



SEDGWICK COUNTY DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITY COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Friday, January 31, 2020
11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.
The Arc of Sedgwick County
2919 W. 2nd Street, Wichita

WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS

- Jeannette Livingston, SCDDO Assistant Director, welcomed everyone
- Rebecca Duden, Executive Committee President, opened the meeting

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE ELECTION

Four people were nominated. The nominees introduced themselves.

- Debbie King
- Dinell Smith
- James Fry
- Dana Flagg

SEDGWICK COUNTY TRANSPORTATION STUDY – DR. MELISSA WALKER, MICHELLE DEHAVEN, CAMBRY SCHRAG (WSU HUGO WALL SCHOOL)

Handouts: Transportation Assessment Brochure, Transportation Assessment Executive Summary

The report is intended to contribute to conversations around transportation. SCDDO provided de-identified information from assessments and people were interviewed including individuals and agency staff.

- Most frequently mentioned challenges with Wichita transportation fixed route busses and paratransit:
 - Cognitive and physical ability
 - Safety
 - Vulnerability
 - Hours of operations
 - Length of time spent waiting and traveling
- In 2010 the City of Wichita started providing funding for six of the providers in Wichita who provide transportation services
- In 2014 it was found that the competitive bid process was not used.
- In 2015 it was found that it would be cheaper for Wichita Transit to operate the paratransit system
- In 2016 the funding was taken away from the providers
- After funding cuts the agencies had to make changes to their transportation services including the following:
 - Start charging fees
 - Decrease the boundaries they provided transportation to
- Cost to Starkey to transport people
 - \$84,559 cost to operate
 - Revenue from transportation is \$33,000
 - \$50,000 deficit from transportation services
- 80% of the population in the Sedgwick County IDD system can't use the bus they need supports
- People aren't able to get a job because they are outside of the operating hours of the transportation system or the agencies
- Wichita Transit is interested in engaging with the IDD system to look for ways to improve
- Things we can do:
 - Provide individual transportation
 - Provide training to bus drivers and paratransit drivers
 - Talk to Kansas Department of Health and Environment and legislators about expanding the definition of transportation
- United Health Care does offer some additional benefits for transportation

Transportation Next Steps

- Dr. Walker will talk to Access Advisory Board
- Becky Tuttle from the Wichita City Council asked that people continue to let them know about issues so they are aware she also encourage people to use the transit system to increase the need for the system

SPECIAL OLYMPICS – MITCH GUTHRIE

- Mitch has been involved with Special Olympics since 1987
- Special Olympics started 50 years ago
- 1970 athletes from Parsons Hospital got to participate in their first Special Olympics event and it has grown into a world-wide movement
- Serve ages 8 and up
- They started a young athletes program for 4 and up
- To get involved go to the website to sign up
- They offer 20 different sports throughout the year
- They offer other programs such as leadership programs and health programs
- The program gives people a sense of pride and accomplishment
- Right now they serve close to 5000 Kansans
- They are always adding new sports
- They have an athlete input council
- Teams do their own fundraising

AGENCY UPDATES & OTHER BUSINESS

ACT of South Central Kansas is having a special night at The Arc on Thursday, February 13

- The State of the State related to disability issues
- Register to vote
- Learn more about the census
- RSVPs encouraged
- Bring a picture of your family member or loved one with a disability

February 8 is Haysville Polar Plunge which goes to support Special Olympics in Kansas and locally.

ILRC iCan Bike Camp is July 13-17 at Friends University to teach how to ride bikes.

NEXT MEETING

The next meeting is the last Friday in April more information will be sent out later.

ADJOURN