

## **Quality Improvement Committee (QIC) Meeting Minutes**

**Tuesday, November 4, 2014**

### **In Attendance:**

Matt Rosen (Chair), Supervisory Quality Improvement Specialist, QMD/DDS

Jared Morris, Director, QMD/DDS

Alison Whyte, Program Development Specialist, SODA/DDS

Lisa Alexander, George Washington University

Joyce Maring, George Washington University

Brenda Sheingold, George Washington University

Winslow Woodland, Director, SPCD/DDS

Nancy Vaughan, Parent

Marisa Brown, Georgetown University, Center on Child and Human Development

Barbara Stachowiak, Project Director, Provider Certification Review/DDS

Danielle Gabriel, Nurse, H&W/DDS

### **Handouts from the Meeting**

- Agenda
- Minutes from October 7, 2014
- Draft QIC Annual Report for FY 2014
- Two articles related to falls and fall prevention
- Information about the Essential Falls Management Series' tool for people with Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities

### **Review of October 7 Minutes**

- ❖ No substantive edits or additions were made to the minutes.

### **Review of QIC Annual Report for FY 2014**

- ❖ The group approved the draft report with minor edits.

### **Conversation on Preventing Falls**

- ❖ Lisa Alexander and Joyce Maring reported their findings after reviewing the DDS/DDA incident data from January 1, 2013 through March 31, 2014. Out of 772 physical injury or serious physical injury incidents involving 418 unique people, 23.8% of the incidents involved a fall. Lisa and Joyce noticed clusters of incidents around activities and times of the year. The following factors were noticed in the fall incidents: Surface transitions (45%); Environmental Safety (5%); Balance and unable to regain footing (22%) (many of these occurred while a person was waiting for their specialty shoes to arrive to provide extra needed support); and Unobserved falls (26%). Looking at falls incidents by month, November (10%) had the highest number of occurrences followed by May. The group

then looked at the records for several people who had multiple fall incidents during the time period. Based on the data findings and the review, the following recommendations were made by the group: 1) Create a resource list of training materials, related to fall prevention and other specific topics, that all providers are expected to have in their possession to use for training purposes, 2) Ask Catherine Von-Stitt, DDS Physical Therapist, to work with the respective Health and Wellness nurse to review the files of people who have experienced a high number of falls and meet with them personally to develop recommendations based on a fall risk assessment and the person's choice for support; 3) Include a check box for "falls" in the MCIS reporting process that would automatically create an issue for the provider to conduct a falls risk assessment if the person experiences two falls in a three-month period; 4) Create a Fall Risk Assessment based on physical ability and include in the Health and Wellness Standards Form I, similar to the Dementia screening); and 5) Implement a pilot program for providers to complete the 2-minute walk tool and the modified Tinetti Assessment tool.

#### **Announcements and Other Updates**

- ❖ Lisa Alexander invited QIC member to attend the end of semester debrief for GWU PA and PT students who participated in a community health practicum this semester focused on adults with IDD. The event will take place the morning of December 2 at Ross Hall. The guest speaker for this session is John Wodatch, JD who retired recently as Chief of the Disability Rights Section in the Civil Rights Division at the Justice Department.

**Next Meeting: December 2, 2014**