

The INARF Board of Directors meeting was held on Friday, September 22, 2023 at Easterseals Crossroads. The INARF Board of Directors meeting convened at 11:30 AM.

Present: Donna Elbrecht, Easterseals Arc of Northeast Indiana, Chair
Neil Samahon, Opportunity Enterprises, Inc., Vice Chair
Yolanda Kincaid, Janus Developmental Services, Inc., Secretary
Patrick Cockrum, Sycamore Services, Inc., Treasurer (phone)
Debbie Bennett, Hillcroft Services, Inc., Immediate Past Chair
Brienne Boles, Developmental Services, Inc.
Jeff Frady, Benchmark Human Services (phone)
Matt Harrington, LOGAN Community Resources, Inc. (phone)
Jason McManus, Wabash Center, Inc.
Chris Nabors, Peak Community Services, Inc (phone)
Jacque Pulling, The Columbus Organization
Jim Wiltz, Kestrel Behavioral Health, LLC
Danielle Tips, Pathfinder Services, Inc. (phone)

Staff: Katy Stafford-Cunningham, President/CEO
Andrew Alvarez, Vice President, Legislative Affairs
Barb Young, Vice President, Finance/CFO (phone)
Brian Carnes, Director, Public Policy & Technical Assistance
Ethan Newett, Communications & Marketing Coordinator
Courtney Scott, Public Policy Analyst
Lori Osting, Operations Coordinator

INARF Board of Directors meeting

I. Call to Order, Welcome

Donna Elbrecht called the meeting to order.

II. Modification to the Agenda

There were no modifications to the agenda.

III. Approval of the Minutes

The August 25 INARF Board of Directors meeting minutes were presented and reviewed.

Motion 23:25 Jason McManus motioned to approve the August 25 INARF Board of Directors meeting minutes. Brienne Boles seconded, and the motion carried.

IV. Review of August Financial Statements

Katy Stafford-Cunningham presented and reviewed the August financial statements. At the end of August, the change in net assets from operations was \$37,000, the change from nonoperating activity was \$130,000, for an overall increase in net assets of \$167,000.

Motion 23:26 Patrick Cockrum motioned to file the August financial statements for audit. Yolanda Kincaid seconded, and the motion carried.

V. Standing Committee Reports

A. Government Affairs Committee

The Government Affairs Committee met on September 7, where they discussed the INARF 2024 Legislative Agenda and worked to refine topics. The committee also decided to create a separate work group for the Abuse/Neglect/Exploitation definition that will present their definitions back to the committee.

VI. Professional Interest Section Leadership and Standing Committee Appointments

Donna Elbrecht announced the appointment of Susan Hoard from Stone Belt to be co-chair of INARF Human Resources Professional Interest Section.

VII. President/CEO Report

Katy Stafford-Cunningham provided the President/CEO report. She shared information from a recent meeting with the state. They discussed the ICF Modernization Project, and she shared that the state is reviewing the allocation for the American Rescue Plan dollars to see if any funds are available to provide incentives for voluntary conversion of group homes. These funds would assist individuals transitioning out of group homes with costs such as first and last month's rent, utilities, and furniture.

They also discussed the changing landscape of group homes. Katy shared that in 2019 there were 3000 individuals living in group homes and now there are about 2700. She stated that the system is not meeting the needs of the people it serves.

She also shared that a sub-committee of members led by Brian Carnes will look at the impacts of potential policy changes.

Ms. Stafford-Cunningham reminded everyone that the Critical Issues Forum co-hosted by The Arc of Indiana is coming up on December 7 at the Embassy Suites in Noblesville.

She then shared two take-aways from the Board member touch-base meetings: Everyone is pleased to have transitioned to a consent agenda, and members would like to have more strategic conversations at the board level. Other topics brought up in the meetings will be scheduled for further discussion.

VIII. INARF Board Strategic Priorities Discussion

Ms. Elbrecht guided a discussion about EVV. Jason McManus provided a recap of a previous conversation about EVV by GAC Committee. The committee discussed how they would like INARF to approach the EVV topic during the upcoming legislative session. There are concerns among members about the financial implications of implementing EVV, but there is still no consensus about where this issue ranks among other legislative priorities.

Brian Carnes then shared some history and updates about how Indiana and other states are progressing with EVV. He reminded everyone that implementation of EVV has been going on for several years, and January 1, 2023 was supposed to be a "go live" of the system. Since so many providers are not in compliance, the state is recouping a single payment every month from a random selection of providers. INARF facilitated a discussion with multiple stakeholders including the state and vendors to talk through issues around EVV including a time lag vendors are experiencing with data. Mr. Carnes shared that even though Indiana is not fully compliant with the federal mandate, the state is far ahead of others, including Kentucky and Michigan.

Katy Stafford-Cunningham reported that she recently met with Cora Steinmetz, the new Medicaid Director, and Ms. Steinmetz shared that EVV will not be going live anytime soon. Ms. Elbrecht then asked board members to share where this ranks in their pain points moving forward. Board members engaged in discussion about their concerns with EVV. Ms. Elbrecht summarized that members would like INARF to stay at the table and continue to discuss issues around recoupment and the 90 days.

IX. Adjournment

The next INARF Board of Directors meeting will be held at the English Foundation Building on Friday, October 27, 2023.

Respectfully submitted,

Yolanda Kincaid, Secretary