

**Governor's Task Force on Autism Spectrum Disorders**  
**Full Task Force**  
Conference Call  
October 30, 2008  
10:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.  
Summary of Minutes

Committee Members

Ausley, Lorraine	absent
Bailet, Laura	
Benson, Holly	non-voting delegate on her behalf (Shachi Mankodi)
Berkman, Karen	
Block, Lance	absent
Brosco, Jeffrey	
DeBeaugrine, Jim, Co-chair	
Dowds, Debra	
Emken, Elizabeth	
Hill, Kimberly	
Homant, Susanne	
Houghland, Patty	
Jackson, Jarl	
Kanjian, Robert	absent
Kompothecras, Gary	
La Belle, Richard	
Llorente, Marcelo	absent
Lockman, Bambi	non-voting delegate on her behalf (Michele Polland)
Marino, Dan, Co-Chair	absent
Perkins, Randal	absent
Precourt, Lisa	
Purvis, Kelly	
Ring, Jeremy	
Ros, Ana Viamonte	
Sequenzia, Ven	

Department of Health Staff

Demko, Tamara  
Howard, Catherine  
Taylor, Lona

*Call began at 10:05 a.m.*

Ms. Demko began the call. She thanked the Task Force members for their hard work and diligence as they have worked through the draft recommendations. She provided the group with an overview and direction for the call. She stated that the recommendations voted on during the call would represent priority areas of the Task Force and not the exact wording of the final

recommendations. She asked that the group focus more on the intent of the recommendations begin put forward rather than the wording.

Mr. DeBeaugrine reviewed the requirements for consensus voting.

Ms. Demko verified that 18 voting Task Force members were on the call.

Ms. Demko announced that the next full Task Force meeting is tentatively scheduled for January 14 – 15, 2009 in Tallahassee. She requested that Task Force members share any conflicts with these proposed dates.

Ms. Demko stated that the recommendations would be reviewed by committee in the following order:

Current and Future Outlook  
Costs of Autism  
Putting the Pieces Together  
Window of Opportunity

Any detailed discussions that exceeds the designated discussion time will be tabled.

## **Current and Future Outlook Committee**

### **TOPIC 1: RESEARCH**

#### **Recommendation 1:**

**Option 1. Encourage epidemiological studies that utilize existing Florida databases to look at potential causes of autism spectrum disorders including, but not limited to, thimerosal and immunizations.**

**Option 2. Encourage epidemiological studies in the State of Florida to look at potential causes of autism spectrum disorders including.**

Comments from Task Force members:

Dr. Homant expressed concern about specifically identifying thimerosal and immunizations.

Dr. Brosco stated that limiting the recommendation to “using existing Florida databases” may make the research focus too narrow.

Dr. Viamonte Ros stated that there is no funding to do any studies and the Task Force should include funding opportunities and ideas in the recommendations.

Senator Ring stated that the group should be specific in their recommendations and not leave it to the legislature to make those decisions. The legislature relies on the expertise of the members of the Task Force to outline the specifics.

Mr. DeBeaugrine called for a formal vote on the proposed recommendation. Each Task Force members was given the option of choosing language from option 1 or option 2.

Ausley, Lorraine	absent
Bailet, Laura	Option 2
Benson, Holly	non-voting delegate on her behalf (Shachi Mankodi)
Berkman, Karen	Option 2
Block, Lance	absent
Brosco, Jeffrey	Option 2
DeBeaugrine, Jim	Option 1
Dowds, Debra	Option 2
Emken, Elizabeth	Option 1
Hill, Kimberly	absent
Homant, Susanne	Option 2
Houghland, Patty	Option 2
Jackson, Jarl	Option 2
Kanjian, Robert	absent
Kompothecras, Gary	Option 1
La Belle, Richard	Option 2
Llorente, Marcelo	absent
Lockman, Bambi	non-voting delegate on her behalf (Michele Polland)
Marino, Dan	absent
Perkins, Randal	absent
Precourt, Lisa	Option 1
Purvis, Kelly	Option 2
Ring, Jeremy	Option 2
Ros, Ana Viamonte	Option 2
Sequenzia, Ven	Option 1

Mr. DeBeaugrine stated that the language presented as Option 2, by majority vote, will be presented in the preliminary report.

**Recommendation 2:**

**Option 1: Explore best practices for a potential philosophical exemption for state-mandated school immunizations, with required periodic renewal.**

**Option 2: Establish a philosophic exemptions**

Comments from Task Force members:

Dr. Kompothecras shared that this exemption will allow parents or caregivers who are not comfortable with the vaccine time to do more research. This will help them make an informed decision and prevent them from falsely claiming a religious exemption from the immunization.

Ms. Purvis requested clarification on the intent of the proposal. She asked if the committee is actually recommending the establishment a philosophical exemption. If so, she believes the recommendation should be written more clearly to define the intent.

Ms. Dowds stated that without immunizations people are at an increased risk of contracting an illness that may lead to other disabilities. She stated that the Florida Developmental Disabilities Council discussed this recommendation in depth and are opposed to it.

Dr. Viamonte Ros shared her concern about erosion of immunization rates in Florida. Specifically, she is concerned about sustaining herd immunity.

Dr. Bailet shared that she is also concerned about herd immunity. However, she stated that she is in favor of exploring the idea of a philosophical exemption through review of other states who have implemented this type of exemption.

Senator Ring stated that the intent of the recommendation is not to change the rules of the state but to give parents more choices.

Mr. DeBeaugrine called for a formal vote on the proposed recommendation. Each Task Force members was given the option of choosing language from option 1 or option 2.

Ausley, Loranne	absent
Bailet, Laura	Option 1
Benson, Holly	non-voting delegate on her behalf (Shachi Mankodi)
Berkman, Karen	Option 1
Block, Lance	absent
Brosco, Jeffrey	no
DeBeaugrine, Jim	Option 1
Dowds, Debra	no
Emken, Elizabeth	Option 2
Hill, Kimberly	no
Homant, Susanne	no
Houghland, Patty	no
Jackson, Jarl	no
Kanjian, Robert	absent
Kompothecras, Gary	Option 1
La Belle, Richard	Option 1
Llorente, Marcelo	absent
Lockman, Bambi	non-voting delegate on her behalf (Michele Polland)
Marino, Dan	absent
Perkins, Randal	absent
Precourt, Lisa	Option 2
Purvis, Kelly	Option 1
Ring, Jeremy	Option 1
Ros, Ana Viamonte	no
Sequenzia, Ven	Option 1

Mr. DeBeaugrine announced that there is not a consensus on this recommendation and it will not be included in the preliminary report.

Dr. Kompothecras requested that this issue be revisited in January for consideration in the final report.

**Recommendation 3:**

**Explore safe alternative immunization schedules for Florida's children.**

Comments from Task Force members:

Dr. Viamonte Ros shared that the goal in public health is to protect the greatest number of individuals at the earliest age possible.

Dr. Brosco stated that the current immunization schedule is safe and that any changes to the schedule should be done following a national recommendation.

Dr. Kompothecras stated that this recommendation is to explore - not mandate - the schedule change.

Mr. DeBeaugrine called for a formal vote on the proposed recommendation.

Ausley, Loranne	absent
Bailet, Laura	yes
Benson, Holly	non-voting delegate on her behalf (Shachi Mankodi)
Berkman, Karen	no
Block, Lance	absent
Brosco, Jeffrey	no
DeBeaugrine, Jim	yes
Dowds, Debra	no
Emken, Elizabeth	yes
Hill, Kimberly	yes
Homant, Susanne	yes
Houghland, Patty	yes
Jackson, Jarl	no
Kanjian, Robert	absent
Kompothecras, Gary	yes
La Belle, Richard	yes
Llorente, Marcelo	absent
Lockman, Bambi	non-voting delegate on her behalf (Michele Polland)
Marino, Dan	absent
Perkins, Randal	absent
Precourt, Lisa	yes
Purvis, Kelly	no
Ring, Jeremy	yes
Ros, Ana Viamonte	no
Sequenzia, Ven	yes

Mr. DeBeaugrine announced a majority consensus; recommendation will be adopted for inclusion in the preliminary report.

Senator Ring had to leave the call at 11:32 a.m. He stated that he would like to offer his vote for recommendation #4, YES.

**Recommendation 4:**

**Explore the prohibition of the purchase and administration of all mercury-containing (e.g., thimerosal) vaccines in the State of Florida.**

Comments from Task Force members:

Dr. Kompothecras stated that thimerosal is a preservative and does not need to be in vaccines.

Mr. Sequenzia stated that in 1999 The Federal Drug Administration (FDA) directed that mercury should be removed from vaccines and that the Task Force should recommend enforcement of this directive.

Dr. Brosco stated that if the group puts forward this recommendation, it needs to include a provision for epidemics or emergencies.

Dr. Viamonte Ros agreed with Dr. Brosco. The Department of Health has submitted a fiscal note on what it will cost to purchase mercury free vaccines for all immunizations for persons 19 years of age and younger.

Ms. Precourt stated that the term “explore” is too vague and that the Task Force should provide specific language to direct the legislature.

Mr. DeBeaugrine called for a formal vote on the proposed recommendation.

Ausley, Lorraine	absent
Bailet, Laura	yes
Benson, Holly	non-voting delegate on her behalf (Shachi Mankodi)
Berkman, Karen	yes
Block, Lance	absent
Brosco, Jeffrey	yes
DeBeaugrine, Jim	yes
Dowds, Debra	yes
Emken, Elizabeth	yes
Hill, Kimberly	yes
Homant, Susanne	yes
Houghland, Patty	yes
Jackson, Jarl	yes
Kanjian, Robert	absent
Kompothecras, Gary	yes
La Belle, Richard	yes
Llorente, Marcelo	absent
Lockman, Bambi	non-voting delegate on her behalf (Michele Polland)
Marino, Dan	absent
Perkins, Randal	absent
Precourt, Lisa	yes
Purvis, Kelly	yes

Ring, Jeremy	yes (as requested before departing the call)
Ros, Ana Viamonte	yes
Sequenzia, Ven	yes

Mr. DeBeaugrine announced that this recommendation received group consensus and will be adopted as a formal recommendation for the preliminary report.

**Recommendation 5:**

**Position Florida to stay abreast of and participate in ongoing research into causes of and treatments for autism spectrum disorders.**

Mr. DeBeaugrine called for a formal vote on the proposed recommendation.

Ausley, Loranne	absent
Baillet, Laura	yes
Benson, Holly	non-voting delegate on her behalf (Shachi Mankodi)
Berkman, Karen	yes
Block, Lance	absent
Brosco, Jeffrey	yes
DeBeaugrine, Jim	yes
Dowds, Debra	yes
Emken, Elizabeth	yes
Hill, Kimberly	yes
Homant, Susanne	yes
Houghland, Patty	yes
Jackson, Jarl	yes
Kanjian, Robert	absent
Kompothecras, Gary	yes
La Belle, Richard	yes
Llorente, Marcelo	absent
Lockman, Bambi	non-voting delegate on her behalf (Michele Polland)
Marino, Dan	absent
Perkins, Randal	absent
Precourt, Lisa	yes
Purvis, Kelly	yes (by email due to scheduling conflict)
Ring, Jeremy	absent
Ros, Ana Viamonte	yes
Sequenzia, Ven	yes

Mr. DeBeaugrine announced that this recommendation received group consensus and will be adopted as a formal recommendation for the preliminary report.

**Recommendation 6:**

**Require detailed informed consent with provider consultation prior to the administration of childhood immunizations.**

Comments from Task Force members:

Dr. Brosco stated that informed consent is critical. Parents should be receiving immunization safety information. He further shared that he has concerns about the legislature dictating health care requirements.

Ms. Dowds stated that this recommendation would provide an opportunity to educate parents.

Ms. Houghland asked how we will enforce a doctor to spend time with a patient.

Mr. Sequenzia added that “requiring” does not mean the physician has to perform the informed consent. A nurse practitioner or other staff members could explain the information.

Mr. DeBeaugrine called for a formal vote on the proposed recommendation.

Ausley, Loranne	absent
Bailet, Laura	yes
Benson, Holly	non-voting delegate on her behalf (Shachi Mankodi)
Berkman, Karen	yes
Block, Lance	absent
Brosco, Jeffrey	abstain
DeBeaugrine, Jim	yes
Dowds, Debra	yes
Emken, Elizabeth	yes
Hill, Kimberly	yes
Homant, Susanne	yes
Houghland, Patty	yes
Jackson, Jarl	yes
Kanjian, Robert	absent
Kompothecras, Gary	yes
La Belle, Richard	yes
Llorente, Marcelo	absent
Lockman, Bambi	joined the call at 1:35 p.m.
Marino, Dan	absent
Perkins, Randal	absent
Precourt, Lisa	yes
Purvis, Kelly	yes (by email – corrected vote abstained)
Ring, Jeremy	yes (verified by Tamara Demko)
Ros, Ana Viamonte	no
Sequenzia, Ven	yes

Mr. DeBeaugrine announced that this recommendation received group consensus and will be adopted as a formal recommendation for the preliminary report.

The Task Force was dismissed for lunch at 12:05 p.m. to reconvene at 1:05 p.m.

Roll taken at 1:07 p.m. to confirm quorum for the afternoon session.

Ausley, Loranne	absent
Bailet, Laura	
Benson, Holly	non-voting delegate on her behalf (Shachi Mankodi)
Berkman, Karen	

Block, Lance	absent
Brosco, Jeffrey	
DeBeaugrine, Jim, Co-Chair	
Dowds, Debra	
Emken, Elizabeth	
Hill, Kimberly	
Homant, Susanne	
Houghland, Patty	
Jackson, Jarl	
Kanjian, Robert	joined the call at 2:30 p.m.
Kompothecras, Gary	
La Belle, Richard	
Llorente, Marcelo	absent
Lockman, Bambi	non-voting delegate on her behalf (Michele Polland)
Marino, Dan, Co-Chair	absent
Perkins, Randal	absent
Precourt, Lisa	
Purvis, Kelly	absent
Ring, Jeremy	absent
Ros, Ana Viamonte	
Sequenzia, Ven	

Mr. DeBeaugrine stated that due to time constraints the voting process would be modified for the remaining recommendations. If the Task Force members raise no objection to the proposed recommendation at the beginning of deliberations, then a formal vote would not be taken. If at least one Task Force member objected, then discussion would take place and a formal vote would be taken.

**TOPIC 2: ASSISTIVE TECHNOLOGY**

**Recommendation 1:**

**Create a link to an assistive technology blog on the statewide autism website.**

No Task Force members raised objection to this recommendation. Mr. DeBeaugrine announced that this recommendation received majority consensus and will be adopted as a formal recommendation for the preliminary report.

**Recommendation 2:**

**Designate an ongoing subcommittee of the recommended State-Level Autism Coordinating Body to review and recommend assistive technology options for individuals with ASD.**

No Task Force members raised objection to this recommendation. Mr. DeBeaugrine announced that this recommendation received majority consensus and will be adopted as a formal recommendation for the preliminary report.

**TOPIC 3: TREATMENT**

**Recommendation 1:**

**Establish a statewide plan for improving access to, and increasing the availability of, early intervention and treatment options for Floridians with ASD.**

No Task Force members raised objection to this recommendation. Mr. DeBeaugrine announced that this recommendation received majority consensus and will be adopted as a formal recommendation for the preliminary report.

**Recommendation 2:**

**Develop a state-level network collaboration that provides a supportive infrastructure for individuals with ASD to obtain necessary treatment and living assistance across the lifespan through adulthood.**

No Task Force members raised objection to this recommendation. Mr. DeBeaugrine announced that this recommendation received majority consensus and will be adopted as a formal recommendation for the preliminary report.

**Recommendation 3:**

**Review the requirements and benefits of the McKay Scholarship in order to better serve individuals and Florida's children with ASD.**

Due to complex nature of this recommendation, Mr. DeBeaugrine requested a formal vote on this recommendation.

Ausley, Loranne	absent
Baillet, Laura	yes
Benson, Holly	non-voting delegate on her behalf (Shachi Mankodi)
Berkman, Karen	yes
Block, Lance	absent
Brosco, Jeffrey	abstain
DeBeaugrine, Jim	yes
Dowds, Debra	no
Emken, Elizabeth	yes
Hill, Kimberly	absent
Homant, Susanne	yes
Houghland, Patty	yes
Jackson, Jarl	yes
Kanjian, Robert	absent
Kompothecras, Gary	yes
La Belle, Richard	abstain
Llorente, Marcelo	absent
Lockman, Bambi	abstain
Marino, Dan	absent
Perkins, Randal	absent
Precourt, Lisa	yes
Purvis, Kelly	yes
Ring, Jeremy	absent
Ros, Ana Viamonte	yes
Sequenzia, Ven	yes

Mr. DeBeaugrine announced that this recommendation received majority consensus and will be adopted as a formal recommendation for the preliminary report.

**Recommendation 4:**

**Promote the education of health care providers, early child care providers, and early educators on Autism Spectrum Disorders.**

No Task Force members raised objection to this recommendation. Mr. DeBeaugrine announced that this recommendation received majority consensus and will be adopted as a formal recommendation for the preliminary report.

**Recommendation 5:**

**Ensure that state-mandated, or state-governed insurance coverage for ASD is not limited by provider or service to the detriment of individuals with ASD.**

Due to complex nature of this recommendation, Mr. DeBeaugrine requested a formal vote on this recommendation.

Ausley, Lorraine	absent
Bailet, Laura	yes
Benson, Holly	non-voting delegate on her behalf (Shachi Mankodi)
Berkman, Karen	abstain
Block, Lance	absent
Brosco, Jeffrey	abstain
DeBeaugrine, Jim	yes
Dowds, Debra	yes
Emken, Elizabeth	yes
Hill, Kimberly	absent
Homant, Susanne	yes
Houghland, Patty	yes
Jackson, Jarl	yes
Kanjian, Robert	absent
Kompothecras, Gary	yes
La Belle, Richard	yes
Llorente, Marcelo	absent
Lockman, Bambi	absent
Marino, Dan	absent
Perkins, Randal	absent
Precourt, Lisa	yes
Purvis, Kelly	yes
Ring, Jeremy	absent
Ros, Ana Viamonte	yes
Sequenzia, Ven	yes

Mr. DeBeaugrine announced that this recommendation received majority consensus and will be adopted as a formal recommendation for the preliminary report.

## **TOPIC 4: SAFETY**

### **Recommendation 1:**

**Support the statewide implementation of the Take Me Home Program for public safety officers.**

No Task Force members raised objection to this recommendation. Mr. DeBeaugrine announced that this recommendation received majority consensus, and will be adopted as a formal recommendation for the preliminary report.

### **Recommendation 2:**

**Support the expanded statewide implementation of ASD-specific training [e.g., crisis intervention team (CIT) training] for all public safety officers and emergency personnel.**

No Task Force members raised objection to this recommendation. Mr. DeBeaugrine announced that this recommendation received majority consensus and will be adopted as a formal recommendation for the preliminary report.

### **Recommendation 3:**

**Develop mechanisms to ease homeowner association/local restrictions regarding home modifications to provide adequate protection for individuals with ASD.**

No Task Force members raised objection to this recommendation. Mr. DeBeaugrine announced that this recommendation received majority consensus and will be adopted as a formal recommendation for the preliminary report.

### **Recommendation 4:**

**Develop and publish a printed “tip sheet” for individuals and families with ASD that identifies safety concerns across the lifespan, across gender and at different points on the spectrum.**

No Task Force members raised objection to this recommendation. Mr. DeBeaugrine announced that this recommendation received majority consensus and will be adopted as a formal recommendation for the preliminary report.

### **Recommendation 5:**

**Encourage public awareness and use of available safety technology devices for ASD.**

No Task Force members raised objection to this recommendation. Mr. DeBeaugrine announced that this recommendation received majority consensus and will be adopted as a formal recommendation for the preliminary report.

### **Recommendation 6:**

**Review and explore enhanced criminal sanctions for acts of aggression (including mental and physical) toward individuals with ASD and other developmental disabilities.**

No Task Force members raised objection to this recommendation. Mr. DeBeaugrine announced that this recommendation received majority consensus and will be adopted as a formal recommendation for the preliminary report.

**Recommendation 7:**

**Direct the recommended State-Level Autism Coordinating Body to develop recommendations for restraint and seclusion that reflects the needs of individuals with ASD.**

Mr. DeBeaugrine announced that by majority consensus the recommendation concept will be included in the preliminary report but language must be changed so the intent of the recommendation is clearly articulated. Restraint and seclusion is a last resort with the emphasis on dealing with positive behavior and having better trained personnel to deal with this population.

**Recommendation 8:**

**Direct the recommended State-Level Autism Coordinating Body to develop recommendations for the zero-tolerance policy in the school system that reflects the needs of individuals with ASD.**

No Task Force members raised objection to this recommendation. Mr. DeBeaugrine announced that this recommendation received majority consensus and will be adopted as a formal recommendation for the preliminary report.

**Recommendation 9:**

**Direct the recommended State-Level Autism Coordinating Body to develop recommendations for transitional life periods, employment and independent living support of persons with ASD.**

No Task Force members raised objection to this recommendation. Mr. DeBeaugrine announced that this recommendation received majority consensus and will be adopted as a formal recommendation for the preliminary report.

**Recommendation 10:**

**Direct the recommended State-Level Autism Coordinating Body to develop recommendations for the dental care of individuals with ASD.**

No Task Force members raised objection to this recommendation. Mr. DeBeaugrine announced that this recommendation received majority consensus and will be adopted as a formal recommendation for the preliminary report.

**Recommendation 11:**

**Review state-endorsed accommodations provided to individuals with ASD.**

No Task Force members raised objection to this recommendation. Mr. DeBeaugrine announced that this recommendation received majority consensus and will be adopted as a formal recommendation for the preliminary report.

## **TOPIC 5: QUALITY OF LIFE**

### **Recommendation 1**

**Increase public awareness that ASD impacts not just individuals, but entire families.**

No Task Force members raised objection to this recommendation. Mr. DeBeaugrine announced that this recommendation received majority consensus and will be adopted as a formal recommendation for the preliminary report.

### **Recommendation 2**

**Expand respite care options for families impacted by ASD.**

No Task Force members raised objection to this recommendation. Mr. DeBeaugrine announced that this recommendation received majority consensus and will be adopted as a formal recommendation for the preliminary report.

### **Recommendation 3**

**Require the retention of medical records until children reach the age of eighteen (18).**

No Task Force members raised objection to this recommendation. Mr. DeBeaugrine announced that this recommendation received majority consensus and will be adopted as a formal recommendation for the preliminary report.

### **Recommendation 4**

**Encourage support programs that assist caregivers to prepare life planning documents that safeguard individuals with ASD.**

No Task Force members raised objection to this recommendation. Mr. DeBeaugrine announced that this recommendation received majority consensus and will be adopted as a formal recommendation for the preliminary report.

### **Recommendation 5**

**Encourage autism service providers and programs to emphasize the long-term development of abilities, talents, interests, and social interaction opportunities for individuals with ASD.**

Comments from Task Force members:

Dr. Berkman suggested that a discussion about autism, co-existing mental health issues, and access to mental health treatment be included in the final report development.

No Task Force members raised objection to this recommendation. Mr. DeBeaugrine announced that this recommendation received majority consensus and will be adopted as a formal recommendation for the preliminary report.

# Costs of Autism Committee

## **Recommendation 1**

**Create a Florida autism awareness license plate to support public awareness and the statewide autism website.**

No Task Force members raised objection to this recommendation. Mr. DeBeaugrine announced that this recommendation received majority consensus and will be adopted as a formal recommendation for the preliminary report.

## **Recommendation 1.1**

**Sponsor a statewide design contest for the Florida autism awareness license plate with the winner to be announced on World Autism Awareness Day.**

No Task Force members raised objection to this recommendation. Mr. DeBeaugrine announced that this recommendation received majority consensus and will be adopted as a formal recommendation for the preliminary report.

## **Recommendation 2**

**Explore measures to expand insurance coverage options for Florida's individuals and families affected by ASD.**

This recommendation was tabled for additional discussion. This recommendation will not be included in the preliminary report.

## **Recommendation 3**

**Task a subcommittee of the recommended State-Level Autism Coordinating Body to maintain and periodically review autism-specific cost data.**

No Task Force members raised objection to this recommendation. Mr. DeBeaugrine announced that this recommendation received majority consensus and will be adopted as a formal recommendation for the preliminary report.

## **Recommendation 4**

**Design the Statewide Autism Website to include periodically updated cost data.**

No Task Force members raised objection to this recommendation. Mr. DeBeaugrine announced that this recommendation received majority consensus and will be adopted as a formal recommendation for the preliminary report.

## **Recommendation 5**

**Request that state agencies track and compile autism-specific cost data for the individuals that they serve.**

Comments from Task Force members:

Mr. DeBeaugrine commented that this will be a challenge for the agencies, but should be done.

No Task Force members raised objection to this recommendation. Mr. DeBeaugrine announced that this recommendation received majority consensus and will be adopted as a formal recommendation for the preliminary report.

**Recommendation 6**

**Explore financial incentives for health care providers to conduct early screenings for ASD in accordance with American Academy of Pediatrics recommended guidelines.**

No Task Force members raised objection to this recommendation. Mr. DeBeaugrine announced that this recommendation received majority consensus and will be adopted as a formal recommendation for the preliminary report.

**Recommendation 7**

**Increase funding for Florida's early intervention program, Early Steps, within the Florida Department of Health, Children's Medical Services.**

No Task Force members raised objection to this recommendation. Mr. DeBeaugrine announced that this recommendation received majority consensus and will be adopted as a formal recommendation for the preliminary report.

**Recommendation 7:1**

**Ensure Early Steps meets compliance requirements and certification through the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA).**

No Task Force members raised objection to this recommendation. Mr. DeBeaugrine announced that this recommendation received majority consensus and will be adopted as a formal recommendation for the preliminary report.

**Recommendation 7:2**

**Explore various ways to obtain increased funding (e.g., legislative appropriation, etc.)**

No Task Force members raised objection to this recommendation. Mr. DeBeaugrine announced that this recommendation received majority consensus and will be adopted as a formal recommendation for the preliminary report.

**Recommendation 8**

**Consider options for amending Senate Bill 2654 to expand the Agency for Health Care Administration's (AHCA) ability to comply with the intent of the statute through a Medicaid state plan and/or waiver.**

No Task Force members raised objection to this recommendation. Mr. DeBeaugrine announced that this recommendation received majority consensus and will be adopted as a formal recommendation for the preliminary report.

**Recommendation 8:1**

**Consider the creation of an advisory commission to work with AHCA on developing options in compliance with the statute.**

No Task Force members raised objection to this recommendation. Mr. DeBeaugrine announced that this recommendation received majority consensus and will be adopted as a formal recommendation for the preliminary report.

### **Recommendation 9**

#### **Increase funding for Florida's Centers for Autism and Related Disabilities.**

No Task Force members raised objection to this recommendation. Mr. DeBeaugrine announced that this recommendation received majority consensus and will be adopted as a formal recommendation for the preliminary report.

### **Recommendation 9:1**

#### **Explore ways to accomplish this (e.g. legislative appropriation, etc.)**

Comments from Task Force members

Dr. Berkman shared that this suggestion is not consistent with the current mission or direction of the CARD centers. Their role is to teach others the interventions and strategies that may benefit children and families and have positive outcomes. CARD centers do not provide direct services or treatments to their clients. They can not do what is being suggested without additional resources, money and staff.

No Task Force members raised objection to this recommendation. Mr. DeBeaugrine announced that this recommendation received majority consensus and will be adopted as a formal recommendation for the preliminary report.

### **Recommendation 10**

#### **Improve the identification and coordination of resources available to individuals with ASD.**

No Task Force members raised objection to this recommendation. Mr. DeBeaugrine announced that this recommendation received majority consensus and will be adopted as a formal recommendation for the preliminary report.

### **Recommendation 10:1**

#### **Task the Florida's Centers for Autism and Related Disabilities (CARD) to maintain and periodically update state-level autism-specific data. This task would be supported by increased CARD funding previously recommended.**

No Task Force members raised objection to this recommendation. Mr. DeBeaugrine announced that this recommendation received majority consensus and will be adopted as a formal recommendation for the preliminary report.

### **Recommendation 11**

#### **Tap into existing local and community resources to explore collaborations.**

No Task Force members raised objection to this recommendation. Mr. DeBeaugrine announced that this recommendation received majority consensus and will be adopted as a formal recommendation for the preliminary report.

### **Recommendation 12**

#### **Request a Memorial to Congress asking for additional flexibility in Medicaid.**

Comments from Task Force members:

Mr. DeBeaugrine shared that providing services under a Medicaid waiver essentially requires an individual to meet the institutional level of care. The Medicaid State Plan option is difficult for the state to have any flexibility in funding methodologies. The Task Force can offer suggestions on how to design the system that policy makers have in mind to better serve individuals and families.

No Task Force members raised objection to this recommendation. Mr. DeBeaugrine announced that this recommendation received majority consensus and will be adopted as a formal recommendation for the preliminary report.

### **Recommendation 13**

#### **Explore new options under Florida KidCare and Healthy Kids to fund autism services.**

No Task Force members raised objection to this recommendation. Mr. DeBeaugrine announced that this recommendation received majority consensus and will be adopted as a formal recommendation for the preliminary report.

### **Recommendation 14**

#### **Standardize the definition of ASD across state agencies and within Florida statutes.**

Comments from Task Force members:

Mr. DeBeaugrine stated that this change could have a tremendous fiscal impact.

No Task Force members raised objection to this recommendation. Mr. DeBeaugrine announced that this recommendation received majority consensus and will be adopted as a formal recommendation for the preliminary report.

## **Putting the Pieces Together Committee**

### **Topic 1: Statewide Autism Website**

#### **Recommendation 1:**

##### **Design the Statewide Autism Website to provide multiple methods of information searching.**

No Task Force members raised objection to this recommendation. Mr. DeBeaugrine announced that this recommendation received majority consensus and will be adopted as a formal recommendation for the preliminary report.

**Recommendation 1.1:**

**Design the Statewide Autism Website to include Site Map.**

No Task Force members raised objection to this recommendation. Mr. DeBeaugrine announced that this recommendation received majority consensus and will be adopted as a formal recommendation for the preliminary report.

**Recommendation 1.2:**

**Design the Statewide Autism Website to include Navigation Bar.**

No Task Force members raised objection to this recommendation. Mr. DeBeaugrine announced that this recommendation received majority consensus and will be adopted as a formal recommendation for the preliminary report.

**Recommendation 1.3:**

**Design the Statewide Autism Website to include a User Tree Function.**

No Task Force members raised objection to this recommendation. Mr. DeBeaugrine announced that this recommendation received majority consensus and will be adopted as a formal recommendation for the preliminary report.

**Recommendation 2:**

**Design the Statewide Autism Website to meet compliance standards for persons with disabilities.**

No Task Force members raised objection to this recommendation. Mr. DeBeaugrine announced that this recommendation received majority consensus and will be adopted as a formal recommendation for the preliminary report.

**Recommendation 3:**

**Design the Statewide Autism Website to address considerations of informational integrity.**

No Task Force members raised objection to this recommendation. Mr. DeBeaugrine announced that this recommendation received majority consensus and will be adopted as a formal recommendation for the preliminary report.

**Recommendation 4:**

**Design the Statewide Autism Website in a user-friendly format that maximizes the ability of Floridians to easily locate and use information.**

No Task Force members raised objection to this recommendation. Mr. DeBeaugrine announced that this recommendation received majority consensus and will be adopted as a formal recommendation for the preliminary report.

**Recommendation 5:**

**Design the Statewide Autism Website to provide external linkages to statewide resources.**

No Task Force members raised objection to this recommendation. Mr. DeBeaugrine announced that this recommendation received majority consensus and will be adopted as a formal recommendation for the preliminary report.

**Recommendation 6**

**Design the Statewide Autism Website to provide Florida-specific information.**

No Task Force members raised objection to this recommendation. Mr. DeBeaugrine announced that this recommendation received majority consensus and will be adopted as a formal recommendation for the preliminary report.

**Recommendation 7**

**Promote the Statewide Autism Website to Floridians.**

This recommendation was tabled for additional discussion. This recommendation will not be included in the preliminary report.

**Recommendation 8**

**Design the Statewide Autism Website to include a searchable online database of Florida resources for ASD.**

No Task Force members raised objection to this recommendation. Mr. DeBeaugrine announced that this recommendation received majority consensus and will be adopted as a formal recommendation for the preliminary report.

**Recommendation 9**

**Provide a Statewide Autism Information Call Line.**

This recommendation was tabled for additional discussion. This recommendation will not be included in the preliminary report.

**Recommendation 10**

**Explore collaborative efforts across private, public, and governmental organizations to partner in the creation and maintenance of the Statewide Autism Website.**

No Task Force members raised objection to this recommendation. Mr. DeBeaugrine announced that this recommendation received majority consensus and will be adopted as a formal recommendation for the preliminary report.

**Recommendation 10**

**Explore collaborative efforts across private, public, and governmental organizations to partner in the creation and maintenance of the Statewide Autism Website.**

No Task Force members raised objection to this recommendation. Mr. DeBeaugrine announced that this recommendation received majority consensus and will be adopted as a formal recommendation for the preliminary report.

### **Recommendation 11**

**Design the Statewide Autism Website to include a mechanism for Florida's families and individuals with ASD to provide feedback on services and supports.**

No Task Force members raised objection to this recommendation. Mr. DeBeaugrine announced that this recommendation received majority consensus and will be adopted as a formal recommendation for the preliminary report.

## **Topic 2: Collaboration**

### **Recommendation 1**

**Extend the Task Force on Autism Spectrum Disorders.**

No Task Force members raised objection to this recommendation. Mr. DeBeaugrine announced that this recommendation received majority consensus and will be adopted as a formal recommendation for the preliminary report.

### **Recommendation 2**

**Create a State-Level Autism Coordinating Body to enhance partnerships among state agencies and private organizations.**

Comments from Task Force members:

Ms. Dowds commented that she does not think the Task Force will be needed after its charter if the coordinating body is established.

Dr. Kompothecras added that the group should include parents and volunteers who work with individuals on the spectrum on the coordinating body.

Mr. DeBeaugrine abstained from voting on this topic.

No Task Force members raised objection to this recommendation. Mr. DeBeaugrine announced that this recommendation received majority consensus and will be adopted as a formal recommendation for the preliminary report.

### **Recommendation 3**

**Develop regional-level ASD collaborative through CARD as central points for information sharing, gap reduction, collaborative planning and service delivery.**

No Task Force members raised objection to this recommendation. Mr. DeBeaugrine announced that this recommendation received majority consensus and will be adopted as a formal recommendation for the preliminary report.

## **Topic 3: Community Awareness and Outreach**

### **Recommendation 1**

The primary audience of the statewide ASD awareness and outreach plan should be individuals and families affected by ASD.

#### **Recommendation 1.1**

The outreach campaign should include information on the signs and symptoms of ASD.

#### **Recommendation 1.2**

The outreach campaign should educate Floridians on the importance of early identification for better outcomes.

#### **Recommendation 1.3**

The outreach campaign should promote the Statewide Autism Website.

#### **Recommendation 1.4**

The outreach campaign should provide information to families on how to access screening and treatment for ASDs.

#### **Recommendation 1.5**

The outreach campaign should provide information on safety across the lifespan as well as gender-specific safety issues.

#### **Recommendation 1.6**

The outreach campaign should promote empowerment and self-advocacy for those living on the spectrum and their families.

Mr. DeBeaugrine asked that recommendation 1, 1:1, 1:2, 1:3, 1:4, 1:5, and 1:6 be considered together for discussion and voting purposes.

No Task Force members raised objection to this recommendation or its sub-recommendations. Mr. DeBeaugrine announced that the recommendation and sub-recommendations received majority consensus and will be adopted as a formal recommendation for the preliminary report.

### **Recommendation 2**

A secondary audience of the statewide ASD awareness and outreach plan should be the general public.

#### **Recommendation 2.1**

The outreach campaign should seek to enhance awareness of ASD in Florida.

#### **Recommendation 2.2**

The outreach campaign should promote awareness of ASD as good for Florida's businesses and communities.

**Recommendation 2.3**

**The outreach campaign should promote improved patient-provider relationships in regards to ASD screening, treatment and awareness.**

Mr. DeBeaugrine asked that recommendation 2, 2:1, 2:2 and 2:3 be considered together for discussion and voting purposes.

No Task Force members raised objection to this recommendation or its sub-recommendations. Mr. DeBeaugrine announced that the recommendation and sub-recommendations received majority consensus and will be adopted as a formal recommendation for the preliminary report.

**Recommendation 3**

**Develop plans for annual awareness events for Autism Awareness Month and World Autism Awareness Day in April.**

No Task Force members raised objection to this recommendation. Mr. DeBeaugrine announced that this recommendation received majority consensus and will be adopted as a formal recommendation for the preliminary report.

**Recommendation 4**

**Use multiple delivery mechanisms to disseminate the messages of the outreach campaign to touch as many individuals as possible.**

**Recommendation 4.1**

**Utilize radio, print, and television as methods of message delivery.**

**Recommendation 4.2**

**Ensure that messages are culturally competent to address language, gender, culture, ethnicity, socioeconomic status, rural, suburban, urban; and underserved populations.**

**Recommendation 4.3**

**Use the proposed regional collaboratives to disseminate campaign messages.**

**Recommendation 4.4**

**Use community locations such as public libraries and faith-based institutions to disseminate campaign messages.**

Mr. DeBeaugrine asked that recommendation 4, 4:1, 4:2, 4:3 and 4:4 be considered together for discussion and voting purposes.

No Task Force members raised objection to this recommendation or its sub-recommendations. Mr. DeBeaugrine announced that the recommendation and sub-recommendations received majority consensus and will be adopted as a formal recommendation for the preliminary report.

# Window of Opportunity Committee

## **Recommendation 1**

**Encourage screening for autism as part of routine pediatric health care visits.**

## **Recommendation 1:1**

**Ensure that the National “Learn the Signs, Act Early” campaign reaches all families.**

### **Recommendation 1:1:A**

**Educate families on the option to self-refer to Early Steps**

Mr. DeBeaugrine asked that recommendation 1, 1:1 and 1:1A be considered together for discussion and voting purposes.

No Task Force members raised objection to this recommendation or its sub-recommendations. Mr. DeBeaugrine announced that the recommendation and sub-recommendations received majority consensus and will be adopted as a formal recommendation for the preliminary report.

## **Recommendation 1:2**

**Medical educators and professional societies should ensure that primary care health providers (PCPs) are trained to follow the Bright Future guidelines on screening and to be aware of the scientific literature that demonstrates that parental concern is an accurate predictor of ASD.**

Comments from Task Force members:

Dr. Brosco shared that pediatricians must be trained how to properly screen and refer children for diagnosis. He further shared that there are CMEs available, but these training opportunities are optional. Dr. Brosco also shared that organized medicine will probably be against this as a licensure requirement. Dr. Brosco then described Bright Futures.

No Task Force members raised objection to this recommendation. Mr. DeBeaugrine announced that this recommendation received majority consensus and will be adopted as a formal recommendation for the preliminary report.

## **Recommendation 1:3**

**Adequate reimbursement by AHCA and third party payers for the use of formal screening tools for general developmental delay and for ASDs.**

Comments from Task Force members

Mr. DeBeaugrine mentioned that this recommendation will have a fiscal impact. According to figures submitted previously by Dr. Brosco, it is estimated that it costs \$10 – \$15 per child per visit to screen for a developmental delay. No reimbursement is currently provided to the physician for this.

No Task Force members raised objection to this recommendation. Mr. DeBeaugrine announced that this recommendation received majority consensus and will be adopted as a formal recommendation for the preliminary report.

**Recommendation 1:4**

**If there is PCP or parental concern regarding ASDs (or general developmental delay), the PCP should refer to the Local Early Steps program (LES) if < 3 years old, or to the local public school program (Child Find) if > 3 years old.**

No Task Force members raised objection to this recommendation. Mr. DeBeaugrine announced that this recommendation received majority consensus and will be adopted as a formal recommendation for the preliminary report.

**Recommendation 1:5**

**Primary Care Providers should also consider referral for underlying medical diagnosis to child neurologist, clinical geneticist, or developmental pediatrician, etc.**

No Task Force members raised objection to this recommendation. Mr. DeBeaugrine announced that this recommendation received majority consensus and will be adopted as a formal recommendation for the preliminary report.

**Recommendation 1:6**

**Encourage AHCA (and other health insurers) to include ASD screening at 18- and 24-month visits as part of their quality assurance plans.**

No Task Force members raised objection to this recommendation. Mr. DeBeaugrine announced that this recommendation received majority consensus and will be adopted as a formal recommendation for the preliminary report.

**Recommendation 2**

**Encourage screening for autism and other developmental disabilities by early care and educational professionals.**

No Task Force members raised objection to this recommendation. Mr. DeBeaugrine announced that this recommendation received majority consensus and will be adopted as a formal recommendation for the preliminary report.

**Recommendation 2.1**

**Encourage leaders of Early Learning Coalitions and VPK to include autism screening as part their recommendations for and training for early childcare centers.**

No Task Force members raised objection to this recommendation. Mr. DeBeaugrine announced that this recommendation received majority consensus, and will be adopted as a formal recommendation for the preliminary report.

**Recommendation 2.2**

**Early child care centers who suspect and ASD in a child should refer them to the Local Early Steps program (LES) if < 3 years old, or to the local public school program (Child Find) if > 3 years old.**

No Task Force members raised objection to this recommendation. Mr. DeBeaugrine announced that this recommendation received majority consensus and will be adopted as a formal recommendation for the preliminary report.

A five minute recess was called at 4:07 p.m.

When the meeting resumed at 4:16 p.m., quorum was confirmed by roll call.

Ausley, Lorraine	absent
Baillet, Laura	
Benson, Holly	non-voting delegate on her behalf
Berkman, Karen	
Block, Lance	absent
Brosco, Jeffrey	
DeBeaugrine, Jim, Co-Chair	
Dowds, Debra	
Emken, Elizabeth	
Hill, Kimberly	absent
Homant, Susanne	absent
Houghland, Patty	
Jackson, Jarl	
Kanjian, Robert	absent
Kompothecras, Gary	
La Belle, Richard	
Llorente, Marcelo	absent
Lockman, Bambi	non-voting delegate on her behalf (Michele Polland)
Marino, Dan, Co-Chair	absent
Perkins, Randal	absent
Precourt, Lisa	
Purvis, Kelly	
Ring, Jeremy	absent
Ros, Ana Viamonte	
Sequenzia, Ven	

## Topic 2: Diagnosis

### Recommendation 3

**Families should have timely access to diagnosis and/or assessment of a child with a suspected ASD.**

No Task Force members raised objection to this recommendation. Mr. DeBeaugrine announced that this recommendation received majority consensus and will be adopted as a formal recommendation for the preliminary report.

### Recommendation 3:1

**Families should expect access to an interdisciplinary team of experts (“Autism Evaluation Team”) or a single clinician with input from multiple clinicians. (CARD and CMS should explore ways to implement this state-wide).**

No Task Force members raised objection to this recommendation. Mr. DeBeaugrine announced that this recommendation received majority consensus and will be adopted as a formal recommendation for the preliminary report.

**Recommendation 3:1:A**

**Fund a statewide partnership between CARD centers and Early Steps to establish criteria for “Autism Evaluation Teams” that would be certified and partially funded by CMS (just as Craniofacial teams are currently accredited and funded)**

No Task Force members raised objection to this recommendation. Mr. DeBeaugrine announced that this recommendation received majority consensus and will be adopted as a formal recommendation for the preliminary report.

**Recommendation 3:2**

**Early Steps and Child Find should provide access to timely assessment of children with a suspected ASD.**

Comments from Task Force members:

Ms. Purvis shared that the Early Steps program has a Federal requirement to perform an assessment within 45 days.

The group directed that Recommendation 3:2 be redrafted in order to clarify intent.

No Task Force members raised objection to this recommendation. Mr. DeBeaugrine announced that this recommendation received majority consensus and will be adopted as a formal recommendation for the preliminary report.

**Recommendation 3:3**

**Families should have access to an underlying medical diagnosis through a child neurologist, clinical geneticist, developmental pediatrician, etc.**

No Task Force members raised objection to this recommendation. Mr. DeBeaugrine announced that this recommendation received majority consensus and will be adopted as a formal recommendation for the preliminary report.

## **Topic 3: Early Intervention (Treatment)**

**Recommendation 4**

**Ensure early, intensive intervention for children with ASDs**

No Task Force members raised objection to this recommendation. Mr. DeBeaugrine announced that this recommendation received majority consensus and will be adopted as a formal recommendation for the preliminary report.

**Recommendations 4:1**

**Encourage disability and autism advocates to train parents to become educated consumers.**

No Task Force members raised objection to this recommendation. Mr. DeBeaugrine announced that this recommendation received majority consensus and will be adopted as a formal recommendation for the preliminary report.

**Recommendation 4.2**

**For child less than age of three, Early Steps personnel will educate about and train parents to provide intervention with proper intensity (25+ hours per week), duration (2-3 years), and consistency (12 months per year). The difference between evidence and non-evidence based interventions should also be addressed.**

**Recommendation 4:2:A**

**For children who continue into public schools after age three, public school personnel shall assist with the coordination of education plans between the school and the home.**

**Recommendation 4:2:B**

**For families who do not access Early Steps, Child Find, or the public school system, the statewide entities listed in Recommendation 4.1 will serve as technical assistance for the coordination of educational and treatment plans.**

Mr. DeBeaugrine asked that recommendation 4:2, 4:2:A and 4:2B be considered together for discussion and voting purposes.

No Task Force members raised objection to this recommendation or its sub-recommendations. Mr. DeBeaugrine announced that the recommendation and sub-recommendations received majority consensus and will be adopted as a formal recommendation for the preliminary report.

**Recommendation 4:3**

**Ensure through “Window of Opportunity Act” that an adequate list of trained providers for diagnosis and treatment is maintained and adequately reimbursed to ensure timely services.**

No Task Force members raised objection to this recommendation. Mr. DeBeaugrine announced that this recommendation received majority consensus and will be adopted as a formal recommendation for the preliminary report.

**Recommendation 4:4**

**Increase the number of model programs to available to the public school systems within the State of Florida (e.g. LEAP program University of Iowa, or TEACH).**

No Task Force members raised objection to this recommendation. Mr. DeBeaugrine announced that this recommendation received majority consensus and will be adopted as a formal recommendation for the preliminary report.

**Recommendation 4:5**

**Improve the dissemination of progress reports of the model programs within the school systems.**

No Task Force members raised objection to this recommendation. Mr. DeBeaugrine announced that this recommendation received majority consensus and will be adopted as a formal recommendation for the preliminary report.

## **Topic 4: Payment & Reimbursement**

### **Recommendation 5**

**Payment for treatment of children with ASDs.**

No Task Force members raised objection to this recommendation. Mr. DeBeaugrine announced that this recommendation received majority consensus and will be adopted as a formal recommendation for the preliminary report.

### **Recommendation 5.1**

**Ensure through “Window of Opportunity Act” negotiations that there exists adequate reimbursement for screening, diagnosis, and a variety of treatments.**

### **Recommendation 5:1:A**

**Ensure proper payment to licensed psychologist for the diagnosis of an ASD.**

### **Recommendation 5:1:B**

**Ensure proper payment for CPT codes (...) for Team Interdisciplinary Conference and Family Meetings**

Mr. DeBeaugrine asked that recommendation 5, 5:1, 5:1A and 5:1B be considered together for discussion and voting purposes.

No Task Force members raised objection to this recommendation or its sub-recommendations. Mr. DeBeaugrine announced that the recommendation and sub-recommendations received majority consensus and will be adopted as a formal recommendation for the preliminary report.

### **Recommendation 5:2**

**Explore ways to increase flexibility of the use of the base student allocation to enhance parental choice.**

This recommendation was tabled for additional discussion. This recommendation will not be included in the preliminary report.

### **Recommendation 5:3**

**Part-C (Early Steps) – Currently Part-C/Early Steps provide for services/therapies in the home or school setting. The theory is that this optimizes generalization skills. While this may be true, the number of providers willing to accept the Part-C rates for on location therapy/services is limited. With the increase demand, these limitations result in difficulty in obtaining timely services. Part-C should be allowed to be more flexible to working in a clinical environment if necessary or as a part of a formal treatment plan, allowing parents to choose alternative providers and paying the difference**

This recommendation was tabled for additional discussion. This recommendation will not be included in the preliminary report.

**Recommendation 5:4**

**Autism advocates should recognize that alliances with other Developmental Disability groups are powerful mechanisms to improve chances for increases in funding.**

No Task Force members raised objection to this recommendation. Mr. DeBeaugrine announced that this recommendation received majority consensus and will be adopted as a formal recommendation for the preliminary report.

**Recommendation 6**

**Prevalence studies in Florida should be conducted in collaboration with current university partnerships.**

No Task Force members raised objection to this recommendation. Mr. DeBeaugrine announced that this recommendation received majority consensus and will be adopted as a formal recommendation for the preliminary report.

**Recommendation 6:1**

**Encourage families to participate in autism spectrum disorder studies.**

No Task Force members raised objection to this recommendation. Mr. DeBeaugrine announced that this recommendation received majority consensus and will be adopted as a formal recommendation for the preliminary report.

**Recommendation 7**

**Long-term Strategy: Need to continue the Task Force work over multiple years**

This recommendation was tabled for additional discussion. This recommendation will not be included in the preliminary report.

Ms. Demko announced that there will be Full Task Force conference calls in November for additional review and discussion of the preliminary report progress. The dates will be announced as soon as they are scheduled.

Ms. Demko also announced that effective October 31 she will be transferring to the Agency for Persons with Disabilities to serve as Chief of Staff. Her new email address will change to: [tamara\\_demko@apd.state.fl.us](mailto:tamara_demko@apd.state.fl.us).

Mr. DeBeaugrine thanked the Task Force for their work and efforts.

*Call concluded at 5:00 p.m.*

Taken By: Lona Taylor