



**Hudson Valley Individual/Family Advisory Board Meeting
Summary**

7 Skyline Drive, Suite 330, Hawthorne, NY 10532

June 27th from 6pm -8pm

Members Present

Karla Peterson-
Bonnie Kaplan
Andrew Kaplan
Robert Terry

Bernadette Grey
Elliot Judin
Lou Nardone
Sharon Stern

Suzanne Booth
Kathy Becarelli
Stephen Jagde
Tasha Macedo

CDNY Staff Present

Jim Moran, CEO

Danielle Wiltsie, Director of Individual, Family & Self-Advocate Support
Jane Greer- Fried, Lower HV Regional Director

Members Absent

Claire Perez
Heather Berg
Larry Bate
Jason Ross
Lalitha Ravichandran
Marjorie Madfis

Welcome:

Care Design NY (CDNY) welcomed all self-advocates and family members for attending the meeting.

Introductions:

The Advisory Board Members introduced themselves along with CDNY Employees as some Board Members were present at the meeting and on the phone.

Summary of Last Meeting:

Review of the Meeting Minutes from the previous meeting. The Board Members approved the previous meeting minutes.

Review of Handouts:

Review of the job description for the Individual and Family Liaison which is in Draft Form. Care Design is looking to pilot an Individual and Family Liaison Position in the Albany area. Initially, there will be two to three part-time, hourly employees who will be hired and will be overseen by Danielle Wiltsie. Care Design has discussed this job description with Advisory Boards in the other Regions as well and received feedback.

After the pilot has begun and has be evaluated, the goal for Care Design is to have two to three part time positions in each region, 12-15/20 hours a week. Advisory Board Members discussed during the meeting 1) title of the job description (most meeting attendees liked “Member Advocate” or Liaison” rather than Ombudsman); 2) the role of the position (support people who reach out to Care Design with questions, assist with new hire training for the Care Design workforce, engage with advisory board, attend conferences, community outreach, liaison with school systems, etc.); and 3) the logic behind hiring 2-3 part-time people instead of one full-time person.

The Advisory Board feedback at the meeting suggested the potential benefit of initially using volunteer’s vs hiring employees. All Advisory Board Members agree that a variety of people and diversity of background of services are important.

Danielle Wiltsie discussed the various areas in the job description with the Advisory Board Members. The Advisory Board discussed the word “liaison” as being an accurate description of the position. Jim Moran discussed the development of why Care Design will be recruiting for the



position which including to provide support to the individuals and families that the Care Manager's role would not. The Advisory Board reviewed the job duties this position would perform.

It was noted that the overview should contain a description of qualifications and experience such as an individual advocate /or family member that could be candidates in the position. The Advisory Board discussed the educational background and area of expertise depending on experiential criteria.

Danielle Wiltsie further discussed details about advertising the position and working with Human Resources and the Advisory Board Chairs to participate in the hiring process. Care Design would like to move forward with this position and have the first few positions filled by the fall.

The Advisory Boards discussed hosting a Managed Care Focus Group in all the regions the Advisory Boards are located in. Care Design is launching a new series of Managed Care Focus Groups. In an effort to better understand individual and family perspectives on the roll out of managed care for the I/DD population in NYS, and how Care Design can best facilitate education and outreach, Care Design will convene small regional focus groups in July and August.

Focus groups will be in-person for 6-10. Elected Chair Positions should plan to attend the focus group. There will be an outside vendor who will facilitate the meetings. Care Design will record the focus groups to ensure all the information is captured that is shared and will use it for internal purposes only. After the focus group, CDNY will launch a managed care committee.

Care Design's intention in utilizing a focus group is to have honest exchanges about the issues with the interests of the participants as the priority and critical issues as a primary focus. There was discussion that there is a significant number of individuals that are already in managed care and the individuals would be able to provide feedback on their experiences with managed care for medical needs.

Danielle Wiltsie will send out information regarding the focus group within the next few days. Please look for information that is sent out, Advisory Board Member were asked to share the information about the Focus Group with other Care Design Members.



Discuss Benefits and Entitlements Training/Workshop: Care Design is holding Benefits and Entitlement Workshops. The first one of the series to be held was Transition Planning. The Board Members who attended the Workshop gave feedback on the Workshop. They were pleased with the information that was given and look forward to the next Workshop in September.

Advisory Board Next Steps: Danielle Wiltsie asked the Advisory Board what they would like to work on moving forward. The Advisory Board discussed that they would like to have presenters attend the Board Meetings to assist members and their families with succession planning, guardianship, special needs trusts, and more.

Summary of Meeting:

- Care Design will share the final version of the job description for the Individual & Family Liaison position with Board Members.
- Danielle Wiltsie will send out information for the Managed Care Focus Group and will ask Board Members to share information with Care Design Members.
- The next meeting will be held in September 2019. Danielle Wiltsie will send out a date, time, and location that accommodates as many Board Members as possible. Most Advisory Board Members in attendance said that the 6pm-8pm time for the Advisory Board Meeting works well.
- The Meeting Minutes will be sent out to all Advisory Board Members who attended in person, phone, or were unable to attend this meeting.



