Governor’s Council on Disabilities and Special Education

January 2017 Trust Meeting
Patrick Reinhart, Executive Director

Topics Addressed

1) Review FY17 budget reductions and impact
2) Overview of the FY 18 Governor’s budget and potential impacts on the I/DD beneficiary group
3) Council’s priorities for 2017 legislative session
4) General Comments/GCDSE News
FY 17 Budget Impact

FY 17 GF cuts:
- $26 million to Medicaid Waiver Costs had to be absorbed by SDS across all waivers. SDS Workgroups with Stakeholders:
  - Enabling technologies (smart home and assistive tech
  - Transportation
  - Residential Services
  - Greater scrutiny of Care Plans across the board
- Its working – tracking toward reduced costs at this point in time
- $50K in GF to the Council (ILP professional development)
- SDS has reduced the number of draws from the Developmental Disability Registration and Review (Waitlist), from 200 consumers per year to 50.
- Yet, with clean up of waitlist, the number as of January 1, was 520, with ¼ having scores of “zero”, meaning they are not in need of services at this time – this is lowest it’s been for more than a decade
- Also, each unit having to absorb more shared service costs too

Overview of FY 17 Budget Impact

- $1,000.0 (UGF) Public and Community Transportation State Match was in Governor’s Budget, then removed by the Legislature, and put back in and stayed in
- $1,050 ($800 UGF/$250 MHTAAR) Coordinated Transportation funding
- No change from FY 17 to FY 18 now
Overview of FY 18 Budget Impact Operating

Early Intervention/Infant Learning Programs (EI/ILP)  
$10,041.7 ($1859.1 Fed, $758.1 I/A Rcpts, $7,425.5 GFMH)
- Serves Children 0-3 with developmental disabilities with a 50% delay or more (25% in many other states)
- Provides specialized services for infants and toddlers to increase functional abilities
- Transfer from OCS to SDS went smoothly and SDS doing a great job managing the program. Our Early Intervention Committee and staff help as much as possible
- High risk because of $7.4 M of GF/MH, but federal Maintenance of Effort (MOE) requirements could mitigate this
- Council provides $247 K of GF/MH to SDS for professional development to support highly trained workforce in this critical area

Community Developmental Disabilities Grants

Current Year  $13.1 M ($57.8 K IA Rcpts, $12.5M, GFMH)
- In 2016, 26 agencies served 969 individuals at an average cost of $12 K each. SDS says less than 650 now but budget docs FY 18 – Reduction of $5.8 Mil to $7.3 M and complete elimination of grant program by Jan. 2018
- Amount in the budget is prorated amount to carry the program to this date
- SDS working on new “supports waiver’ under 1915 C that would replace the program
- 78% Medicaid eligible
- 20% undetermined
- 2% over resourced
- 66 persons do not have active determination of an developmental disability, a requirement of the program
Overview of FY 18 Budget Impact Operating

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$2,146.1 ($994.6 Fed, $353.9 I/A Rcps, $272 GFMH, $525.6 MHTAAR)

- $100 K decrement in MHTARR from BEE initiative as Trust will direct fund some of the components listed in GCDSE budget
- $272 GFMH is $247 K is pass through to ILP program for professional development
- $150 K is MHTAAR pass thru for Microenterprise Program
- Losing 1 of 9 position at end of this year
- $360 K annual federal employment grant ends Sept. 30, but we save enough over 5 years to get full 1 year no cost extension (thru 9/30/18)

Legislative Priority

- Developmental Disability Vision and Values Codified in State Law
  - Unifies our vision guiding us in good and bad fiscal times
  - Anchors our person centered HCBS waiver in law (used to be Medical Model)
  - Establishes common ground in which all of us view services, i.e. person receiving services, agencies providing services direct support professionals, and agencies funding services
Legislative Priority

- **HB:16 Disability Training and ID**
  - Rep. Steve Thompson’s bill
  - Requires 8 hour Disability Awareness training for all police academies
  - Educates the public their responsibilities when interacting with law enforcement
  - Allows for voluntary placement of icon on ID for persons who have hidden disabilities or difficulty answering a police officer's questions or demands.

- **ABLE Accounts (ABLE Act)**
  - ABLE is up and going and families are signing up. It really is going to allow people to save money for their own disability expenses, and maintain their public benefits.
  - Following up with Senators and Representatives with information about ABLE Accounts and asking them to share it with their constituents through their newsletters and such
Legislative Priority

- “Two for Transit” or “My Two Cents? Public Transit!”
  - Our constituencies, across all the beneficiary groups, are very dependent on public transit and community transportation programs
  - We spend over $120 million on Medicaid funded transportation
    - Better public transit for all could reduce this number
  - Governor has proposed an $.08 raise on gasoline tax next year ($.08 now), and another $.08 the following year
  - Add 1 cent this year and next and specify, to degree possible, to public and community transportation programs
  - Would raise just over $4 M next year, and $8 M following year

Legislative Priority

- SB 10: Adult Foster Care
  - Senator Dunleavy’s bill
  - Provides for seamless transition from child foster care to and adult foster care license for individuals who meet nursing home level of care and/or medical fragility
  - Family foster home must switch to assisted living or group homes when the individual turns 18– some families just want to stay in tact
General Comments & GCDSE News

- Council Meeting next week in Juneau, joint with SILC
  - Movie called “Bottom Line” in Juneau
- Inclusive Practice Award (SPED), Feb.7 Anchorage (Hilton)
- Key Campaign, March 2-3 in Juneau
- National Disability Policy Seminar, March 20-22
- Full Lives Conference, March 22-23 in Anchorage; also Direct Service Awards
- Wrightslaw (SpEd) Training March 23-24
- Reuse of Durable medical Equipment and Assistive Technology –Reg's are Out!!!!!!!
- Received permission to fill our Research Analyst III position and our Program Coordinator II
- Disability Rights Activist Judy Heumann May17-19

Questions

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