



## **Rhode Island Division of Developmental Disabilities Community Forum**

**May 2, 2017 -- 4:00 - 6:00 pm**

**CCRI Auditorium, One John Chaffee Blvd. Newport, RI 02840**

### **State Leadership in Attendance:**

#### *BHDDH*

Kerri Zanchi, Director of the Division of Developmental Disabilities  
Anne LeClerc, Associate Director of Program Performance  
Heather Mincey, DD Administrator  
Adam Brusseau, Financial Administrator  
Tracey Cunningham, Employment Specialist  
Dianne Curran, RI Consent Decree Coordinator  
Kevin Savage, Licensing Administrator  
Linda Reilly, Chief Community Relations Officer

#### *DHS*

Joe Murphy, Assistant Administrator, Office of Rehabilitation Services

#### *EOHHS*

Brian Gosselin, Senior Strategy Officer, Executive Office of Health and Human Services

### **Newly Hired Members of the DD Team**

Kerri introduced Dianne Curran, the new RI Consent Decree Coordinator, who introduced herself and spoke about her background.

Kerri announced that Joni Martell has been hired as the new DD Residential Coordinator. She will begin her new position at BHDDH in mid-May.

### **Home and Community Based Services (HCBS)**

Kerri spent some time discussing the Division's compliance deadline of March 2019 to implement the new "Final Rule" on Home and Community Based Services (HCBS) which require services for individuals living with a developmental disability in their own home or community rather than in an institution or other isolated setting.

### **Person Centered Planning and Thinking**

Kerri and Tony Antosh spoke about Rhode Island's move toward Person Centered Planning and Thinking. Various sessions will be held throughout the community to explain how Person Centered Planning will be the guiding principle for the Division, as we move forward. Kerri and Tony both explained that the Division wants to look at ways that a person centered planning process can drive a system of change within the DD community.

### **Regulatory Reform**

The Department is working on regulatory revision of its 12 sets of regulations as part of the Governor's statewide Administrative Procedures Act (APA) project. The first sets of regulations that Department is working on, are the Developmental Disabilities and Behavioral Health regulations. These are the most impactful of our regulations on the populations we serve. The Department's approach is to ensure that the revised regulations will be streamlined from their current form and include regulatory language that is required to have the force and effect of law. Language in the current regulations that does not need

to have the force and effect of law, but is of the nature of policy or procedure, will be removed from the regulations and appropriately coded as policy and/or procedure in Department's on-line policy manual.

Many thanks to [Advocates in Action](#) and [RIPIN](#) who also made presentations at the Forum.

**The next DD Quarterly Community Forum will be held on Tuesday, August 8<sup>th</sup> at the Coventry Department of Human Services and Senior Center, 50 Wood Street, Coventry from 4:00 – 6:00 pm.**