



## APD PROVIDERS / SUPPORT COORDINATORS JOINT MEETING

Wednesday, May 18, 2016 9:30 A.M.

401 NW 2<sup>ND</sup> AVENUE, SUITE N-1011, MIAMI, FL 33128

AGENDA ITEM	ISSUE / DISCUSSION	ACTION / FOLLOW UP
I. CALL TO ORDER	<p><b>Providers' Meeting Talking Points (05/18/16)</b></p> <hr/> <p><b>Sherab Chodron, Deputy ROM (Regional Program Administrator) (Waiver, Waitlist &amp; Community Affairs, Clinical)</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <b>Updates</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ <u>New Provider Introductions.</u> None.</li> <li>➤ <u>Provider Meetings.</u> We are currently analyzing the provider meeting survey tool. Thanks to all those who took the time to complete the survey. <b>Special note: you can attend meetings by conference call at 1-888-670-3525, Caller ID 6656678171.</b> In order to receive credit for your attendance via conference call, please email confirmation of your attendance via conference call to <a href="mailto:sherab.chodron@apdcares.org">sherab.chodron@apdcares.org</a>.</li> <li>➤ <u>Director's Visit Update.</u> Director Palmer will <b>not</b> be traveling to South Florida on July 14<sup>th</sup>. Stand by for further updates, but be advised, she will be meeting with all providers in Orlando in September, on or about the time of the DCF Dependency Summit.</li> <li>➤ <u>New Staff Introductions.</u> <u>Michelle Alamo.</u> Newest HSPA hire in Supported Employment and EEP. Michelle is currently enrolled at Miami-Dade College, is completing her AA in accounting, and has over 8 years of experience in customer service, office administration, and computer systems. She is no stranger to APD and serving our population is her passion. She has served our folks for over five years now, starting first at MDC in the Bursar's Department with an ACCESS Internship, and most recently at the Division of Vocational Rehabilitation working closely with consumers, vendors, counselors and teachers. We are delighted to have her join our Team! Welcome Michelle!</li> <li>➤ <u>Today's Speaker.</u> <u>Nelson Sanchez.</u> Nelson Sanchez graduated from the University of Puerto Rico with a BS in Physical Therapy in 1982. He worked as a Physical Therapist in a variety of settings including: Acute Care, Inpatient Rehabilitation, and Pediatrics (acute care, early intervention, and private practice).</li> </ul> </li> </ol>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ For more information about the Agency for Persons with Disabilities, please contact Evelyn Alvarez at (305) 349-1478.</li> </ul>

In 2000 he graduated from the Miami Dade College Nursing Accelerated Program with an AS in Nursing., then went on to complete his BSN at Florida International University in 2003 and his MSN at Florida Atlantic University in 2007. Currently he is a PhD candidate in nursing at Florida International University. Nelson has worked in Med Surge, CCU, Hospice, and as a Nursing Instructor. His research interest is focused on improving the health of parents caring for children with physical and cognitive deficits, especially those belonging to ethnic/racial minorities. His presentation today – and accompanying handouts – concerns the health of caregivers caring for individuals with disabilities. Mr. Sanchez is also interested in recruiting Hispanic parents for his PhD research study. If you know of any parents who may be interested and benefit, please have them contact Mr. Sanchez at [nelsonsanchez@yahoo.com](mailto:nelsonsanchez@yahoo.com) or 305-989-6771.

- Next Month's Speaker. Tentative plans to have a presentation concerning emergency and disaster planning.

2. **TRAIN Florida**

Beginning today, TRAIN Florida is the official learning management system for APD. The First courses that will be launched on the new LMS are Zero Tolerance, Direct Care Core Competencies and HIPAA. The DDCC will include: Individual Choices, Rights & Responsibilities; Intro to Developmental Disabilities; Maintaining Health, Safety and Wellness; and Basic Person-Centered Planning. All Providers will be required to complete the course "Requirements for All Waiver Providers" located on the APD website at <http://apdares.org/providers/training/required-basic-training.htm>, and an orientation course. All courses will be available AT NO COST to APD employees, providers, clients and their families. You will soon find an email in your email box concerning TRAIN. Stand by!

3. **ABLE Trust**

ABLE United is Florida's Qualified ABLE Program. ABLE stands for "Achieving a Better Life Experience." ABLE accounts are tax-free and investment savings accounts that individuals with qualifying disabilities can set up to support disability-related expenses while maintaining government benefits, i.e. the \$2000 asset limit is not a barrier to savings and investments, and an individual can reserve and invest money – including contributions of any kind – without endangering or losing their social security benefits or Medicaid. Qualified expenses that can be saved and paid for include "living expenses" and are NOT required to be medically necessary. Legislative mandate requires the website and information concerning the trust accounts be fully accessible by July 1, 2016. We will continue to provide updates at the Providers' Meetings, and the informational packets will also be made available to us by July 1. I am working to see if we cannot have a full presentation on the ABLE program at our July 20, 2016 meeting. Basic information can be found at <http://myablesavings.com/>.

4. **Delmarva Quality Council.**

The Quality Council (QC), formerly known as the Interagency Quality Council

(IQC), consists of members with leadership skills, and a strong interest in driving quality for the Florida Statewide Medicaid Waiver program. Quality Council members assist in enhancement of service delivery in Florida. Members include those receiving Developmental Disabilities services, also known as self-advocates, family members, Medicaid Waiver Providers, Waiver Support Coordinators, and other stakeholders.

- Provides oversight of quality assurance activities conducted by Delmarva;
- Monitors compliance with contractual obligations;
- Contributes feedback to Delmarva, AHCA and APD on their implementation of quality assurance reviews of Home and Community-Based Services Waivers providers;
- Furnishes a forum for discussion and development of recommendations that results in practical, useful, and easily understood information for stakeholders which can be used to facilitate meaningful quality improvement activities; and
- Recommends awareness of available community resources and community partnerships, in order to expand resources for persons with developmental disabilities.

QC identifies areas for practical and realistic improvement based on the data generated by Delmarva Discovery Reviews, APD and AHCA initiatives, and information gathered from other stakeholders. The QC utilizes a variety of formats for areas of idea generation, including presentations by Delmarva, APD, and AHCA staff as well as presentations from community organizations and HSRI (Human Research Services Institute). QC members brainstorm and produce solutions in various set ups including, but not limited to, small work groups to develop practical solutions and report these back to the larger QC. Delmarva Foundation (DF) and the Agency for Healthcare Administration (AHCA) facilitate QC meetings. The day long meetings are held four times per year, two in Tallahassee and two in other parts of the state. For more information, please contact: Robyn Turlakis ([turlakisr@delmarvafoundation.org](mailto:turlakisr@delmarvafoundation.org)) or call toll-free 866-254-2075

5. **Special Notes to Providers.**

**Resignation/Hardship/Caseload.** A reminder that if you find yourself, your agency, or another provider with whom you are doing business suffering hardship of any kind – be it financial concerns, physical or mental health issues, or caseload capacity – APD is here to help you. However, the onus is on you to reach out and express your concerns. As a region, we have recently been faced with closures and waiver service agreement terminations that in many instances may have been avoidable if we could have interceded prior to the time that issues became irreversible. Closure and terminations create havoc in the lives of those we serve, and deeply effect their health and safety. We want our providers to succeed. Help us to help you, and help your brothers and sisters in service.

Foster Parent Interest/Provision of Services to children who are not APD clients. If you are interested in becoming a foster parent, and providing that service in an APD licensed facility, you must seek DCF licensure. For information please call 1-800-981-KIDS (5437).

6. **Contact Information**

➤ Available by email @ [sherab.chodron@apdcares.org](mailto:sherab.chodron@apdcares.org) and @ 305-377-5089.

**II. STATE / AREA AND APD UPDATE**

• **Legislative Update:**

- The Florida Legislature convened January 12, 2016 for its annual 60-day legislative session.
- The Senate and House are expected to approve measures that encourage state agencies to hire people with disabilities, expand educational opportunities, and create a financial literacy program.
- Here is a breakdown of some of the bills:
- The Florida Senate approved legislation Friday aimed at helping people with disabilities become economically independent.
- The measure (HB 7003) would encourage state agencies to employ more people with disabilities, recognize businesses that hire them and establish a program to teach them financial literacy.
- It joins another bill (SB 672), passed by both the House and Senate earlier this week, creating personal learning scholarship accounts to boost educational opportunities for children with developmental disabilities.
- In part, the bill passed would require certain state agencies to commit to improving employment opportunities for people with disabilities.
- The requirement would apply to the Agency for Persons with Disabilities, the Department of Economic Opportunity, the Division of Vocational Rehabilitation and Division of Blind Services at the Department of Education, and the Executive Office of the Governor
- The bill also directs the Department of Management Services to develop mandatory training programs for human resources personnel and to help other state agencies with their strategies for hiring and retaining employees with disabilities
- (House Bill 1083)-Agency for Persons with Disabilities -Agency for Persons with Disabilities; Revises priority classifications for clients on waiting list for Medicaid home & community-based waiver services.

▪ For more information about the Agency for Persons with Disabilities, please contact Evelyn Alvarez at (305) 349-1478.

**CONTINUED STATE / AREA AND APD UPDATE**

- (Senate Bill 388) -Florida Unique Abilities Partner Program- recognizes business entities that employ individuals who have a disability.
- (Senate Bill 672/House Bill 7011) -PreK-12 and Postsecondary Education Options for Students with Unique Abilities- Educational Options; Creating the "Florida Postsecondary Comprehensive Transition Program Act." Passed by both House & Senate creating personal learning scholarship accounts to boost education opportunities for children with Developmental Disabilities.
- (Senate Bill 962/House Bill 1359 ) Vocational Rehabilitation - Aimed at employment opportunities for people with unique abilities, focusing on "vocational evaluation and planning, career counseling and guidance, job-site assessment and accommodations, job placement, job coaching, and on-the-job training."
- **Legislative Inquiries:** During session it is not uncommon to receive a legislative inquiry with a very short turnaround. We will identify this as an alert in our email subject line. It is imperative that you please respond timely and accurately.
- Ms. Alvarez, thanked everyone for their participation and hard work and wished everyone a great rest of the week!
- Meeting adjourned.

***Diana Flores Unit regional program supervisor***

**Waitlist to Waiver & Community Affairs**

**Waitlist to waiver enrollment**

- **April #** of waitlist to waiver consumers enrolled = **37**
- Reminder to WSCs: when you receive an eligibility notice from Medicaid, please immediately communicate with the waitlist unit so that the enrollment can be sent and processed as soon as possible.

**Crisis Tools**

- In **April** we reviewed **11 Crisis Tools/ CBC -5**, and **27 consumer's categories** were **changed**.

**EEP**

- EEP #s holding steady at **16 employed/engaged**, and **5 internships**.
- Newest EEP intern is working in this office: Fernando
- New EEP internship offering from “My Life/My Power”
- **5** recent EEP referrals from MDCPS Transition Specialist
- Michael Cardello has spent a good deal of time in the field this past month, attending transition and community services meetings and events in order to develop more employer and consumer resources. In last month, Michael attended:
  - AoA Monroe
  - Miami Dade Parks, Recreation & Open Spaces Disability Services Transition Resource Fair
  - Transition meetings at Northwestern High School & American Senior High School to recruit 2 new EEP consumers
  - Neva King Cooper Educational Center Family Resource Event
  - EEP Internship meeting: “Share Your Heart”
  - EEP Internship meeting: “My Life; My Power”
- New hires: Michelle Alamo bio
  - Michelle Alamo is no stranger to The Agency for Persons with Disabilities, having spent 2 and a half years working with the Division of Vocational Rehabilitation and another 2 ½ years at Miami Dade College (Access - Internship and Bursars Dept.- Perm.). Together she has about 5 years’ experience working with individuals with disabilities. During her stay with DVR and MDC she worked closely with each Costumers/Vendors/Counselors/Teachers, she was the point of contact. This experience has molded her professionally; Ms. Alamo is fully capable of managing multiple assignments and reaching targeted goals. It is evident her passion to help and see others succeed, this is what keeps her motivated. Additionally, Michelle holds about 8 years of experience in customer service, general office work and computer knowledge. Michelle graduated HS in 2004, she is currently enrolled at MDC in process of completing her Associates in Arts. Ms. Alamo is also certified/trained in First Aid/CPR/AED. With all this being said I know Michelle Alamo will make a

great addition to our team.

**FCC**

- FCC met this past week on May 11<sup>th</sup>; June meeting is cancelled; next meeting is scheduled for July 13<sup>th</sup> from 10am-12pm in APD offices.
- We have four new member applications and one membership application for re-appointed pending in Tallahassee.
- We have identified 3 potential members interested and have started the application process.
- Additional information about the FCC can be found on the website FCCFlorida.org and by contacting Diana Flores directly.

Brenda Viera, RN, MCM.  
Regional Program Supervisor/Medical Case Manager

### With May being Mental Health Month

According to the latest statistics from the National Mental Health Association and the National Institute on Mental Health, today one in four adults — approximately 61.5 million Americans — experience mental illness in a given year. One in 17 — about 13.6 million — live with a serious mental illness such as schizophrenia, major depression or bipolar disorder. Approximately 20 percent of youth ages 13 to 18 experience severe mental disorders in a given year. For ages 8-15, the estimate is 13 percent.

Yet, with all the progress made for treatment of the mentally ill, 60 percent of adults and 50 percent of youth with mental illness received no mental health service in the year. Additionally, untreated mental illness costs our nation approximately \$200 billion yearly due to unemployment, unnecessary disability, substance abuse, and other factors. Even after these 67 some years of yearly Mental Health Month observations, the process of the general population being observant and aware has progressed very slowly; even most of the overall media we currently have does not run articles or air broadcasts of the observation, despite the ever-growing numbers of persons with mental illness in our community, state, and nation.

Other types of mental illness are ADHD Anxiety Disorders Autism Bipolar Disorder Borderline Personality Disorder Depression Dissociative Disorders Eating Disorders Obsessive-Compulsive Disorder Posttraumatic Stress Disorder Schizoaffective Disorder Schizophrenia.

#### Some resources include

The National Alliance of Mental Health Illness **786 308-9680**

Mental Health Association of Dade County **305 379-2673**

Jackson Behavioral Health **305 324-4357**

Chrysalis Health **954 587-1008**



# Latest on Zika Virus Vaccine

Scientists have for the first time cloned the [Zika virus](#), a development that could bring a desperately needed vaccine within closer reach.

A team from the [The University of Texas Medical Branch](#) at Galveston was able to genetically engineer Zika, so researchers can now make the virus in test tubes and on Petri dishes.

Lead author Pei-Yong Shi said his team's manmade Zika means scientists can study and adapt the virus to develop a vaccine. It could also be used to test the efficacy of their own vaccines.

The team was able to infect mosquitoes with the cloned virus as well as mice, which went on to develop neurological diseases.

"What we've created is something that is reproducible, meaning that batches of this virus can be made in large quantities," Shi said.

He said that if scientists are able to adapt the virus to make a safe vaccine, trials on animals could start soon and clinical trials could start as early as next year.

The U.S. [National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases](#) has created a trial vaccine for similar viruses that can be used as a starting point for a Zika vaccine, and the [Jenner Institute](#) has conducted trials with mice and aims to hold clinic trials by 2017.

The World Health Organization says Zika is also linked to Guillain-Barré Syndrome, a rare disease in which a person's own immune system damages the nerve cells, causing muscular weakness and, in some cases, paralysis.

A pharmaceutical company and condom manufacturer announced that they would arm the Australian Olympic team with ["Zika-proof" condoms](#) and antiviral lubricants as thousands of athletes compete in the Summer Games in Brazil, the epicenter of the latest Zika outbreak. Some health experts have called for the [Olympics to be moved](#) to a Zika-free location.

The World Health Organization said Tuesday that it expects Brazil will have more than 2,500 babies born with a severe birth defect known as microcephaly if current trends continue in the Zika virus outbreak. Followed by panama and now 1 case of microcephaly in Puerto Rico confirmed by the CDC.

With summer fast approaching and the raining season starting, providers make sure to check for containers full of water. This can cause for mosquitos incubation. Also as a remainder for consumers to use mosquito repellent and again you do not need a

	<p>prescription for it.</p> <p>Other reminders providers continue to send the medication error reports as well as the completed incident report when reporting a death.</p> <p>I also wanted to mention that I will soon be providing a medication overview class. I will announced the dates and will let you know.</p> <p>Thank you</p>	
	<p><b>Kirk Ryon Regional Program Supervisor Quality Assurance Work stream</b></p> <p><b>Kirk Ryon introduced Arnaldo Ramos, Program Specialist for Quality Assurance. Mr. Ramos discussed Clearing House Issues that had come up at previous meetings including the importance of signing up for the Clearing House and the need to ensure that all staff were registered in the Clearing House. A handout including the screens used for enrollment in the Clearing House was distributed to all present.</b></p> <p><b>Kirk Ryon discussed Emergency and Disaster Plans for the Southern Region. Mr. Ryon noted that all licensed residential providers should have submitted an updated emergency/disaster plan to APD by todays date. Mr. Ryon noted that we are working on developing a relationship with Dade County to review our residential Emergency Plans.</b></p>	
	<p><b>Hillary Jackson, Regional Program Supervisor Medicaid Waiver Area</b></p> <p>Rate Changes</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Please note the rate changes that are effective for 4/1/16 and 7/1/16. We ask that you ensure that you verify that service authorizations are accurate prior to issuance.</li> <li>• Please ensure that costplans for FY15-16 are accurately calculated for an SANs/AIMs approvals received. Please read the notice carefully as some of you are asking for additional money and a service may not have been approved.</li> <li>• CDC+ Consultants scored 99.00%. As a note, Support coordinators scored 94.4%! Very good job and congratulations to you all.</li> </ul>	<p>10</p>

- SANs – we do have backlog of SANs to review and we are doing our very best to do so as quickly as possible. We appreciate everyone’s patience with this matter.

CDC+ - purchasing plans, document submissions, Delmarva scores

- Please carefully review the plans before submitting them to our office at times it is not signed or critical documents are missing or incomplete.
- An email alert should have been sent out advising that consumers with increased budget due to the rate increase do not have to immediately submit a purchasing plan for 7/1/16 but one will be required as soon as possible to account for the additional money in the monthly budget.

iBudget Allocations

- Missing allocations are still being addressed by State Office. Please do not continue sending me emails about the missing allocations.
- If there are miscalculations for that budget in which a SAN/AIM approval was done please send me the email along with the CPAW or AIM Worksheet showing that breakdown. Please keep in mind that all services may not have been approved so please read the notice that was issued. I ask that you please exercise patience and not repeatedly email me as you and many other WSCs have multiple requests for consumers.
- When a consumer is enrolled it is critical that services are rendered based upon the current iBudget allocation. Please do not over extend a service in anticipation that it will be approved. It is critical when having the AIM meeting that all parties involved know this and exercise caution. We are doing our best to review AIMS as quickly as possible. Again, State Office approves all increases.

GR/CBC payment for services vs. Waiver Handbook Criteria

- All providers must submit Handbook required documentation to seek continuance of a service that was previously approved via GR or other funding sources. The Region must ensure all service requests comply with the Handbook. There have been some instance in which a provider may be receiving a higher rate for a service prior to the consumer becoming enrolled on the waiver; this does not mean that the service amount or rate will continue as previously approved.

Data Breach

- If any provider has consumer related information compromised (lost/stolen computer, cellphone, email or network hacked, etc.,) please immediately file a police report, then complete an incident report (please attach the police report) send these to the Regional Office. You must also immediately contact Mr. Mike Soddors, Information Security Manager in APD State Office at (850) 488-4870. He will provide you with further direction on what needs to be done.

<p><b>III. ADJOURMENT</b></p>	<p><b><u>Attendance:</u></b></p> <p>Cesar Corral, Nelson Sanchez, Luis Rodriguez, Jerume Silverlary, Cheric O’geen, Ellen Bethel, Richard Biachi, James Hamby, karen lezama, Ileana Shook, Alexader Bain, Rene Gomez, Monica Gomez, Helena Oseghae, Olga Limonte, Maria Barreiro, Marie Steril, Marthe Gaviria, Michelle Johnson, Roxanne Tebo, Taeld Walker, Karina Gomez, Martha Khan, Laura Vinent, Pablo Vinent, Veronica Oliver, Carolina Mugar, Janet Batte, Antonia Shelley, ABC Absolute, Christopher Obioha, Many Blanco, Jessica Leconte, Victor Minikun, Cristina Robaina, Manuel Achong, Michelle Alamo, Xiomara Benavides, Jorge Villalon, Many Arias, Marianela Wada-Wada, Aray Abraham, Jeanette William, Maribel Valmocina, Leanne Pierre, Feguener Jean-Baptiste, Johanna Muccino, Filiberta Letang, Phedette Courage, Luis Lopez, Darilyn Ginebra, Vivian Owea, Amanda Ortiz, Alexander Ajayi, Arianna Mauas, Nayza Hernandez, Mayelin Diaz, Brian Noblett, Gloria Rodriguez, Viveen Brooks, Jacques Thompson, Kwame Lumumba, Leonaise Loriston, Stephen Clark, Diana Flenard.</p>	