



Meeting Minutes

Information Clearinghouse on Developmental Disabilities Advisory Council Meeting Minutes

January 19, 2021
10:00 – 11:00 a.m. EST

Florida Department of Health
2585 Merchants Row Blvd.,
Tallahassee, Florida 32399

Members Present by Dial-in Conference Call Line: Kristine Benson

Members Not Present: Janet Caramello, Lori Fahey, Shannon Moss, Camille Gardiner

Others Present: Deborah Burch, Casey Omeke (Department of Health)

I. Welcome and Roll Call - Casey Omeke

Casey Omeke reintroduced herself as the new Department of Health contact for the council.

II. Approval of Minutes - Casey Omeke

The approval of minutes for the months of October, November, and December was tabled.

III. Follow up - Casey Omeke

Casey provided an update on council appointments. There remains one vacancy to be appointed by the Governor and three vacancies to be appointed by the Speaker of the House. Council members have been provided with the information and website links regarding appointment by each authority to share with those who might be interested.

Casey asked for an update on adding new conditions to the Bright Expectations website. It was advised by Kristine not to pursue adding Dyslexia to the website as it doesn't fit with the conditions listed. Other conditions that have been proposed include Asperger's Syndrome and Behavioral/Mental Health disorders. These additions will be considered by the council members. Kristine emphasized the priority for including websites that are supportive, positive, and useful for families navigating a new diagnosis. Additionally, Kristine suggested the council consider seeking feedback from families who live with a diagnosis, to identify gaps in information or challenges in locating supportive resources.

IV. New Business - Casey Omeke

Election of a Chairperson and a Vice Chairperson was tabled until the council vacancies have been filled. Kristine inquired about the stock of Bright Expectations materials, and suggested materials be distributed to the Early Steps service providers.

Casey and Deborah proposed to hold meetings either bi-monthly or quarterly depending on the council's needs.

V. Website Reviews - Council Members

Casey reported all resources located on the Bright Expectations website have been reviewed for broken links and are now up to date. No additional revisions to the website have been proposed.

VI. Next Steps - Casey Omeke

Casey will contact council members regarding approval of minutes and meeting frequency.

The Department will reach out to Early Steps regarding distribution of Bright Expectations materials.

VII. Adjourn - Casey Omeke

The meeting was adjourned at 10:30 am.

The next meeting will be Tuesday, April 20, 2021 10:00 am EST