

DS Imagine the Future Task Force
December 16, 2013
208 Hurricane Lane, Williston

Meeting started: 1:10pm

Members present: Bill Ashe, Anne Bakeman, Max Barrows, Nancy Brieden, Susan Buckley, Gail Falk, Camille George, Jeanette Hurdle, Lisa Maynes, Ed Paquin, David Peebles, Susan Ryan, Karen Schwartz, Jennifer Stratton, Tracy Thresher, Karen Topper, Marlys Waller, and Marie Zura

Members absent: Linda Berger, Susan Hardin, Deborah Lisi-Baker, Cheryl Phaneuf, Sr. Janice Ryan, James Smith, and Theresa Wood

Staff and Guests: Rich Atkinson, June Bascom, Nicole LeBlanc, Betty Milizia, Kristen Murphy, Karen Wynkoop, and Susan Yuan

Minutes: November 25th minutes reviewed. There were no corrections. David Peebles asked the minutes be accepted as written.

Group Discussion: A large group discussion was held on the topic of “What do we want Vermont to be like for someone with an ID/DD in 2034”? The results of this discussion are listed below. There were two other questions listed in the handout which will be answered as part of our next steps. These questions are; #1. What should the Development Services System look in order to deliver the services envisioned by our 2034 vision? #2. Who will be the partners and what will those relationships look like?

- Technology will be great and will have a significant impact
- What we do
- How people get information
- Safety
- More choices in how people get their accommodations and who they get them from.
- Use web, other modes to access info and plan more independently
- Models of service
- More choices about where you live and who you live with.
- Strengthen person centered planning and make better use of tools to do that.
- Will allow to pull in more people from the community
- More natural friendships persisting
- Use options counseling (ADRC)
- More Livable Communities – walkable, lesson dependent
- Walkable, vibrant
- Community centers
- Expand post-secondary opportunities
- More natural integration and less reliance on paid supports
- Increased useful participation in the work force by people (incl. those who receive services)
- Meaningful
- Careers opportunities to live on their own and less people on guardianship
- More opportunities to do things that meaningful to them (not just jobs). People are appreciated and have a chance to shine
- People should be seen for who they are and not the agency that support them.
- Real person centered planning and people receive support to become that person.
- Improved ACCESS, unquestioned.
- Better mental health, health, educations, lower rates of abuse.

- Look at data
 - Rates of guardianship
 - People who have relationships
- Individualized Services: Strengthen training and support for support workers. Need imagination.
- How can we offer support some of the people who don't currently qualify for services?
- Build a system that embraces everyday
- Workers need to be the ambassadors at helping people to connect to the community and explore their goals and interests.
 - Ask community what they need to support a person to connect.
- Have flexibility within a budget – allows for more creativity
- How do we monitor to stay within guidelines
- If more people without disability have relationships with people with a disability could serve more people
- Employment – work for jobs for everybody, not just people w/disabilities
- Decrease work disincentives
- Reduce reliance on alternative placements, segregated schools/other settings
- Alternative communications to connect with community to have lives
- Who DD system will serve in 20 years will be very different.
- Need to look at demographics and other data/info
- Services provide greater ability for people to attend college
- Walkable, vibrant communities, look at what is spent on transportation and how that would change.
 - Consult VTrans - Future
- Great expectations, birth – aging
 - Set stage at early education
 - Interagency coordination
- People make friends by having roommates
 - What are the limits?
 - Age appropriate
 - It's about choice
 - Safeguard
 - Who controls?
- Communication is not an option: It's the means to an end
- On what basis is a choice (residential or other) being made?
- Are people living together because of their disability or because of a common interest?
- First, look at 2 people living together and how to make that work
 - Section 8 issues
 - Economic viability
 - Concerns expressed about group living
- Transparency and accountability services and system are clearly defined and understood by all
 - Appropriate oversight, QA, evaluations
- Creativity around funding – peer support stipends
- Families will be more comfortable in knowing people are getting what they need
 - Stepped up Quality Assurance
- Options
 - Make better decisions with options that support them (residential, other)
- Move away from funding priorities – negates issue around choice.
- Do away with restriction of choices based on mentality that people with ID/DD are “like children”
 - People have rights, including the right to make bad choices

- Dignity of risk
- Right to be seen not as a person with a disability, but as the person they are
- Public education
- Society tends to be “risk adverse” people need to be able to learn from their mistakes.
- Relationships are key – true friendship, circles of support
 - Support people in their communities, look at what the person needs, not what we/the system is doing.
- Create more “firewalls” about how (+who) options are presented.
 - Options counseling more independent of the agencies providing services
- More work/collaboration with social justice organizations, combat discriminations and change social perceptions of how people are supposed to be.
 - Increase acceptance of all.
- Increase collaboration and integration across populations.
 - **How do disabilities fit within ACO model and how do we ensure that it works well.**
 - Less reliance on Medicaid
 - Greater flexibility to address complicated needs.
- Impact of health reform
 - Focus on LTC
 - Focus on quality
 - Maintain flexible that currently exist – expand

Next Steps:

1. Organize input into groupings
2. Gather available data and info
3. Look at what we want the system to look like

Next Meeting:

PLEASE NOTE CHANGE IN LOCATION: The next meeting is scheduled for Monday, January 27th, 1pm – 4pm at the Best Western in Waterbury – 45 Blush Hill Rd.

Meeting adjourned 2:50pm