

ACQ Policy and Quality Subcommittee Meeting Summary

8/12/2026, 1:00 – 3:00 PM

Co-Chairs: Elana Gonzales, Winton Wood

Attendees: Abby Aguilar (Familia Services), Kathy Briseno (DTS), Johanna Corral (CNRAG), Cassandra DeCamp (UNM CDD), Alethea Denet-Davis, Deanna DeHerrera (DDSD), Valerie Dewbre (ENMRSH), Cristalina Ford (CNRAG), Amy Goodner (Parents Reaching Out), Christina Hill (DDSD), Elaine Hill (DDSD), Jennifer Hollins, Meggin Lorino (ADDCP), Tracy Perry (Direct Therapy Services), Angelique Tafoya (Alta Mira NM), Frank Villegas (GRU Inc.)

AGENDA ITEMS

1. Introduction – Elana Gonzales, Winton Wood

- Co-chair and attendee introductions
- Statement of Purpose:
 - The Policy and Quality Subcommittee of the Advisory Council on Quality (ACQ) serves as an advisory group focused on improving policies and service quality for individuals with Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities (IDD). This subcommittee:
 - Reviews and recommends DDSD policies to the full Advisory Council.
 - Focuses on quality improvement in service delivery systems.
 - Incorporates input from external and internal stakeholders.
 - Meets regularly (bi-monthly) to address ongoing policy and quality initiatives.
 - It contributes to DDSD's broader commitment to service quality, performance measurement, and collaboration with providers through efforts including service standards, clinical initiatives, and quality assurance activities.
 - The attending group should be balanced and include self-advocates, families, provider agencies, advocacy agencies and other interested parties. Attendance is not limited to ACQ members.

2. Access Rule Presentation- Christina Hill

- Christina Hill gave an overview presentation regarding the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) Ensuring Access to Medicaid Services Final Rule and how the regulation relates to DDSD programs, feedback delivery process and deadlines.

- Discussion, Q & A:
 - Question on when more information about the 80/20 Rule would be available, and what due diligence would be required for compliance. This part of Access Rule not due until 2030. DDSD is expecting and monitoring for more guidance from CMS.

3. Mi Via Updates- Elaine Hill, Deanna DeHerrera

- To follow up on information shared in the last committee meeting, Elaine Hill and Deanna DeHerrera gave an overview presentation and updates on the following topics:
 - Mi Via Standards
 - In-Home Living Supports (IHLS) Surveys
 - Mi Via Waiver Amendment - Supports Broker Role
 - Mi Via Service & Support Plan (SSP)
- Discussion, Q & A:
 - Comment on the intended ACQ Policy & Quality Subcommittee purpose. Requests were made to:
 - Spend more time in committee meetings editing drafts or providing direct input on documents rather than receiving informational presentations;
 - Receive documents after a draft has been created by DDSD, but with ample input time before finalization;
 - Have opportunity to provide comment on a variety of operational documents, not exclusively formal DDSD policies
 - Overall, utilize the subject-matter expertise of the committee.
 - Question on whether Mi Via Consultants are required to recreate a new SSP document every year in the system. Clarification was provided that federal regulations regarding the SSP indicate that an annual review is required, a new document.
 - Question on who would be able to provide the services described in the Support Broker role. DDSD Mi Via team to follow up.
 - Question on whether more SSP information would be available prior to the public comment period. DDSD Mi Via team to follow up.
 - Question on the reason for having consultants involved with the IHLS survey. DDSD Mi Via team to follow up.
 - Request for an example SSP to be disseminated/ published by DDSD.

4. Wrap-Up- Elana Gonzales, Winton Wood

- Discussion, Q & A:

- Request for more information, updates, and reassurance from DDSD regarding House Resolution 1 (H.R. 1). Clarification needed from DDSD on how H.R. 1 will affect waiver recipients, if at all. DDSD explained ongoing efforts and committed to sending information on 'Keep Your Benefits' to attendees.
- Future meetings will continue with the usual schedule (bi-monthly, 2nd Wednesday of the month from 1:00-3:00 pm).
- The next regularly scheduled sub-committee meeting will take place on Wednesday, October 14th, 2026 from 1:00-3:00 pm.