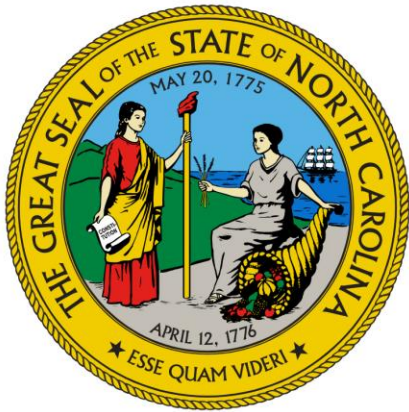


# Samantha R. Webinar



**Kelly Crosbie, MSW, LCSW**

Director

Division of Mental Health, Developmental Disabilities,  
Substance Use Services

**Corye Dunn, JD**

Director of Public Policy

Disability Rights North Carolina

**May 2024**



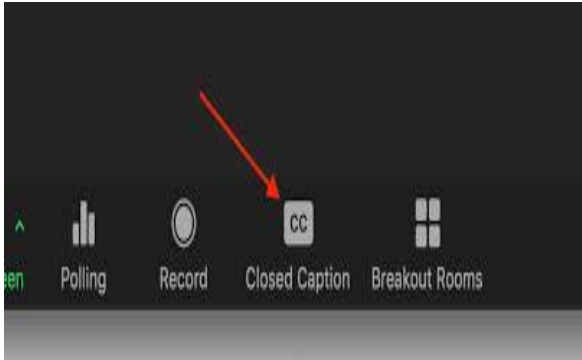
# Housekeeping

- Reminders about the webinar technology:

- Please make sure you are using a computer or smart phone connected to the internet, and the audio function is on, and the volume is turned up.
- Please make sure your microphones are muted for the duration of the call unless you are speaking or asking questions.
- Questions can be submitted any time during the presentation using the “Q&A” box located on your control panel, and we will answer as many questions as time allows towards the end of the presentation.

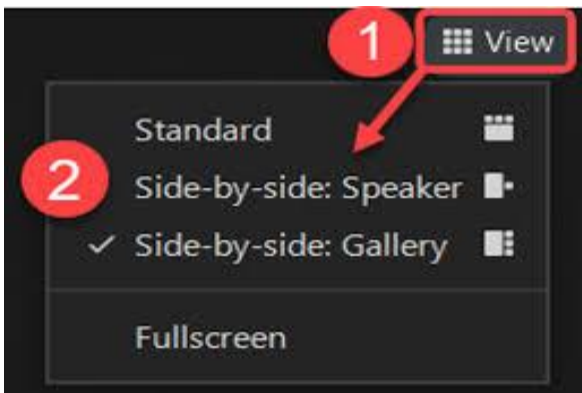


# Housekeeping



- American Sign Language (ASL) Interpreters and Closed-Captioning
  - ASL Interpreters and Closed-Captioning options will be available for today's event.
  - For closed-captioning options select the "Closed Caption" feature located on your control panel.

Intérpretes y subtítulos en lengua de signos americana (ASL). Habrá intérpretes de ASL y opciones de subtítulos disponibles para el evento de hoy. Para opciones de subtítulos, seleccione la función "Subtítulos" ubicada en su panel de control.



- Adjusting Video Layout and Screen View
  - Select the "View" feature located in the top-right hand corner of your screen

# Agenda

1. Welcome and Introductions
2. Update from DRNC
3. Update from DMH/DD/SUS
4. Q&A

# Kelly Crosbie, MSW, LCSW, DMH/DD/SUS Director



- 30 years in MH/SU/IDD Field
- 13 years in DHHS
- DMHDDSUS since Dec 2022
- Licensed Clinical Social Worker (LCSW)
- Person with lived experience

# Corye Dunn, JD, DRNC Director of Public Policy



- Born and raised in NC
- Former DSP
- Attorney
- Joined DRNC in 2011
- Person with lived experience
- Second generation in I/DD services

# Update from DRNC

# Samantha R. Background

- DRNC filed this case in May 2017. Seven years ago.
- In February 2020, the Court decided the state is in violation of the Integration Mandate which we commonly refer to as the Olmstead requirement.
- DHHS presented an Olmstead Plan in early 2022. The court determined that the Olmstead Plan would not suffice to solve the violation.
- The Court entered a remedy order in early November 2022. It imposed benchmarks for transition of people with I/DD to community settings if they so choose, provided for the elimination of the Innovations Waiver waiting list in 10 years, and directed the parties to make recommendations regarding access to DSPs.
- DHHS appealed in late November 2022, challenging both the original February 2020 liability finding and the November 2022 remedy order.
- The parties mediated the case and developed the proposed Consent Order.



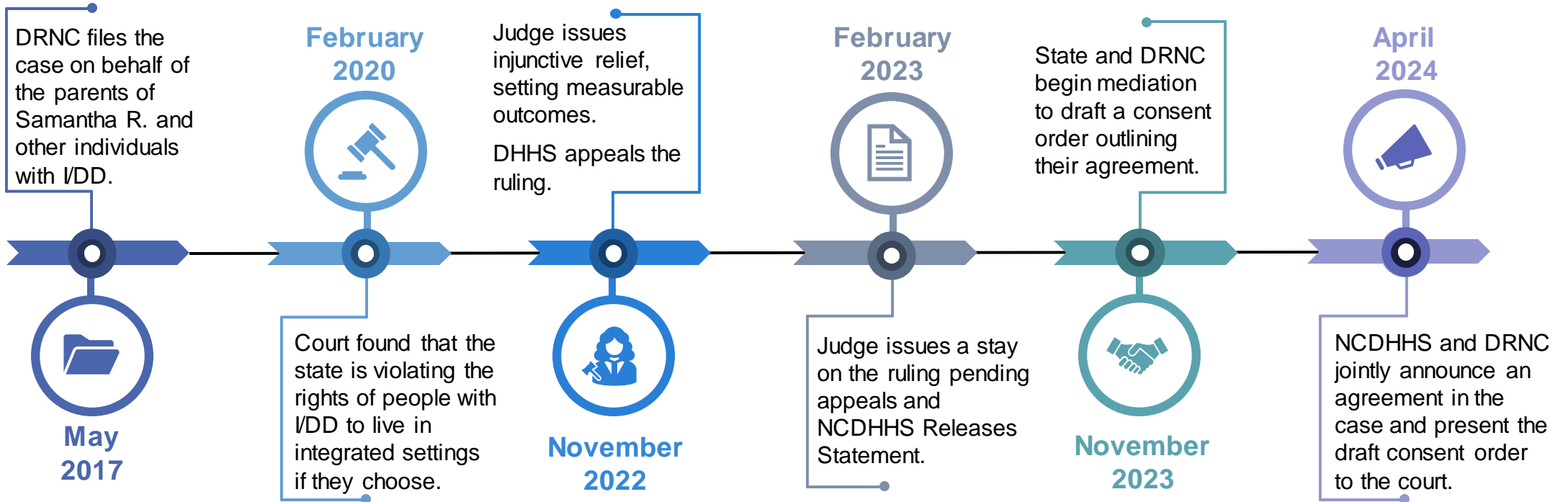
# Samantha R. Consent Order

- The I/DD community has noted that the Consent Order does not provide everything sought in the litigation, nor everything the Court ordered in November 2022
- The Consent Order is an interim measure that moves the parties closer to a resolution of the litigation. The State may seek to end the Court's involvement if it believes that it has achieved compliance. Likewise, the Plaintiffs may seek additional orders if they believe they are necessary to address unmet needs.
- Since the remedial order in November 2022 the state of the system has continued to change.
- The Consent Order provides for in reach, transitions, diversion, and other critical measures.
- Importantly, the legal requirement is not new, only the plan to implement it.

Update from DMH/DD/SUS

# Samantha R. Overview

The Samantha R. case identifies the need for adequate home and community-based services for people with intellectual and developmental disabilities (I/DD) in North Carolina.



The agreement announced by the parties on April 10 is a compromise that allows the parties to move forward. DRNC and NCDHHS will continue to work together to improve the lives of individuals with I/DD in North Carolina.

# Samantha R. Consent Order

The Consent Order is the result of an agreement between the parties to the lawsuit. The Consent Order sets clear goals to improve support for individuals with I/DD.



**In-Reach Expansion:** Institute and/or expand, through the LME/MCOs, In-Reach efforts to identify people with I/DD who wish to transition to the community and provide the services and supports needed to effectuate those transitions.



**1915(i) Services Provision:** Ensure timely assessment for and provision of 1915i services for people with I/DD to address some of the unmet needs reflected in the Innovations Waiver waiting list.



**LME/MCO Standards:** Implement and enforce standards for LME/MCOs to ensure that people with I/DD receive more authorized services.



**DSP Workforce Strategy:** Develop and enact a comprehensive DSP strategy that helps grow and maintain a more robust DSP workforce.



**Data and Reporting:** Provide regular data and information that will enable the parties and the Court to assess progress and determine what, if any, additional measures may be needed to address the Court's findings regarding the deficits in the I/DD system

# Resources



**Samantha R Press Release**: On April 10th, NCDHHS & Disability Rights North Carolina (DRNC) announced an agreement in the litigation. Access the link to the press release to learn more.



**Inclusion Connects** was created to enhance the I/DD connection to their community, focusing on

- Promoting access to services for all individuals in need of services, including those on the Innovations Waiver Waitlist.
- Addressing the Direct Support Professional (DSP) Workforce Shortage, including connecting DSPs with providers and individuals with I/DD.
- Improving access and enhancing the housing array for individuals with I/DD.

# Q&A



Questions and feedback are welcome  
at [BHIDD.HelpCenter@dhhs.nc.gov](mailto:BHIDD.HelpCenter@dhhs.nc.gov).