

The INARF Board of Directors meeting was held on Friday, August 27, 2021 at Sheraton Indianapolis Hotel at Keystone Crossing. The INARF Board of Directors convened at 11:30 AM.

**Present:** Debbie Bennett, Hillcroft Services, Inc., Chair  
Rick Adams, Benchmark Human Services, Immediate Past Chair  
Allison Wharry, New Hope of Indiana, Secretary  
Patrick Cockrum, Sycamore Services, Inc., Treasurer (on phone)  
Brienne Boles, Bona Vista Programs, Inc. (on phone)  
Karen Brummet, IPMG, Inc. (on phone)  
Matt Harrington, LOGAN Community Resources, Inc.  
Stan Keeper, The Arc Southwest Indiana  
Yolanda Kincaid, Janus Developmental Services, Inc.

**Absent:** Donna Elbrecht, Easterseals Arc of Northeast Indiana, Vice Chair  
Chris Nabors, Peak Community Services, Inc.  
Jim Wiltz, Dungarvin Indiana, LLC

**Staff:** John Barth, President/CEO  
Katy Stafford-Cunningham, Executive Vice President/COO  
Barb Young, Vice President - Finance/CFO  
Nanette Hagedorn, Vice President, Member Services  
Brian Carnes, Director, Public Policy & Technical Assistance  
Kim Wasiak, Operations Coordinator  
Phillip Parnell, Public Policy Analyst

**Guests:** Donna Belusar, ADEC, Inc. (on phone)  
CJ Booth, AID of Indiana  
Marie Dausch, New Horizons Rehabilitation, Inc.  
Jason Meyer, Easterseals Passages (on phone)

### **INARF Board of Directors**

**I. Call to Order, Welcome**

Debbie Bennett called the meeting to order.

**II. Modifications to the Agenda**

Rick Adams asked to have a conversation on the reduction of services experienced by some consumers as a result of the state system limitation during implementation of the 14% DSP wage increase added to the agenda. It will take place before the CEO/President report.

**III. Approval of the Minutes**

The July 23 INARF Board of Directors meeting minutes were presented and reviewed.

**MOTION 21:24**

Mr. Adams motioned to approve the July 23 INARF Board of Directors meeting minutes. Allison Wharry seconded, and the motion carried.

**IV. Finance Committee Report**

**a. Review of July Financial Statements**

Patrick Cockrum presented and reviewed the July financial statements. He reported that the July statements reflect a change in net assets from operations of \$253,600 (which includes the PPP Loan proceeds of \$203,800, since INARF received notification that the loan was forgiven), an unrealized gain on investments of \$148,000, for an overall change in net assets of \$401,600. The next Finance Committee meeting will be held on September 14.

**MOTION 21:25** Mr. Cockrum motioned to file the July financial statements for audit. Yolanda Kincaid seconded, and the motion carried.

**V. Standing Committee Reports**

**a. Board Development**

Ms. Kincaid presented a report from the Board Development Committee (BDC) which met on August 25.

The Committee met to develop a recommendation to fill the vacancy created with Rick Thompson's departure from the Board early July. After discussion, the Committee agreed to make the recommendation to the Board for Donna Belusar, ADEC, Inc. to fill the Director vacancy effective immediately through March 31, 2022. Per the ByLaws, she will be eligible to be on the 2022 slate for the second and third year of a first term if she wishes.

**MOTION 21:26** Ms. Kincaid motioned that the Board Development Committee recommends that Donna Belusar, ADEC, Inc. fill the current Director vacancy through March 31, 2022. Matt Harrington seconded, and the motion carried.

**b. Governmental Affairs**

Ms. Wharry presented a report from the Governmental Affairs Committee (GAC) which met on August 12.

INARF staff, consultants, and the Committee discussed the American Rescue Plan including INARF's request for funding to increase wages for DSP's working in group homes. INARF staff, consultants, and the Committee also discussed implementation of the waiver DSP wage increase, value-based payment models, and utilizing member data on DSP recruitment and retention challenges.

The Committee discussed 2022 INARF Legislative Agenda topics for consideration including managed care protections and a DSP registry proposed by The Arc of Indiana. INARF staff will work with members to determine the managed care protections needed for our industry. The Committee will continue formulation of the 2022 INARF Legislative Agenda during the next meeting.

The next meeting will be held September 29.

**c. Organizational Development**

Stan Keepes presented a report from the Organizational Development Committee (ODC) which met on August 11.

The meeting began with a review of the Membership Recruitment Dashboard by Staff, reflecting a growth of 3 Organizational members, bringing the total Organizational members to 71 at 100% to Operating Budget, and 2 Associate members to date, bringing the total Associate members to 35 at 87% to Operating Budget. Proactive efforts to educate prospective members on internal insights from state officials, INARF consultants, etc. are generating positive momentum.

The Committee then reviewed the elements and timing of the Annual Membership Renewal Campaign for organizational members offering insight to the Renewal Agreement and the '5 Reasons to Renew' handout which serves as a timely reminder of the benefits, efforts, and initiatives of the Association.

Staff reported on the INARF Event Satisfaction and Engagement Scorecard noting an overall satisfaction score to date of 4.26 (1-5 scale, 5 highest). Next, INARF Staff reported on the In-Person Meeting and Event Protocols currently in place to obtain the Committee's reaction and concurrence that safeguards were in line with national, state, and local guidance. Lastly, the Committee reviewed current survey practices and two options presented by Staff to increase participation and decrease inaccurate ratings.

The next meeting will occur in November.

**d. Training and Professional Development**

Nanette Hagedorn presented a report from the Training and Professional Development Committee (TPD) which met on August 19.

INARF opened the meeting welcoming back in-person participants as well as those to participate remotely. Staff then proceeded in providing the monthly update on the Exhibit/Artisan/Sponsor commitments for the Annual Conference as follows: 42 of the 47 Exhibit Booth have been reserved, 15 of the 16 Artisan Booths have been reserved, and \$56,200 in sponsorship has been committed resulting in a total of \$85,595 in Revenue Committed compared to the 2021 Operating Budget Projection of \$73,100. Staff also provided current registrations for both Pre & Annual Conferences, confirmed Committee members who will serve as Welcome Desk and/or Breakout Educational Session Moderators during the Conference, and opened a dialogue of current INARF in-person meeting/event protocols that will apply to the Conference allowing Committee members to contribute and confirm the steps to align with national, state and local guidelines focusing on the safety of the participants.

Staff reported on the satisfaction score of 4.5 (rating scale 1-5, 5 highest) for the July 20 'Leadership for the Greater Good' webinar as part of the DSP Series, and the participation for August 19 'The What, Why and How of Incident Reports' DSP Series webinar. The agenda concluded with an evaluation of the recent survey topic recommendations to determine the applicable audience and mechanism to meet the need identified.

The next meeting of TPD will be held Thursday, September 16 offering in-person and virtual participation.

The Leadership Skill-Building Workgroup met on August 24. The Workgroup reviewed all materials related to the 2022 INARF Leadership Academy - Call for Applications which is scheduled to launch October 19. The Workgroup will meet again in December to review applications and select the participants.

**VI. Review Proposed Final Draft of Three-Year Priorities**

John Barth presented the final draft of the 2021-2024 Board Strategic Priorities identified at the June INARF Board of Directors Retreat. Each Priority includes areas for Staff Focus and Milestones to achieve. The Priorities include Maintain and Expand INARF Regulatory and Legislative Influence, Expand INARF's Operational Excellence and Sustainability, Advocate for Workplace Enhancement, Advocate for a Strategic Approach to Medicaid Managed Care, and Ensure Provider Voice in Waiver Redesign.

**MOTION 21:27** Matt Harrington motioned to accept final draft of the 2021-2024 Board Strategic Priorities. Mr. Adams seconded, and the motion carried.

**VII. Professional Interest Section Leadership or Standing Committee Appointments**

There are no appointments at this time.

**VIII. President/CEO Report**

John Barth began his report addressing the added topic of the reduction of services experienced by some consumers as a result of the state system limitation during implementation of the 14% DSP wage increase. After discussion, the Board agreed that clarification is needed from the state as to the number of consumers affected, what circumstances caused the loss of services, and if we are agreeable with their approach to address the issue. If needed, GAC would take on the task of looking at the IAC 460.

Mr. Barth then provided the President/CEO report including topics of INARF internal operations, key policy updates including American Rescue Plan, Recent FSSA Submissions, Legislative Update, FSSA Secretary Transition, LTC Vaccine Requirement, MMC/LTSS Status, 9-8-8 Crisis Support and Critical Issues Forum date.

Mr. Barth informed the Board of INARF internal operational items. INARF learned that Jodie Smith, CEO, Marshall-Starke Development Center, Inc. recently passed away, and staff has reached out to connect them with any help they may need. The INARF PPP Loan of \$203,800 has been forgiven. The September Board meeting and member forum will be virtual, due to the presentation on Medicaid Managed Care being remote. We are pleased to introduce our new organizational member, AID of Indiana located in Fort Wayne, and Mr. Barth is planning an in-person visit.

Mr. Barth informed the Board that INARF continues to advocate for our American Rescue Plan (ARP) strategy. Recent updates include: FSSA utilized Appendix K authority to lock a start date of 7-1-21 for the 14% waiver DSP wage increase. INARF has held multiple meetings providing technical assistance on the implementation, including a joint meeting with DDRS and The Arc of Indiana held on August 19. Regarding group home DSP wage parity, INARF received feedback from FSSA that they have had productive, preliminary discussions with the State Budget Agency. FSSA indicated there will be a follow up meeting as soon as next week. As a reminder, the group home ask is not from the FMAP/HCBS pot of dollars, but from the broader pot of ARPA funds with more flexibility. FSSA released their plan for the use of the ARP's increased FMAP for HCBS services on July 9. INARF is meeting with Kim Opsahl, DDRS Director, next week to discuss status and implementation. INARF will submit comments on the 14(c) component today.

Phillip Parnell gave an update on the recent FSSA Submissions. INARF prepared and submitted comments regarding the waiver amendment, especially focused on Case Management services regarding the new model and 14% wage increase. During the 14 (c) series of member meetings, INARF collected input and prepared a submission focused on how a grant program could support any agency considering elimination of the program.

Next, Mr. Barth gave an update that INARF has a meeting set with Dr. Dan Rusyniak, FSSA Secretary, on September 15. As a reminder, on September 2 from 3-5 at the Arc of Indiana's lobby, we are hosting a joint INARF and The Arc of Indiana reception for Dr. Dan and Kim Opsahl.

Mr. Barth informed the Biden Administration plans to require staff vaccinations at all Medicare and Medicaid participating nursing homes. INARF's understanding of HHS's intent for emergency regulation is that it will not apply in settings beyond nursing homes at this time.

Mr. Barth announced that INARF is in the process of launching an internal workgroup focused on identifying the protections the industry will prioritize if/when there is a managed model proposed for waivers. There are two opportunities to learn more about Medicaid Managed Care (MMC) – at the September Member Forum and the INARF Pre-Conference on October 5. GAC continues to consider legislative approaches to MMC.

Brian Carnes updated that the 9-8-8 Crisis Support Coalition is meeting again and would like anyone that wants to be involved to attend. September 14 they will be meeting for workgroups to report out. The call center is planned to be up and running by July 15, 2022. Provider focus groups are being formed by DDRS, and INARF encourages everyone to participate.

Lastly, Katy Stafford-Cunningham informed that INARF is partnering with The Arc of Indiana to host a Joint Critical Issues Forum to take place on December 1 from 10 AM – 3 PM in Indianapolis. The focus will be on employment for individuals with disabilities, legislative agenda preview, and professional development for senior leadership.

**IX. Adjournment**

The next INARF Board of Directors will be held on Friday, September 24, 2021 following the INARF Member Forum.

Respectfully submitted,

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Allison Wharry, Secretary