

MINUTES
HOUSE CHILDREN AND YOUTH PERMANENT SUBCOMMITTEE
OF THE
AGING, CHILDREN AND YOUTH, LEGISLATIVE AND MILITARY AFFAIRS
COMMITTEE
Monday, April 18, 2022
9:00 AM
Room B, MAC
Little Rock, Arkansas

Committee members present: Representatives Julie Mayberry, Chair; Sonia Eubanks Barker, Keith Brooks, Cindy Crawford, Charlene Fite, Ashley Hudson, and Joy Springer

Other members present: Senator Kim Hammer; Representatives Fred Allen, Karilyn Brown, Denise Jones Ennett, Denise Garner, David Ray, Johnny Rye, and Danny Watson

Representative Mayberry called the meeting to order.

Approval of Minutes for the January 20, 2022, Meeting [Exhibit B]

Representative Springer stated for the record she was present at the January 20, 2022, meeting.

Representative Fite made a motion to approve the minutes, with a second by Representative Springer, and the motion carried.

Presentation of Technology for Assisting Those with Developmental Disabilities [Exhibits C1-C3]

Dr. Syard Evans, CEO, Arkansas Support Network; and Mr. Nick Filarelli, Program Director, Core Services of Northeast Tennessee; gave a presentation on technology for assisting people with developmental disabilities.

Presentation of High School Certificates Authorizing Direct Care Support [Exhibit D]

Mr. Ross White, Director, Division of Career and Technical Education, Department of Education; and Ms. Sonja Wright-McMurray, Associate Director, Career Readiness and Special Programs, Division of Career and Technical Education, Department of Education; gave a presentation of high school certificates authorizing direct care support.

Update on Medicaid Waiver Services [Exhibit E]

Ms. Melissa Weatherton, Director, Division of Developmental Disabilities Services, Department of Human Services; and Ms. Elizabeth Pittman, Director, Division of Medical Services, Department of Human Services; gave a presentation on proposed changes to the Community and Employment Support Waiver.

Mr. Mark White, Chief of Staff and Chief Legislative and Intergovernmental Affairs Officer, Department of Human Services, discussed resources and authority regarding the creation of a registry of Direct Support Professionals.

**Presentation of Developmental Disabilities Provider Association (DDPA) Rate Study
[Exhibits F1-F2]**

Mr. Ron Ekstrand, CEO, Easterseals Arkansas; and Ms. Elissa Douglas, Executive Director, Independent Living Services, Inc.; gave a presentation of a DDPA Rate Study and discussed the flow of funding for waiver services.

Other Business

Mr. Cory Cox, Director of Community Relations, CareSource PASSE; Mr. Jack Hopkins, Manager and Government Relations Operations, Arkansas Total Care; Mr. Brad Nye, Government Relations Director, Summit Community Care; and Mr. Mitch Morris, CEO, Empower Healthcare Solutions; discussed payments for Medicaid approved providers. They also discussed PASSE perspectives on the services presented by Dr. Evans and Mr. Filarelli.

With no further business, the meeting adjourned at 11:35 a.m.