



## New Hampshire Council on Autism Spectrum Disorders

### NHCASD Meeting Minutes \* June 11, 2024 \* On ZOOM

#### Members and Attendance

Name	Organization/Representing	Meeting Status
	The governor, or designee.	
	The commissioner of the department of education, or designee.	
Deirdre Dunn Tierney	The commissioner of the department of health and human services, or designee.	Present Virtual
	The director of the division of public health services, department of health and human services, or designee	
	The bureau chief of the bureau of developmental services, department of health and human services, or designee.	
	The director of the Institute on Disability, University of New Hampshire, or designee.	
	A special education director, appointed by the New Hampshire Association of Special Education Administrators, Inc	
	The president of the New Hampshire Medical Society, or designee.	
Isadora Rodriguez-Legendre	A representative of the New Hampshire Developmental Disabilities Council, appointed by the council.	Present Virtual
Gina Cannon	An individual who has an AUTISM spectrum disorder, appointed by the governor.	Present Virtual
Mariss Berg	(m) A representative of the Community Support Network, Inc., appointed by such organization	Present Virtual

	A representative of the New Hampshire Psychological Association, appointed by the association.	
	The director of the office of Medicaid business and policy, department of health and human services, or designee.	
1.	Up to 5 additional members, nominated by the council and appointed by the governor.	1.
2.		2.
3.		3.
4.		4.
5.		5.
Amy Frechette	A person who has an AUTISM spectrum disorder, appointed by the council	Present Virtual
Pamela DiNapoli	A representative of the New Hampshire Nurses' Association, appointed by the association	Present Virtual
Kathryn Greenslade	A licensed speech-language pathologist, appointed by the New Hampshire Speech-Language-Hearing Association, Inc	Present Virtual

#### **A QUORUM WAS NOT REACHED**

(\*) delineates family member of/or individual with a disability which counts toward an in-person quorum.

#### **Guests or Members of the Public**

Patricia Bedford	Member of the Public, Parent	Virtual
Suzanne Bagdasarian	Community Partners/Fiscal Agent	Virtual
Lisa Fontaine-Storez	Bureau of Family Centered Services/Parent	Virtual
Michael Etzel	Member of the Public, Parent	Virtual
Elaine Strand	Member of the Public, Parent	Virtual
Suzanne Butcher	Prime sponsor of the Legislation, Parent	Virtual
Karen Blake	Member of the Public, Parent	Virtual
Bill Watson	Member of the Public	Virtual
Robin Klein	Member of the Public, Parent	Virtual
Carrie Duran	Administrative Support	

## Introductions and Welcome

- Marissa Berg called the meeting to order at 1:06 p.m. Marissa explained the NHCASD has not met on a regular basis for two years.
- Each person on the call introduced themselves and stated which seat they were representing or if they were a member of the public.

## Membership Discussion

- Who are the current members of the council? What seats are not present and where do we go from here?
- Reviewed the new legislation for membership and the flexibility to appoint new members. *(p) Up to 5 additional members, nominated by the council and appointed by the governor.*
- It was determined the current membership list is outdated. Carrie Duran to put together an updated list for the next meeting.
- Suzanne Butcher: Original intent of the council was to have members who were involved in policy.
- Carrie Duran to update the membership list and present it at the next council meeting

## Resources and Reports

- What is needed now on a policy and legislative level? Further discussion needed.
- Amy Frechette: We need to have historical documents collected
- Suzanne Butcher: Autism Registry was made to help newly diagnosed children with support and resources. <https://www.dhhs.nh.gov/programs-services/disability-care/developmental-services/autism-spectrum-registry>
- Karen Blake: Autism Registry HB 1615 - Registry repealed (accuracy and privacy cited) [https://legiscan.com/NH/text/HB1615/id/2991574/New\\_Hampshire-2024-HB1615-Enrolled.html](https://legiscan.com/NH/text/HB1615/id/2991574/New_Hampshire-2024-HB1615-Enrolled.html)

## Future Topics/Areas of Concern

Karen Blake: Employment support.

- Isadora Rodriguez-Legendre: What are the trends for the newly diagnosed (through the lifespan)? Are they receiving the support and services needed?
- Marissa Berg: Where are the holes in the safety net?
- Amy Frechette: Professional development for providers. What supports are available for diverse populations, BIPOC.
- Lisa Fontaine-Storez: Review of 2017 Report Follow Up, New Hampshire Family Voices <https://nhfv.org/wp-content/uploads/2013/09/ASD-Needs-Assessment-2014-Final.pdf>
- Isadora Rodriguez-Legendre: Governor's Commission Report HB4 Report [GCD HB4 Final Report](#)
- Carrie Duran: Resources will be gathered to go on the website once developed

## Scheduling Future Meetings

Discussion about scheduling.

- Should the meetings be monthly, every other month or quarterly? One hour or two hours?
- **Last Tuesday of the month from 9 a.m. to 11 a.m. Next meeting July 30<sup>th</sup>.**

## Administrative Support/Financial Questions

- Suzanne Bagdasarian: Community Partners is the fiscal agent for the Autism Council
  - Job description and position will be posted
  - Funds for hiring an admin: Funds are put aside in a holding account for the council to use as appropriate. We will submit an invoice to the state.
  - Stipends, Website, Travel
- Amy Frechette: Admin position has been in flux. We need support to do the work.
- Marissa Berg: Funding to develop a website.
- Facebook: Isadora to reach out to former Autism Council member to get access.

## The meeting adjourned at 2:00 p.m.

Minutes respectfully submitted by: Carrie Duran, Quality Council Administrator, nhcasqc@gmail.com