Advisory Stakeholder Group on Autism Related Needs (ASGARN)

FY25 1st Quarter Meeting September 10, 2024



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

Meeting Guidelines 1

Goal 1:

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

Goal 2:

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



Meeting Guidelines 2

- 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 and public**, please wait for the appropriate open forum section to speak.



Roll Call

Governor Appointed:

Adam Shafer Jones Christy Russell Devan Southerland Emily Arker Lisa Wiederlight Nicole Christine LeBlanc Peggy Ann Pugh Roger Thibaudeau

Maryland DEPARTMENT OF DISABILITIES

Coordinator Appointed:

Elizabeth Benevides Gregory S. Robinson JaLynn Prince Jess L. Wilcox Cowing, PhD Lydia X.Z. Brown, JD Melissa Rosenberg Nancy Forsythe, MA, EdS. Nikki Stokes Rachel Leah Kraus, LCSW-C Ryan T. Roddey, PhD Trevor Byrd Yoreidy Vasquez-Tavarez, PhD, ABPP

MGA Appointed:

Del. Julie Palakovich Carr Del. Michele Guyton **Ex-Officio** Ami Taubenfeld Fatima Salem Rachel London Raymond Marshall Rebecca Rienzi

Government designee:

Carmen Brown Courtney Thomas-Winterberg Janet Furman Anne Blackfield Victoria Rodriguez-Roldan, JD

Open Remarks by Chair



Leadership Transitions



Autism Strategic Plan

- Status update
- Strategic plan phases
 - Strategy
 - o Workplan
- Review process



Introduction

- Background
- A note on language
- Why this strategic plan is important
- How this strategic plan was developed
- Plan Structure
- Vision statement
- Mission statement



Guiding Principle 1

People with autism should be able to live and thrive in their chosen communities.

- Education
- Employment
- Transportation
- Housing



Guiding Principles 2

Autistic people and their caregivers should be safe and healthy in their homes and communities.

- Safety
- Health care and caregiver supports



Guiding Principle 3

People with autism should lead lives with the greatest degree of self-determination possible.

- Adult Guardianship
- Community integration
- Cultural competence and inclusion



Current ASGARN vacancies

Ex Officio

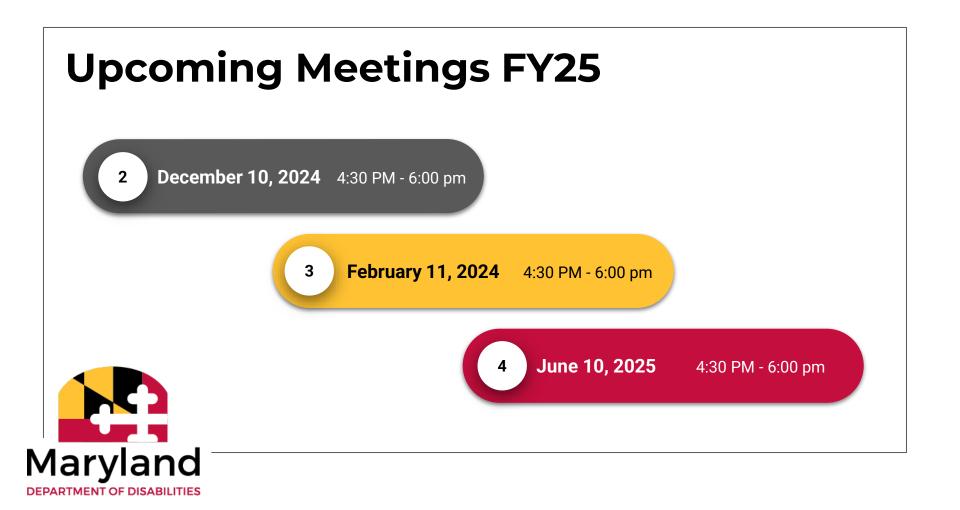
• Representative from the Maryland Occupational Therapy Association

Governor's Appointment

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

- Physical therapist
- Pediatrician





ASGARN Comments



Public Comments



Closing Remarks



Contact Us



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