

ADVISORY, CONSULTATIVE, DELIBERATIVE, CONFIDENTIAL MATERIAL
**Governor's Task Force on the Closure of State Developmental Centers
4-30-2012 Meeting Minutes**

The fifth meeting of the Task Force was convened on Monday, April 30, 2012 at 10:00 a.m.

Task Force Members Present:

Allison Murphy, Senate Appointee
Colin Newman, Governor's Appointee
Nancy Thaler, Governor's Appointee

Craig Domalewski, Governor's Appointee
Valessa Goehring, Assembly Appointee

Call to Order The meeting was called to order by Craig Domalewski, Chairperson, as follows:

“I hereby call to order the April 30, 2012 meeting of the Task Force on the Closure of State Developmental Centers. This is a formal meeting of the Task Force on the Closure of State Developmental Centers.”

Notice Adequate notice of this meeting has been published in accordance with the provisions of Chapter 231, Public Law 1975, NJSA § 10:4-6 et seq., of the State of New Jersey entitled, ‘Open Public Meetings Act.’ Notice was sent to the Secretary of State, who posted the notice in a public place. Notices were published in the Star Ledger, Trenton Times and Camden Courier-Post. The notice was also published on the New Jersey Department of Human Services website and the Department of Human Services Facebook page. This statement hereby serves as the “statements in minutes of meeting on adequate notice” in compliance with NJSA § 10:4-10.

Roll Call Barbara Booth conducted a Roll Call as follows: Craig Domalewski, Allison Murphy, Colin Newman, Valessa Goehring and Nancy Thaler. All responded in the affirmative.

Adopting of Minutes Allison Murphy moved to adopt the minutes of the April 9, 2012 meeting prepared by Barbara Booth. Nancy Thaler seconded the motion. All members unanimously voted in favor of adopting the minutes with no alterations.

Documents Task Force members were provided the following documents:

-Copies of all correspondence/documents received by individual Task Force members or DHS/DDD staff from interested constituents.

**Meeting
Discussion**

The focus of the meeting was to determine how the Task Force should proceed and whether there was a need for additional information prior to deciding on each of the five factors included in the Statute. Each Factor was examined individually and the following information was requested:

Factor A – The number of individuals with developmental disabilities residing in a developmental center who want or do not oppose, or if applicable, whose guardians want or do not oppose community placement and whose interdisciplinary teams have recommended such a placement.

1. Updated summary of the survey conducted by Joanne St. Amand, Woodbridge Family Association President.

Factor B – The present capacity of the community to provide or develop specialized services and supports to individuals with developmental disabilities or the time required to allow for the development of the capacity to provide such specialized services.

1. Pace and success of recent community placements to include number of people moved.
2. Number of community placements that the Division of Developmental Disabilities can manage in a given period of time successfully.

Factor C – The operational needs of the Department of Human Services in meeting the range of needs and preferences of all affected individuals served by the Division of Developmental Disabilities in the Department of Human Services.

1. The impact on the DHS/DDD. For each developmental center the significant State functions that would have to be relocated and what it would take/cost to make that happen, if available.
2. The infrastructure that would be necessary to manage the increase of community residences in areas such as:
 - a. Quality Assurance;
 - b. Program Oversight;
 - c. Investigations;
 - d. Training;
 - e. Licensing;
 - f. Professionals; and
 - g. Case Managers
3. The declining census and projections for future fiscal years to determine the number of developmental centers that are needed.

4. The Task Force also requested that relevant staff from DHS be available should questions arise at the next meeting related to the documents provided.

Factor D – The economic impact on the community in which the developmental center is located if that center were to close.

1. Employment potential in adjacent counties to where DCs are located.
2. Attrition rates for the last 5 years.
3. The opportunity for affected employees to fill vacancies at other DCs.
4. Number of employees eligible for retirement.
5. Counties where employees from each DC reside and potential employment opportunities in those counties (focused on where the majority of employees reside).
6. Potential job growth associated with a closure as well as job loss.

Factor E – The projected repair and maintenance costs of the developmental center as estimated by the Department of Human Services.

No information requested.

The Task Force also requested that DHS/DDD begin drafting the Introduction portion of the report to include background information. The draft introduction will be reviewed by the members for comment.

The Task Force requested to receive all information listed above no later than Friday, June 1, 2012.

Meeting Conclusion	Vice Chairperson Murphy motioned to adjourn the meeting. Valessa Goehringer seconded the motion. The members unanimously approved.
Next Meeting	The next meeting of the Task Force will take place on June 18, 2012 Capital Place One, Conference Room 100, beginning at 10:00 a.m.
Submitted By	Barbara Booth, DDD Office of Program Support