

Minnesota Autism Spectrum Disorder Taskforce

January 28, 2010 – 9:00 a.m.
State Office Building – Room 300S

Draft Minutes

Members Present

Sen. Terri Bonoff
Rep. Tara Mack
Rep. Nora Slawik
Dawn Steigauf
AJ Paron-Wildes
Dr. David Griffin
Dr. W. Brooks Donald
Jean Bender
Idil Abudll

Members Absent

Sen. David Senjem
Dr. Kimberly Klein
Dr. Jodi Milburn
Renaë Ouillette
Virginia Richardson
Abdullahi Farah

Meeting was called to order at 9:15 a.m.

Approval of Minutes

Minutes from previous meeting were approved.

Steps of Hope

The Autism Society of Minnesota is organizing an autism walk on February 28, 2010 at Ridgedale Center. Members of the task force are encouraged to be there, as they will be introduced to the participants. Steps of Hope raises money through this walk and is able to give grants back to the community to help those affected by autism.

Early Childhood Discussion

The task force discussed treatment options and how they plan to include them in the recommendations that will be sent to the Legislature in the next task force report. Also discussed were issues around diagnosis, training components for parents, and the rating of different therapies.

Minnesota Council of Health Plans

Kathryn Kmit from the Minnesota Council of Health Plans presented on various aspects of health insurance including: funding streams, ERISA, group and individual products, private health insurance coverage and cost, Minnesota's health plans, where Minnesota's health care dollars go, and the successes and challenges of health care in Minnesota.

General Discussion/New Business

The task force decided that it would be a good idea to invite legislators who are authoring autism related legislation to come speak to the task force. There are currently four pieces of legislation that may be included in the discussion.

Future Meetings

Tuesday, March 9th, 2010

6:00 p.m.

Room TBD

Thursday, March 25th, 2010

9:00 a.m.

Room TBD

Tuesday, April 13, 2010

6:00 p.m.

Room TBD

Thursday, May 13th, 2010

9:00 a.m.

Room TBD

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 11:00 a.m.