CONNECTICUT ABLE IMPLEMENTATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Meeting Minutes

June 21, 2016
2:00 PM, 7th Floor Conference Room, 55 Elm Street, Hartford

In Attendance
Kevin Lawton, DDS
Emily Bjornberg, OTT
David Barrett, OTT
Mary Phil Guinan, OTT
Rich Gray, OTT
Mark Shok, DSS
Sharon Geauracos, Parent
Jack Frost, Parent
Kerry Tedford-Coles, Plan of CT
Melody Currey, DAS
Amy Porter, DAS
Lisa Weisinger-Roland, Parent

Dialing in by Phone
Jonathan Slifka
Shelagh McClure
Bill Pierce
Steve Pintarick
Marina Derman

Mary Phil Guinan welcomed the committee at 2:05 pm.

Mary Phil presented the minutes from the May ABLE meeting. The minutes were approved unanimously.

Emily Bjornberg gave a PowerPoint presentation highlighting what she learned at the National Association of State Treasurers Conference in New Orleans. Ohio, Tennessee and Nebraska are all in the process of launching new programs. The ten state consortium has distributed their RFP. Connecticut will continue to track the developments of states as they launch their own ABLE programs.

Several members of the ABLE Advisory Committee mentioned that they have received increasing numbers of inquiries about Connecticut’s ABLE program. The committee discussed possible responses. The discussion was then tabled until next meeting with the idea that the committee would report back on the details of the questions they receive so that we can produce a more uniform response and disseminate information into the disability community more effectively.
Mary Phil Guinan gave an update about changing federal regulations that will affect ABLE. The Treasury will continue to track these changes and report back to the committee.

The Policy Unit of the Treasury is currently tracking one piece of federal legislation. This law would allow rollovers from 529 to ABLE accounts. Currently, the bill has several cosponsors, but a vehicle to move it through the Congress has yet to be identified.

The next meeting was set for August 16th, 2016 at 2:00 pm at the Office of the State Treasurer. The meeting adjourned at 3:35 pm.