

SOUTH CAROLINA COMMISSION ON DISABILITIES AND SPECIAL NEEDS

SPECIAL-CALLED MEETING MINUTES

October 7, 2021

The South Carolina Commission on Disabilities and Special Needs met on Thursday, October 7, 2021, at 10:30 a.m. at the Department of Disabilities and Special Needs Central Office, 3440 Harden Street Extension, Columbia, South Carolina.

The following were in attendance:

COMMISSION

Present In-Person

Eddie Miller

Present Microsoft Teams

Stephanie Rawlinson – Chairman

Barry Malphrus – Vice Chairman

Robin Blackwood – Secretary

Gary Lemel

DDSN Administrative Staff

Pat Maley, Chief Financial Officer; Ken Parks, Interim Director of Information Technology Division; Tommy Windsor, Legislative Liaison/Public Information Officer; Kimberly Cochran, Administrative Coordinator; and Christie Linguard, Administrative Coordinator.

Call to Order and Notice of Meeting Statement

Chairman Rawlinson called the meeting to order at 10:30 a.m.; Ms. Linguard read a statement of announcement about the meeting that was distributed to the appropriate media, interested persons, and posted at the Central Office and on the website in accordance with the Freedom of Information Act.

Adoption of the Agenda

Commissioner Miller made a motion to adopt the agenda. This motion was seconded by Commissioner Malphrus and unanimously approved by the commission members. (Attachment A)

FY23 Legislative Budget Approval

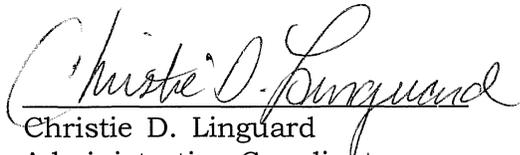
Mr. Maley discussed the one-page FY23 budget proposal. The SC Department of Health and Human Services (SCDHHS) has provided our agency with the rates needed to calculate priority #1, which is to modernize waiver services to include rebasing service rates through evidence and market-based assumptions. The increased cost of the enhanced ID/RD waiver renewal services and corresponding service rates increases requires \$14 million in state funds. The agency is requesting a two year legislative appropriate strategy by requesting \$7 million in state funds in

FY23 and \$7 million in FY24. Priorities 2-7 were discussed in detail at the September full commission meeting. In addition, Mr. Maley referenced an executive memo sent out to the provider network yesterday alerting everyone that the agency is scheduled to go fee-for-service on January 1, 2022. Staff is working diligently to format this initiative. Commissioner Malphrus made a motion to accept the FY23 Legislative Budget as written; this motion was seconded by Commissioner Miller and unanimously approved by the commission. (Attachment B)

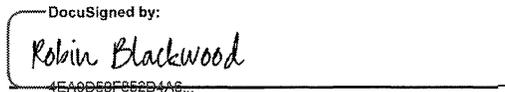
Adjournment

On a motion by Commissioner Miller, seconded by Commissioner Blackwood and unanimously approved by the commission, the meeting was adjourned at 10:44 a.m.

Submitted by:


Christie D. Linguard
Administrative Coordinator

Approved by:

DocuSigned by:

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Commissioner Robin Blackwood
Secretary

SOUTH CAROLINA COMMISSION ON DISABILITIES AND SPECIAL NEEDS

SPECIAL-CALLED MEETING

A G E N D A

**South Carolina Department of Disabilities and Special Needs
3440 Harden Street Extension
Columbia, SC**

October 7, 2021

10:30 A.M.

1. Call to Order *Chairman Stephanie Rawlinson*
2. Notice of Meeting Statement *Commissioner Robin Blackwood*
3. Adoption of Agenda
4. FY23 Legislative Budget Approval *Mr. Pat Maley*
5. Adjournment

Priority	Description of Agency Need	State Funds Medicaid Total
1	<p>Enhance ID/RD Waiver Services and Update Service Rates: The SC Department of Health and Human Services' (SCDHHS) ID/RD Waiver is operated by DDSN. The ID/RD Waiver is up for renewal effective 1/1/22. As a result of the FY19 cost report, trend data, and rate analysis input from SCDHHS's consultant, SCDHHS calculated DDSN needs \$14 million in new state funds to enhance services and update service rates, which includes \$9.5 million related to daily Residential Habilitation rate updates. Of particular importance, the ID/RD Waiver Renewal is structured to create a pathway for DDSN to complete its payment system transition to fee-for-service (FFS) on 1/1/22. FFS would improve Medicaid matching efficiency, transparency, and delivery system productivity.</p> <p>ID/RD Waiver improvements includes updating provider service rates; creates individual "tiered" residential settings; modernizes day services; establishes an "Independent Living Skill" service; adds In-Home support service; includes remote supports as part of Assistive Technology; creates the option for Respite services to be provided to multiple participants living in the same household; and increases the Environmental Modification lifetime cap from \$7500 to \$15,000.</p> <p>The availability of COVID-19 federal funding can financed this unique waiver renewal opportunity for many years permitting time for DDSN and SCDHHS to arrange for long-term recurring funding. The increased cost of these enhanced ID/RD Waiver services and corresponding service rate increases requires \$14 million in state funds, which will generate an additional \$33 million in Medicaid match for a total of \$47 million in service dollars. DDSN requests a two-year legislative appropriation strategy by requesting \$7 million in state funds in FY23 and \$7 million in FY24. This will also permit DDSN to have a more precise FY24 state fund request after almost a year operating under the ID/RD Waiver Renewal.</p> <p>DDSN currently has \$54 million of non-recurring COVID-19 dollars to cover the annual state fund cost for three years. As recurring funding is appropriated, DDSN can remit a substantial portion of these funds to the General Assembly. (Recurring)</p>	<p>\$7,000,000 \$16,500,000 \$23,500,000</p>
2	<p>New Waiver Slots to Address the Waiting List: The waiver waiting lists are at an all-time high containing 14,456 individuals. Each waiver is at, or near, an all-time high in wait times: IDRD (5.4 years); Community Supports (3.6 years); and HASCI (0.4 years). On 7/1/21, DDSN re-engineered its waiver waiting list to more efficiently implement new legislative appropriated waiver slots. DDSN requests \$6.36 million (\$1.9 million state funds) to fund 300 ID/RD Waiver slots (\$14,000/waiver slot) and 60 HASCI Waiver slots (\$36,000/waiver slot). (Recurring)</p>	<p>\$1,900,000 \$4,460,000 \$6,360,000</p>
3	<p>Early Intervention (EI) Utilization Increase: DDSN anticipates a conservative 17% increase in FY23 utilization due to serving an increase in children receiving services (ages 3-6). DDSN has absorbed the past four FYs' increases children served in the program from its base funding, which were 18% (FY18), 30% (FY19), 8% (FY20), and 17% in FY21. (Recurring)</p>	<p>\$618,000 \$1,418,044 \$2,036,044</p>
4	<p>Appropriation Transfer from DHHS for First Filled Slots: The \$841,273 state funds requested is SCDHHS's estimate of recurring state funds needed for DDSN to pay the state match for new waiver individual's medical state plan costs for FY23. This is an annual recurring appropriation transfer between SCDHHS and DDSN, which has recently been integrated into the annual budget appropriation request. (Recurring)</p>	<p>\$841,273 \$0 \$841,273</p>
5	<p>Increase Access to Post-Acute Rehabilitation (PARI) for Traumatic Brain or Spinal Cord Injuries: In FY21, the PARI Program costs exceeded its \$3.6 million legislative appropriation by \$466,000, which DDSN paid for from its base funding and reserves. DDSN anticipates the PARI program costs will continue to increase based on criteria of need and historical pattern of increasing costs. As a result, DDSN requests \$466,000 in state funds. (Recurring)</p>	<p>\$466,000 \$0 \$466,000</p>
6	<p>Increase and Improve Access to Community Residential Supports for Regional Center Individuals: The Regional Center list of residents desiring community placement is updated quarterly and the Critical Needs Staff advocates for providers to accept placements; however, providers must voluntarily agree. Available community beds to serve community based and Regional Center individuals comes from turnover of existing fully occupied beds which averages 180 annually (16 beds/month). Given the chronic staffing shortages at Regional Centers even before COVID and the legal requirement of the Olmstead Act, DDSN requests residential expansion of four CTH II homes (16 beds) focused on de-populating centers. Because "money follows the person," DDSN is only asking for \$140,000 in non-recurring funds (\$35,000/house; \$25,000 Housing Trust Fund loan match & \$10,000 sprinkler cost). (Non-Recurring)</p>	<p>\$140,000 \$0 \$140,000</p>
7	<p>South Carolina Genomic Medicine Initiative: This initiative will combine clinical care, a "multi-omics" technological approach and big data/machine learning to create a powerful, and unique resource serving patients, healthcare providers, and state agencies. This is the third annual \$2 million request in a five year plan to fund this project with \$10 million from the State. (Non-Recurring)</p>	<p>\$2,000,000 \$0 \$2,000,000</p>
8	<p>Greenwood Genetic Center (GGC) Base Budget Increase: In FY21, DDSN contracts with GGC were restructured to properly account for Medicaid matching funds reimbursable to GGC based on its use of its state funds received through DDSN from the General Assembly (\$4,934,000). This resulted in a decrease in funding to GGC. As a result, GGC requests a \$500,000 increase in recurring base appropriations. (Recurring)</p>	<p>\$500,000 \$0 \$500,000</p>
Total Funds		<p>\$13,465,273 \$22,378,044 \$35,843,317</p>