

**Olmstead Subcabinet Executive Committee Meeting**  
**September 21, 2016**  
**Minnesota Housing, 400 Sibley Street, State Street Conference Room**  
**Saint Paul, MN 55101**  
**2:30 p.m. – 3:30 p.m.**

**I. Call to Order**

**Action:** N/A.

The meeting was called to order at 2:32 p.m. by Commissioner Mary Tingerthal.

**II. Roll Call to Establish Quorum**

**Committee members present:** Mary Tingerthal, Chair, Olmstead Subcabinet (Minnesota Housing); Shawntera Hardy (Department of Employment and Economic Development (DEED)).

**Committee member designees present:** Chuck Johnson (Department of Human Services (DHS)).

**Subcabinet members present:** Colleen Wieck (Governor’s Council on Developmental Disabilities).

**Guests present:** Erin Sullivan Sutton, Claire Wilson, Adrienne Hannerty (DHS); Mike Tessneer, Darlene Zangara, Rosalie Vollmar (Olmstead Implementation Office (OIO)); Anne Smetak (Minnesota Housing); Kristie Billiar (Department of Transportation (DOT)).

**III. Agenda Review**

**Action:** N/A.

**IV. Review and Discussion:**

**a.) Comprehensive Abuse and Neglect Prevention Plan**

Mike Tessneer (OIO) reported on the Comprehensive Abuse and Neglect Prevention Plan. The plan is before the Executive Committee for review and discussion and will be presented for review and approval to the Olmstead Subcabinet on September 28, 2016.

Preventing Abuse and Neglect Goal One in the June 1, 2016 Olmstead Plan provides that the Olmstead Subcabinet will approve a Comprehensive Abuse and Neglect Prevention Plan by September 30, 2016. After the goal was established, a small work group came together and examined current abuse prevention actions in Minnesota and how to

expand those actions to include people with disabilities, analyzed national and state actions around abuse and neglect, and identified best practices. Public comments were solicited on what should be included in the comprehensive plan from July 19-August 14, 2016. As a result of that work, the group developed a proposed Comprehensive Abuse and Neglect Prevention Plan. The proposed plan was posted to the website and additional public comments were solicited from September 2-September 11, 2016.

The recommendations contained in the Comprehensive Abuse and Neglect Prevention Plan are:

### **1. Appoint Leadership Team**

- A. The Subcabinet will appoint a Specialty Committee to oversee the Abuse and Neglect Prevention Plan. The composition is expected to include Subcabinet agencies and other state agencies. Other members may include individuals with disabilities and their families, university researchers, and representatives from non-profit agencies and law enforcement. The Chair of the Subcabinet will appoint all members and the appointees will have experience, responsibility or authority in this topic area or experience in leading or participating in prevention campaigns. The Subcabinet will approve the establishment of the Specialty Committee and a charter outlining the tasks to be completed. The Olmstead Subcabinet Procedures allow for the creation of specialty committees, which can include members outside of the Subcabinet. A proposed charter for the Specialty Committee is expected to be presented at the October 24, 2016 Subcabinet meeting for review and approval.

As part of the Olmstead Plan amendment process, beginning in December 2016, the Specialty Committee will propose the timeline for establishing baselines and measurable goals and key strategies to implement the comprehensive plan.

Commissioner Hardy (DEED) commented that there are a number of individuals in the community that are skilled at identifying tangible and beneficial solutions in a successful way. Commissioner Tingerthal agreed and stated that OIO would provide staff support to aid in the development of a proposed list of members for the Specialty Committee.

Colleen Wieck (Governor's Council on Developmental Disabilities) suggested that the Minnesota Department of Public Safety could be considered as a potential member of the Specialty Committee.

## **2. Review Minnesota and Other States for Best Practices**

- A. Review existing prevention campaigns currently underway. Consider specifically including messaging on disabilities in those campaigns.
- B. Minnesota should examine the Office of Inspector General (OIG) reports from three states, Massachusetts, Connecticut, and New York, to identify lessons learned and determine if risk factors exist in Minnesota's system of reporting, investigating and taking corrective action.

In response to comments made by Commissioner Tingerthal, Colleen Wieck (Governor's Council on Developmental Disabilities) explained that OIG is in the midst of an ongoing effort to review state practices.

- C. Review other states' prevention campaigns and prevention models currently underway to determine which ones are effective and could be adopted by Minnesota.

Colleen Wieck (Governor's Council on Developmental Disabilities) and Mike Tessneer (OIO) discussed that there are a number of states, in addition to those listed in this section of the plan, that could be reviewed because they combine reporting with prevention and education.

Commissioner Tingerthal and Commissioner Hardy (DEED) asked that OIO collect information about both the cost of other states' campaigns and metrics to measure effectiveness. Colleen Wieck (Governor's Council for Developmental Disabilities) noted that a review of other states' efforts could be useful, including existing efforts such as videotaped trainings conducted by people with disabilities.

## **3. Involve People with Disabilities**

- A. Create ongoing channels for gathering input and feedback from people with disabilities and their families, on the topic of abuse and identify disincentives and barriers to reporting abuse/neglect and plans to remediate. Conduct surveys of other states to find best practices in involving people with disabilities.

Deputy Commissioner Johnson (DHS) stated DHS is working to develop person-centered planning that impacts counties, providers, and people they work with, through effort and engagement, that does not reinvent the current process.

- B. Establish a comprehensive public awareness campaign on the prevention of abuse and neglect to educate people with disabilities and their families. The topics could

include education about their rights, how to identify if they are being abused, how to report abuse and how to get help if they are abused. Education could also include risk factors and preventative strategies. This campaign could be done in cooperation with public and private entities.

#### **4. Build on Current Initiatives and Commit to Improvement**

##### **A. Develop a public awareness campaign that includes:**

- Target audience of people with disabilities and their families; state agencies and employees; advocacy organizations; providers; general public
- Identification of risk factors and associated protective strategies
- Information on prevalence of violence against people with disabilities as compared to the general population
- Multiple communication channels such as:
  - Direct mail or other ways to reach people with disabilities and their families)
  - Agency Bulletins or other formal communication tools
  - Newsletters/events
  - Social media
  - Media (newspaper, television, radio, etc.)
- Key messages that can be customized for the target audience and communication channel
- Metrics to judge effectiveness of the campaign to determine if we are reaching the targeted audience and whether it changed peoples' behavior.
- A cost projection for implementation of the campaign

Commissioner Tingerthal explained that when the cost projections are developed with an outline of the campaign, the Subcabinet would review the package to determine the actions that will be implemented and identify the funds available to help pay for the campaign.

Deputy Commissioner Johnson (DHS) stated an RFP process may be necessary and expressed concern about staff capacity.

Colleen Wieck (Governor's Council on Developmental Disabilities) commented that in the past, the State could look to groups like the Advertising Federation for pro bono assistance. Commissioner Tingerthal stated there is a possibility the Subcabinet could use a modest amount of the budget to engage professionals that plan campaigns to help guide the committee and how best to reach a specific number of people.

Commissioner Hardy (DEED) stated the Subcabinet needs to make sure the campaign is sustainable. Commissioner Tingerthal stated a bullet will be added to this section that charges the Specialty Committee with creating sustainable components to the campaign.

- B. Examine existing prevention strategies to see which ones could be enhanced by specifically targeting people with disabilities.
- C. Establish formal agreements between state agencies, Minnesota Chiefs of Police Association, Minnesota Sheriffs Association, County Attorney Association and the state court system to utilize a multidisciplinary approach to address violence committed against persons with disabilities and identifies the specific role of the parties involved. The goal is to provide protection, treatment and continuity of care for persons with disabilities who are victims of a crime, to increase awareness of crimes being committed against persons with disabilities, to increase communication and cooperation between law enforcement, professionals, and agencies providing services to people with disabilities and to ensure that crimes committed against people with disabilities are reported promptly, investigated by trained law enforcement personnel and prosecuted.

Deputy Commissioner Johnson (DHS) noted that, based on DHS experience in launching the MAARC system, it may be best if a discussion on the need for this effort take place before expecting that formal agreements will be established. Colleen Wieck (Governor's Council on Developmental Disabilities) suggested that this section be modified to provide that the group will "engage in discussion" with the identified parties. Commissioner Tingerthal suggested that state agencies such as the Department of Corrections and the Department of Public Safety should be clearly included in this section.

- D. The Olmstead Subcabinet will monitor a work group convened by DHS to address the recommendations of the Governor's Task Force on the Protection of Children regarding consideration of centralizing a statewide child abuse and neglect reporting system in Minnesota. Consideration will include feasibility (recognizing federal requirements for timeliness of reporting) and cost.

## **5. Information Management and Data Systems**

- A. Complete an annual analysis of existing reports of maltreatment from Minnesota Department of Education, Department of Human Services, and the Minnesota Department of Health. The analysis should identify trends of maltreatment that can be targeted for prevention activities such as advisory bulletins.

Colleen Wieck (Governor's Council on Developmental Disabilities) recommended that this section be modified to include reports of maltreatment from the Ombudsman for Mental Health and Developmental Disabilities.

**V. Adjournment**

**Action: Motion to adjourn the meeting.**  
**Motion – Johnson. Second – Tingerthal.**  
**In Favor - All**

The meeting was adjourned at 3:25 p.m.