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**MARYLAND COMMISSION FOR EFFECTIVE COMMUNITY INCLUSIO OF
INDIVIDUALS WITH INTELLECTUAL AND DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES**

September 4, 2014

Baltimore, Maryland

The Commission for Effective Community Inclusion of Individuals with Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities met on September 4, 2014 in Baltimore, MD at 10:00 a.m.

Members participating:

Imparato, Andy
Failla, George
Hedrick, Jim
Hovermale, Lisa
Shriver, Timothy

Guests:

Feeley, Nancy
Franczkowski, Marcella E.
Simons, Bernie

Agenda 1. Welcome and Chair's Remarks

Chair Timothy Shriver welcomed the members, thanked them for coming and thanked the Maryland State Department of Education (MSDE) for hosting the meeting. The Commission unanimously approved the minutes of the July 21, 2014 meeting.

Agenda 2. Remarks from MSDE

Marcella E. Franczkowski, Superintendent, Special Education & Early Intervention Services, welcomed members of the Commission to MSDE. She reported that Maryland is above the national average in creating the least restrictive environment for students with disabilities (spending more than 80% of their time in general education). In answer to a question from a Commission member, Ms. Franczkowski noted that MSDE will be marking the 40th anniversary of the IDEA law through its strategic plan (found on its learning links web page) and at the Learning Institute for advocates and partners at the end of November. The Commission also discussed the possibility of making a recommendation that transition planning include educating students with IEPs and their families on how to interact with law enforcement and other first responders.

Agenda 3. DDA Update

Bernie Simons, the new DDA Director, reported that he plans a reorganization of DDA and that it will include hiring a self-advocate in each office. He said the three key areas of focus for DDA are: statewide training for positive behavior supports; employment support; and supporting families as set forth under the Wingspread Report from 2011.

Agenda 4. Policy Subcommittee Update

George Failla, Acting Secretary of Maryland Department on Disabilities, reported that the Policy Subcommittee met to discuss possible legislative action this year. Among the ideas under discussion include: mandating the specific curriculum being developed by PCTC with Commission input; and mandating the inclusion of self-advocates to participate as trainers for all new entry level training, including the support, coordinating and training of the self-advocates.

Commission members discussed the need for a centralized office to help organize and train self-advocates to train across sectors, as well as the need for a clearinghouse and evaluation of constantly involving training materials.

Agenda 5. Law Enforcement Training Update

Jennifer Beskid updated the Commission on the development of the training curriculum. On August 28, 2014 there was a dry run that included recruits from Maryland State Police and new graduates from the Department of Natural Resources. The evaluations from the students were overall positive. There were several suggestions for improvement from the disability community and work on revising the current modules and developing the final modules will continue through the fall. Areas still to be developed include strengthening community ties and developing relationships, trauma-informed care, and de-escalation techniques.

Agenda 6. Meeting with Governor

Members of the Commission discussed the September 10, 2014 meeting with Governor O'Malley the purpose of which is to update him on where the Commission stands at its one year anniversary. The Commission will provide background information to the Governor's staff to include the current cultural context and status of individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities. The report will explain that the Commission has taken a broader approach beyond safety and de-escalation to include a multi-sector approach.

Agenda 7. End of year report

The Commission briefly discussed its "picture of success" and what recommendations it wants to include in the December end-of-year-report. The Commission wants to hear from people about suggestions for the recommendations it should include in that report.

Agenda 7. Upcoming Meeting Schedule

The Commission agreed to meet as follows:

October 20, 2014
November 14, 2014
December 15, 2014

The meeting adjourned at noon.