Advisory Stakeholder Group on Autism Related Needs (ASGARN)

FY24 3rd Quarter Meeting March 12th, 2024



Victoria M. Rodríguez-Roldán, J.D. Coordinator of State Autism Strategy

DEPARTMENT OF DISABILITIES

Meeting Guidelines

Purpose 1:

To create a safe, positive, and inclusive environment for the advisory group, participants, staff, and the public.

Purpose 2:

Create a safe space for diversity of contributors, thoughts, and ideas.



Meeting Guidelines

- Assume positive intent on the part of advisory members, moderators, participants, and staff.
- Listen actively. Allow others to complete their thoughts, listening to listen, and not listening to respond.
- **One speaker at a time**, prioritizing those who haven't spoken yet.
- Default to **"both / and" thinking** instead of either/or thinking.
- Members of the public, please wait for the open forum section to speak.



Roll Call



Governor Appointed:

Emily Arker Devan Southerland Roger Thibaudeau Adam Shafer Jones Nicole C. LaBlanc Lisa Wiederlight Peggy Pugh Christy Russell **Coordinator Appointed:** Ryan Roddey JaLynn Prince Gregory S. Robinson Lydia X.Z. Brown, JD Jess L. Wilcox Cowing, PhD Trevor Byrd Nikki Stokes **Flizabeth Benevides** Melissa Rosenberg Nancy Forsythe Yoreidy Vasquez-Tavarez, PhD, ABPP Rachel Leah Kraus, LCSW-C

MGA Appointed: Del. Michele Guyton Del. Julie Palakovich Carr Ex-Officio Fatima Salem Rachel London **Raymond Marshall** Rebecca Rienzi Ami Taubenfeld Government designee: Victoria Rodriguez-Roldan, JD Carmen Brown Lisa Belcastro Courtney Thomas-Winterberg Janet Furman

Opening Remarks by Chair



Staff Introduction



Ellis Z Sardorian (they/them) Autism Strategy Program Administrative Coordinator



Mission & Vision Survey Results

Mission: Improving the quality of life of Marylanders on the autism spectrum as well as their families, caregivers and loved ones by ensuring and promoting opportunity, access and choice, so that they can lead healthy, fulfilling and self-directed lives as integral parts of our communities.

Vision: We envision a Maryland where people on the autism spectrum as well as their loved ones, families and caregivers experience a high quality of life by possessing the tools to live up to their highest potential and as independently as possible.



Strategic Planning Timeline

January 2024

Subcommittees begin their work with regular meetings to draft a report on their subject. Coordinator starts writing a draft document.

Mid-April 2024

Subcommittees submit reports to the Coordinator of their recommendations and ideas for the strategic plan.

Memorial Day 2024

Coordinator has a draft to provide to MDOD leadership and to ASGARN at its June meeting.

End of State FY24 (June 30, 2024)

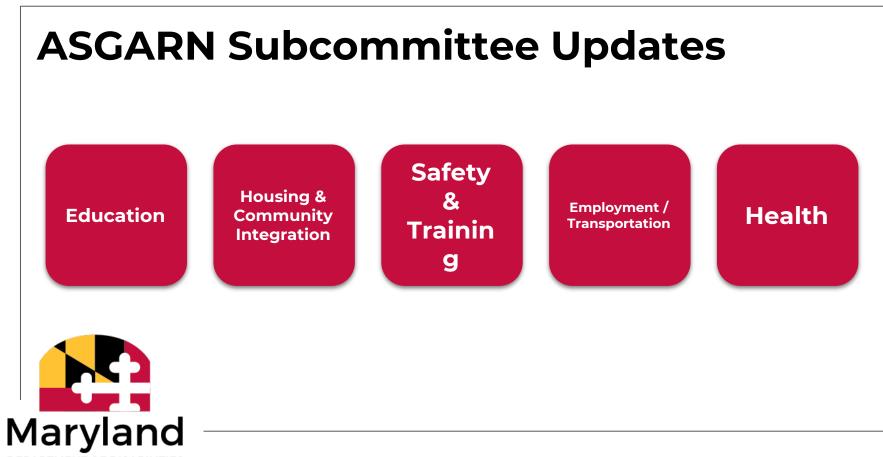
Submission of strategic plan to the state.



Autism Strategic Plan

- → Policy by state government to better serve autistic people and their loved ones
- → Goal to ensure promotion of equality for all autistic Marylanders
 - Opportunity
 - Access
 - Choice





DEPARTMENT OF DISABILITIES

Current ASGARN

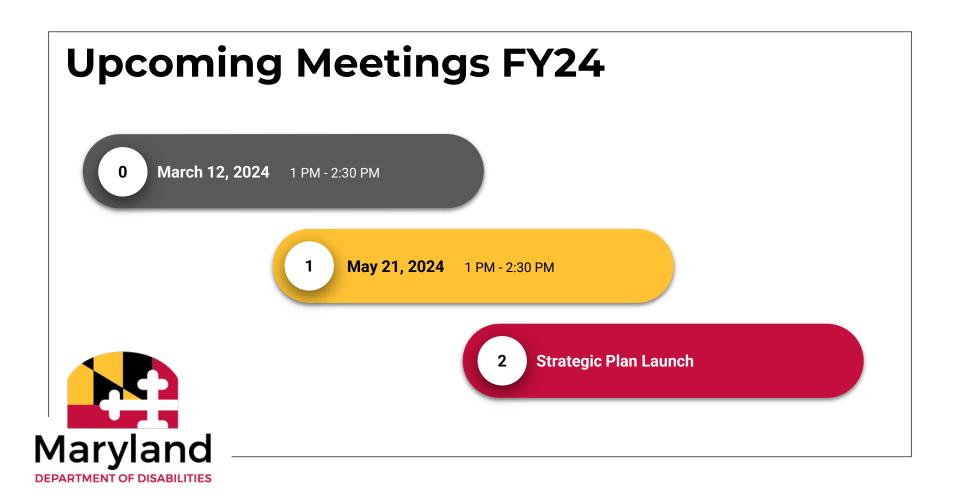
Vacancies Representative from the Maryland Occupational Therapy Association

Governor's Appointment

Qualified candidates encouraged to apply with the <u>Governor's Office of</u> Appointments

- Physical therapist
- Pediatrician





ASGARN Comments



Public Comments



Closing Remarks



Contact Us



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