

November 25, 2008

OMRDD Subcommittee Minutes

Present:

Dave Rider – Taconic DDSO  
Tracy Powell- Parent Rep  
Florence Ohle CAGC  
Virginia Gresko- Lifespire  
Bridget Allen – Parent Rep

Tracy reported that she had already begun reviewing all current directories of services for children with/parents of children with, special needs. Directories include Catholic Charities directory for Autism, Greene County HS directory, as well as DD connections from Taconic DDSO. Before going any further in verifying information, she wanted information on any pending budget cuts. David shared that there was no word yet, and agreement was made to continue with project.

Information in directory would include the Agency, contact info and what specific services would be available. Lists were split up among members to call providers and verify what services are available in Greene County, or to Greene County residents.

Bridgett, new to group shared idea of a sort of “parent co-op”, where parents would receive credentialing for respite services, and then would make themselves available to help other moms and not worry about “I owe you one”, as they would be paid for the services. David suggested they contact Catholic Charities Disability services that respite could be paid for with either waiver or family support dollars.

She also had the idea of the OMRDD subcommittee, or Greene County Mental Health, asking libraries to designate \$100 from each community budget for books and media related to disabilities. Information is available at a great cost, which is a deterrent for many. Even if the libraries shared the materials, parents could access them through requests. (Suggestions: Boardmaker Software by Mayer Johnson)

Bridgett also shared concern over the fact that with the Medicaid waiver, one cannot choose an HMO- the providers they have access to are limited. After discussion it appeared that this varies county by county, as the waiver is ¼ state, and the remainder paid by county and federal government.

Discussion on transition boards- need for school representation on committee and involvement in getting transition activities moving. David offered that he sits on the boards for both Ulster and Dutchess counties, and will get the dates for their “Parent Information Series” which have already been scheduled. ***Ulster County “spring Transition Parent Information Series” 4/21,4/18,5/5 from 6:30 -8pm. – Dutchess county is scheduled for March 4, Intro to Adult Services, March 18 VESID, April 1 Residential Services.***

I have contact information for anyone interested in attending these events to get ideas and information.

Next meeting will be Wednesday, December 17<sup>th</sup>, at 10 am.

Respectfully submitted:

Florence Ohle