



District of Columbia Developmental Disabilities Council

FULL COUNCIL MEETING

441 4th Street, N.W.
City-wide Conference Center
Room #1117
Washington, D.C.

October 18, 2012
3:00 PM

MINUTES

MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE

Haley Kimmet, Vice-Chair
Dr. Shearon Smith
Cathy Anderson
Susan Maclean
Eileen Magan for Mary Lou Macceriollo

Ricardo Thornton
L. Thomas Mangrum, Jr
Antonia Brathwaite Fisher
Victor Robinson
Kathy Gosselin

STAFF

Mat McCollough, Executive Director
Sudie Johnson, Program Analyst
Denice McCain, Staff Assistant

OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE

Karyn Stenzler – Full Circle Employment
Suzanne Greenfred & Gabe Sauije- Advocates for Justice and Education
Erin Leveton - Department on Disability Services

CALL TO ORDER

Haley Kimmet, Vice-Chair, Developmental Disabilities Council (DDC), informed the membership that she would be standing in for DDC Chair, Tina Campanella, who was unable to attend today's meeting. She welcomed everyone and called the meeting to order. She then asked everyone to introduce him/herself and provide the name of the organization that he/she was representing. Following introductions, the Vice-Chair asked that everyone welcome Victor Robinson, DDC Member, who had not attended a DDC Meeting since his accident and recuperation.

REVIEW/APPROVAL of July 12, 2012 MINUTES

The Vice-Chair stated everyone should have received a copy of the July 19, 2012 minutes in their packet, and for those members who had not already done so, to please take a few minutes to review them. Following a brief review, a motion was made to approve the minutes. The motion was seconded and passed.

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EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Mat McCollough, Executive Director, DDC provided the following report:

2012 Disability Mentoring Days Program - October is known as National Disability Employment Awareness Month and during this month the DDC, in collaboration with the Office of Disability Rights (ODR), District of Columbia Government, and the American Association of People with Disabilities (AAPD), promotes and participates in the Disability Mentoring Days (DMD) Program in the DC area. The DMD Program promotes critical career development for students with disabilities by bringing student mentees and employers from local businesses, and Federal and District government agencies together for direct job-shadowing and mentoring activities. He provided a brief summary of the 2012 DMD report which was disseminated to the membership.

Self-Advocacy Organization Development Grants From AIDD - The Administration on Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities, recently released a small number of grants for Self-Advocacy Organizations. There are two different types of grants, one is to help self-advocacy groups grow and become stronger and the other is for established self-advocacy organizations to provide peer-to-peer technical assistance to other self-advocacy organizations. This information was included in the handouts.

Joint Letter to OSSE: Policy Needed Regarding Powers of Attorney and IDEA Rights - The DDC is one of the signatories on a letter that was sent to the Office of the State Superintendent of Education in regards to Powers of Attorney and Individuals with Disabilities Education Act Rights (this issue was brought up by the Chair at a previous meeting). A copy of the letter was included in the handouts.

DC Advocacy Partners Program (DC APP) Recruitment for 2013 Class – The DC Advocacy Partners Program is a leadership-training program designed for self-advocates and family members of children with intellectual/developmental disabilities. The first class of 2012 graduated in September and the Institute for Educational Leadership (grantee for the program) is currently looking for new applicants/recruits to be a part of the second DC APP class for 2013. An application (including a schedule of classes) was included in the handout for those interested in becoming a part of the second class or to be passed along to others who may be interested.

Looking Ahead in Fiscal Year 2013: What to Expect with New Beginnings & Outcomes – The DDC will continue with the *DC Advocacy Partners*, *Get Involved DC!*, and *Building Economic Strength Together* Programs. The DDC office is currently in the process of procuring the Social Role Valorization Program which is going through the competitive bid process. The DDC Office is also in the process of writing up a Statement of Work for an *Employment Rights and Training Program* which will train young adults with disabilities who are job seekers about their rights under the Americans with Disabilities Act and provide them with the knowledge and skills to successfully navigate interviews, develop work ethics, and learn how to access benefits counseling, etc.

The Executive Director's hope is to not only have individuals complete this program, but to identify companies that will be supportive of hiring these individuals on a part-time and/or full time basis.

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DDC Involvement in Upcoming National & Community Events

October 23: Help Developmental Disabilities Administration (DDA) Write New Policies - The DDC Executive Director, introduced Erin Leveton, Legislative and Policy Analyst, Department on Disability Services (DDS) and asked her tell the membership about the October 23, 2012 event, “*Help Developmental Disabilities Administration (DDA) Write New Policies*”. Ms. Leveton began by stating, as many of the DDC members may know, she started working at the Department on Disability Services a couple of months ago in the new State Office of Disability Administration. One of the main things she is working on is helping DDA develop some sort of system that ties a set of policies and procedures that reflects contemporary best practices; are well informed by stakeholders; that are embedded with our shared values; and that create clear expectations for their staff, their providers, people who receive services and their families about how things should work.

In this regard, they are releasing their first set of policies which is a human rights and behavior supports policies. They want to first meet with people who get support from DDS to hear their comments about the policies and procedures before they meet with the professionals, advocates and providers for their feedback. Anyone who receives supports is welcome to attend this meeting and she would appreciate everyone’s help in spreading the word. Details regarding this meeting were included in the handouts.

October 24: Statewide Rehabilitation Council (SRC) Public Hearing on College Tuition Rates & Transportation Services - The DC Rehabilitation Services Administration’s (DCRSA) Policy Committee of the Statewide Rehabilitation Council is inviting DC RSA clients and their family members to attend a Public Hearing on October 24, 2013 regarding secondary education and vocational services received from DC RSA. Information was included in the handouts.

October 25-28: The Arc National Convention: - The Arc’s National Convention and International Forum will be held October 25-28, 2012 at the Grand Hyatt Hotel, in Washington, DC and they are in need of volunteers. The DDC Executive Director informed the membership that he, Sudie Johnson and Ricardo Thornton have already signed up to volunteer and if anyone else was interested in volunteering, to please do so. The schedule can be found on the Arc’s website and volunteers get to go to some of the sessions for free.

October 31-Disability Employment Awareness Event with the Center for Disease Control (CDC) in Atlanta, GA - The Center for Disease Control (CDC) asked the DDC Executive Director if he would be willing to come to Atlanta, GA and serve as a keynote speaker for their Disability Employment Awareness Event which will be held October 31, 2012. He said yes. The agenda for this event is included in the handouts.

November 2-3: Moving Forward Together Secondary Transition Community Forum: - There are several organizations co-sponsoring the 4th Annual Moving Forward Together Secondary Transition Community Forum on November 2-3, 2012 including the DDC, DDS, Arc of DC and others. Volunteers are needed for November 2nd to help keep the large school groups together and to ensure that the groups get from one activity to the other. The flyer for this event is included in the handouts.

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November 27-December 1-TASH National Conference: - The DC Advocacy Partner graduates are official members of TASH. They are planning to start a new TASH Chapter here in the District of Columbia. The DDC will be sending some of the Partner graduates to the upcoming conference. Also, the DDC Executive Director has been elected to the TASH Board of Directors.

The Vice-Chair informed the membership that in her role at TASH, she is involved in the planning of the conference and she feels it is going to be a great one. A number of keynote speakers have been confirmed, one of whom is Amy Brenneman, an actress who appears on the television show *Private Practice*. Ms. Brenneman is also the mother of a daughter with disabilities attending a fully inclusive school on the outskirts of Los Angeles. They are excited to have her there.

The Vice-Chair encouraged anyone interested in attending the conference to go to their website at www.tash.org to find more information and to register for the conference. The last day for regular registration is November 1, 2012; after which there will be only on-site registration which is slightly higher.

January 20, 2013-Presidential Inaugural Ceremony & Parade: - The DDC, along with the Office of Disability Rights, is on the District of Columbia's *Presidential Inauguration Committee* to ensure that the access and functional needs of individuals with disabilities and their families who attend the 2013 inaugural events are met. This includes effective communication, such as, having captions on the monitors on the mall. The group will be participating in a conference call next Tuesday with Marcie Roth, Director, Federal Emergency Management Agency, Office of Disability Integration and Coordination, to discuss what the DC Presidential Inaugural Committee needs to consider in relationship to the ADA and emergency planning to adequately address the functional and safety needs of individuals with disabilities on January 20, 2013. Because the Presidential Inauguration and Parade are deemed Federal-related events and the responsibility for emergency planning and personal safety of the attendees primarily fall on the Homeland Security and Emergency Management Agency and the District, they will also be discussing when formal responsibilities end with the District and start with the Federal Government and vice versa.

PROGRAM ANALYST REPORT

DDC Spending Report - Sudie Johnson, DDC Program Analyst, provided a brief overview of the DDC Financial Report which was included in the handouts. She asked the membership to review the report at their leisure and if they have any questions to please contact her.

Summary Report: NCD Medicaid Managed Care Webinar – Ms. Johnson stated that the National Council on Disabilities hosted a webinar on *Medicaid Managed Care for People with Developmental Disabilities*. A summary of the highlights of the webinar are included in the handouts. She then provided a brief overview of those highlights.

DDC COMMITTEE REPORTS

State Plan Implementation Committee

Leadership Change in Committee Chair - The Vice-Chair provided the following update on the State Plan Implementation Committee. Susie King, the Chair of this committee, is stepping down and asked Ms. Kimmet to consider taking her position as the Chair. Ms. Kimmet accepted.

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Summary Report of DDC Accomplishments and Accomplishments in Fiscal Year 2012 – The Executive Director advised that as the membership will notice on the Status of DDC Goals for FY 12 Report (which was included in the handouts) there are lot of things identified in our State Plan as goals and outcomes. In this regard, over the past year we did not meet all of what we set out to do; not because we didn't try, but simply because it was too much. However, he feels that the DDC did well in terms of identifying and funding programs that would be beneficial for our advocates and family members. Also, our funding agency, the Department of Health and Human Services/Administration for Children and Families/Administration on Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities (AIDD), requested we take a look at our goals and outcomes and streamline them. Those changes have been made and submitted to AIDD and we are awaiting their approval before we can move forward with our FY 13 goals. In the meantime, the DDC will continue to operate under the old State Plan as it was originally written-so basically what you see here is what we are going to continue with going through FY 13.

Public Policy and Outreach Committee

The Executive Director informed the membership that the Chair of this Committee, Aimee Griffin, was unable to attend today's meeting. However; she did forward her report which is included in the handouts and the membership can review them at their leisure.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Cathy Anderson, Director, DDS/Developmental Disabilities Administration announced that everything was looking good in terms of their Home and Community Based Waiver Application renewal which is pending with the Federal government. With the renewal of the waiver, there are some new services included and there are some changes to service definitions. Therefore, new regulations are being written and they are being introduced as emergency regulations which change the amount of time for comments. Ms. Anderson then asked Ms. Leveton to take it from there.

Ms. Leveton stated she wanted to make sure that people knew there are pending rules on how Intermediate Care Facilities (ICFs) get paid. They are long, they are detailed, but there are things that are really important in them that she thinks advocates would want to comment on. Everything is coming out as Emergency and Proposed Rules, thus people are only getting a thirty day comment period instead of the extended period usually given. This is just the first of a series of rules that the Department of Health Care Finance is going to put out about Medicaid. There will be between twenty and thirty rules coming out on the Medicaid Waiver and it is going to be really important that they hear from the advocates, the people who get the services, and the professional advocates about how we want these services to work. With that said, we need to figure out a way for us to share this information because she knows everyone doesn't read the DC Register every week like she does. One possible way is through the DDC Public Policy and Outreach Committee.

Ms. Anderson interjected she would like to add that they are not being published as emergency to avoid getting public comments, but because of the time-lines. She knows the affect that has on people when they don't feel like they have the opportunity to comment. That is the reason why we are trying to give people the heads up and make sure that people are aware. They welcome

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anything/ideas that can be done to get the information out to people even sooner than being published in the DC Register. In conclusion, she encouraged people to comment on them because it is important and their opinions matter.

Ms. Leveton stated they will also make announcements at Project Action! monthly meetings to keep people up-to-date.

Ricardo Thornton, DDC Member, stated he would like to thank Georgetown University Center for Excellence in Developmental Disabilities for hosting the September 28, 2012 *National Presidential Forum on Disability Issues* via webcast.

PRESENTATION FROM HALEY KIMMET – HER LEARNING EXPERIENCE IN JORDAN

Ms. Kimmet informed the membership she had the honor of participating in a professional development program for two weeks last month that took place in Jordan. This is a two year program funded by the U.S. State Department/ Professional Fellows Division. During its first year (2011), this program brought together nine young women with disabilities between the ages of 22-35 from Jordan to the United States (Eugene, Oregon). The second year (2012) brought together nine young women with disabilities between the ages of 25-34 (which she was a part of) from United States to Amman, Jordan to share information, stories and strategies to find innovative ways to make changes in their communities. She then provided a brief presentation on her experiences which included: information about Jordan, overall agenda, cultural activities, site visits and meetings, lessons learned, challenges, and what's next. This information was included in the handouts.

RESOURCES & OTHER UPCOMING EVENTS

The Executive Director advised that the information on the following resources and other upcoming events were included in the handouts.

- a. American Association on Health and Disability – Women with Disabilities, Mammography, and Mammography Access
- b. October 24: Business Leadership Network Career Networking Event
- c. October 26: Goodwill's Career Navigation Training
- d. National Institutes of Health's Recent Graduates Recruitment Program

ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded and the meeting was adjourned.

NEXT MEETING

The next meeting date is January 17, 2013, 3:00 pm – 5:00 pm. Location to be determined.

Respectfully submitted,



Denise McCain
Staff Assistant