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Division of Consumer Affairs
Audiology and Speech-Language
Pathology Advisory Committee
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NOVEMBER 19, 2015 PUBLIC SESSION MINUTES SUSSEX CONFERENCE ROOM, 6TH FLOOR 124 HALSEY STREET NEWARK, NJ 07105

I OPENING STATEMENT AND ROLL CALL

A Committee meeting of the New Jersey Audiology and Speech-Language Pathology Advisory Committee was held at 124 Halsey Street, Newark on the 6th floor on Thursday, September 17, 2015. Hilda Pressman, Chair of the Committee announced that pursuant to the Open Public Meetings Act, notice of this meeting was prepared in the office of the Board and mailed out to the Secretary of State, the Attorney General, the Star Ledger, the Record, the Press of Atlantic City, the Asbury Park Press, and the Trenton Times. The meeting was called to order at 9:30 A.M. A roll call was taken and the following attendance was recorded and a quorum was present:

PRESENT Hilda Pressman, M.A., CCC-SLP, BCS-S
Anne Eckert, Au.D., MBA, CCC-A, FAAA
Gerard Caracciolo, Ed. D., CCC-SLP
Louis Conte, D.O.

EXCUSED Nancy G. Schneider, M.A., CCC-A, FAAA
Chetan Shah, MD

ABSENT Sharon Shinkle Gardner

ALSO PRESENT Carmen Rodriguez, DAG
Renee P. Clark, Executive Director
Sonia Claudino, Administrative Staff

II APPROVAL OF MINUTES

1. A motion was made by Dr. Caracciolo, seconded by Dr. Eckert to ratify the July 16, 2015 Public Session Minutes. The motion carried by unanimous vote.
2. After review, a motion was made by Dr. Caracciolo, seconded by Dr. Eckert to approve the September 17, 2015 as written. The motion carried by unanimous vote.

III OLD BUSINESS

- a. Parents and Teachers- Nancy Schneider submitted an inquiry requesting a universal answer from the Committee to provide Head Start and all the Audiologists who ask if they can provide free hearing screening for head start programs.

After discussion, Audiologists can provide free hearing screening for head start programs.

- b. After review of the draft submitted by the Chair, a motion was made by Dr. Conti, seconded by Dr. Caracciolo to approve the draft to be posted on Voices to advise that effective June 15, 2015 N.J.A.C. 13:44C-6.2 (b) licensees applying for their first biennial renewal are exempt from the continuing education requirements. The motion carried by unanimous vote.

III OLD BUSINESS(cont.)

- c. Chair submitted an article posted on voices in regards to music Therapists. At the September 17, 2015 Committee meeting. Chair directed that Dr. Caracciolo draft a letter indicating how it's redundant as well as the Committee's concerns in regards to Bill A4353, Music Therapists Licensing Act.

The Committee reviewed the draft statement of opposition for Bill A4353 submitted by Dr. Caracciolo which stated the benefits of music to a wide range of human needs are well documented. In addition to the cultural and recreational enhancements of music, it has also been used as a collaborative therapy to physical, occupational and speech-language therapies to help promote change in a range of disabilities. As the field of Music Therapy has advanced, it is seeking to be viewed less as a collaborative and more as an independent service provider, worthy of licensure and an ability to receive reimbursement; using the same codes under which other rehabilitative services are reimbursed. Music Therapists have presently mounted a national movement to seek licensure in targeted states. The national endeavor has met with some resistance by states because they claim to be qualified to work with a wide range of communication disorders, they have also caught the attention of the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association (ASHA) and the New Jersey Speech-Language-Hearing Association (ASHA). Knowing the standards and rigor held for the accredited training programs for audiologists and speech-language pathologists, it is evident, upon making comparisons in training, that music therapists, who are apparently preparing for a "treatment approach", do not have the equivalent preparation to engage in the diagnosis, treatment and evaluation procedures that are provided by individuals whose preparation are in the discipline of communication sciences and disorders. A4353 clearly states that music therapists are not able to diagnose communication disorders so how can a service provider know how to determine the core of the problem and be able to select goals, plan management from a range of strategic options and evaluate treatment from an evidence-based perspective? Another apparent concern is for the licensing of music therapists at both the B.A. and M.A. levels which equivocates two separate levels of training for the same license. In speech-language pathology, licensure is only available to speech-language pathologists with a Master Degree; audiologists in New Jersey are currently being licensed at the doctoral level. In the licensure framework of speech-language pathologists, full licensure is preceded by a prescribed temporary licensure experience which is a supervised paid professional period that offers a degree of assurance that the temporary license is truly prepared to be fully licensed. These and other discrepancies between music therapy and speech-language therapy calls into question the ability of music therapists to provide equivalent care to the same population and, thus, leads to primary concern for consumer welfare and protection.

After review, Chair directed that this information be provided to Charles Manning, Regulatory Analyst.

IV NEW BUSINESS

- a. Bob Campanelli, Ethics Officer presented the mandatory ethics course.
- b. Charles Manning, Regulatory Analyst was to discuss the re-adoption of regulations.

Since the September 17, 2015 Public Session minutes were approved. The regulations will be re-adopted.

V WEBSITE REVIEW

No comments.

VII HANDOUT(S)

No handouts were provided.

IV ADJOURNMENT

A recommendation was made by Dr. Eckert seconded by Dr. Caracciolo to proceed to Executive Session, to hold an investigative inquiry, to consider and review advertisements, consumer complaints and other information received pursuant to the Committee's investigative authority in order to determine whether violations of law, including Committee's regulations have occurred. The results of these deliberations will be made known when and if the Committee determines to initiate disciplinary or other enforcement actions. If the Committee chooses to issue a Uniform Penalty Letter, the action will be taken in Public Session immediately after the Executive Session.

A motion was made by Dr. Eckert, seconded by Dr. Caracciolo to adjourn the meeting at 11:30a.m. The motion carried by unanimous vote.

Respectfully submitted

Audiology and Speech-Language Pathology Advisory Committee

Renee P. Clark
Executive Director