassady, Heidi Campbell, Caroline Gendelman (Vice-Chair), Bonnie Neighbour, Tina Stelling (Chair), Kaea Waldrop, Pam Durham (Secretary, minute taker), and Staci Young

dLCV: Becka Herbig, Kourtney Wilson, Nicole Durose, Valerie Jones, and Tom Walk Prospective Members: Weston Allen, Michael Toobin, and Dr. Edmund Creekmore **Call to order:** Tine Stelling

Mission statement: Tina Stelling

Public comment: none

Introductions

October Minutes Approval: Motion to approve by Caroline, seconded by Pam. Corrections made to names.

Membership Renewal: N/A

Individual Advocacy Updates:

- Caroline's relayed a personal experience with her brother in Staunton and having limited contact. Concerns regarding getting COVID updates. Her brother had complications, and she was never notified despite being his guardian. He had become nonverbal and lost the ability to process food. Caroline suggested looking into investigating facilities.
- Pam expressed concern about an uptick in abuse cases at her facility but reported positive measures being put in place.
- Staci discussed issues regarding the ability to do telehealth in rural areas. Reports a lot of phone check-ins. Lack of face-to-face and follow-up and care. Some patients are waiting up to six weeks.
- Brandon ARC put up their concerns to the General Assembly
- Kaea is trying to get her daughter's IEP, and there is a struggle with virtual kids falling through the cracks. Council members offered assistance

Board Update

Tom Walk provided an update:

- Thanked Tina for her services on the board
- Foundation combined into the board, merging four members.
- Update on board members

- New officers were elected.
- Colleen is working with the General assembly.
- The strategic plan was updated to justify its existence as a board. One key point was the changing environment related to COVID and helping people be more comfortable with technology.
- Consider which advocacy effort and they are tied to challenges of money.
- In the beginning planning stage for the Virtual Gala
- Tom discussed looking into dLCV purchasing their own building and if other agencies are instructed in renting. There is a task force looking into the project.

House Keeping

• Tina set our 2021 dates:

Saturday, April 24th Saturday, July 24th Saturday, October 23rd

- Secretary: Nominations for Heidi, who agreed to take on the role and was approved by the council
- Tina gave a reminder about setting goals and objectives for the year.

PAIMI Grant Overview

- Clyde Mathews presented an overview of PAIMI Grant, including the establishment of PAIMI councils and their role, membership, membership requirements, PAC membership, the purpose of PAIMI, how PAIMI influences policy change, and the benefits of being on the PAIMI Council.
- Michael brought up inconsistencies regarding PAIMI by-laws versus federal guidelines. Possibility of revising the by-laws 60% membership IRS and family members of those IRCS.
- Discussion regarding two four-year terms versus 4-year term two-year break

Volunteer Report

- Valerie Jones discussed opportunities about volunteering and how to navigate in the climate of COVID.
- An issue with CHRIS reports changed to remotely.
- Need volunteers to assist the legislative team, reviewing bills and taking notes. Nicole monitors jail mail. Nicole now scans jail mail so reviews can be completed remotely.
- DMV survey for accessibility currently in process. Drive-by DMV to makes sure they are handicap accessible. There is virtual training for the DMV survey
- Working on getting volunteers for podcast
- Tina ask what CHRIS reports are used for Carolina gave an overview
- Tina asked Valerie if she had specific needs DMV survey

The email provided: <u>Valerie.jones@dlcv.org</u>

https://www.dlcv.org/volunteer

Recruitment /Membership

Nicole updated on council membership. Currently, nine members. Need between 12-15 members.

Mentorship programs would include meeting at least time before or after the meeting.

Litigation Report: Colleen Miller

- Reviewed recent leadership training
- Took questions regarding the Progress Report or Litigation Report

- Discussed involving Shenandoah Valley Juvenile Center.
- Question about TIC Trauma-Informed Care whether it is a standard. They report they get to apply a corrections standard.
- Michael asked about the Department of Election litigation. Colleen clarified that it was limited to vision and written limitation capacities.

General Assembly Overview: Colleen Miller

- GA session started a little over two weeks ago
- Updates are on the dLCV website
- HB 2166 regarding MOT: Polarized views of MOT. Consumers believe it is counterproductive. Most family members and policymakers feel it is necessary. It made the language gentler but did not change the meaning. Bill removes the requirement that the individual must agree to MOT. Staci provided insights into the challenges of MOT.
- Deed's Commission looking to make it a permanent joint legislative commission (Behavioral Health Commission)
- DBHD is looking to make changes in discharge planning SB 1304. might have the intention to provoke CSBs. Someone can be discharged from the hospital without the discharge plan, which is not a good thing. CSBs are making planning based on budget.
- HB 2236 Del. Bell Behavioral Health court documents talk about the ability of mental health court supervision being able to change jurisdictions.
- HB 1874 getting good mental health assessments in correctional facilities. There is push back due to expense and "Don't tell us what to do."
- Suicide as a crime is stigmatizing is a common-law crime. The bill generally runs out of steam on the Senate side. Staci offered assistance through a lieutenant in the sheriff's office who is a mental health advocate.
- SB 1185: Senator Dunavant is looking to increase auxiliary funding for room and board (only in assistant living facilities). This does not apply to permanent supported.
- Surveyed polling places curbside voting best-kept secret in Virginia. Promoting legislation to give access to information. Bill is OTW to the house.
- Employment protections for persons with disabilities. Housing protection for every protected class. Will add disability to the protection of the law. It also takes the Virginians with Disabilities Act and brings it up to date. Thru house now on to the senate
- Legislation to abuse and neglect reports to CHRIS system dLCV now has access. Passed on the way to the Senate OTW to full senate Incident. PAIMI GREAT NEWS !! Now there will be a need to work through all of the additional reports that will be generated.
- Discussion impact of COVID in state hospitals

Tina, Caroline, and Stacy stay online to meet with the potential members and answer any questions they might have.

Meeting adjourned at 2:22