DD Council Leadership Candidate Statements

The individuals holding these leadership positions will automatically become members of the Executive Committee and agree to carry out the duties outlined in the DD Council Bylaws.

# Position: Vice Chairperson

## Candidates:

**Bernard Crawford**

**I want to be Vice Chairperson because Ricardo Thornton has done a great job as Vice Chair, and I want to fill his shoes and keep the good work going. I want to facilitate the DD Council meetings, make sure the minutes are done so we can all keep track of our work, and keep everyone on track with our goals. I will be good for this job because I go to all the meetings and can give good advice. I will listen to everyone and help people.**

**LaRaven Gaymon**

I want to be Vice Chairperson because I recognize that people with disabilities are just people that want to live an independent and liberated life while having their needs acknowledged. Those two things need to be done simultaneously in order for inclusion to be achieved. I know that firsthand being a person who has a physical disability! Disability issues are everyone’s issue, whether they’re disabled or not. This position would allow me to aid in trying to achieve social justice for an overlooked community like ours!

**Derrick Simms**

I want to be Vice Chairperson because I believe that I’m a good advocate for people with disabilities, and I think that I have a good perspective on diverse issues. I think I will focus on the problems that we are facing today in society. I believe that all people with disabilities deserve to be heard and recognized for their attributes.

## Qualifications and Duties:

The Vice Chairperson must meet the same qualifications as the Chairperson:

1. Have a working knowledge of DC and Federal laws relevant to children and adults with developmental disabilities.
2. Have a working knowledge of DC and Federal service delivery systems for all people with developmental disabilities.
3. Have experience leading meetings.
4. Preferably, have been a member of the Council for at least one year.

The Vice Chairperson shall:

1. Assume the duties of the Chairperson (a-g) in their absence.
   1. Facilitate all public meetings of the Council.
   2. Speak for the Council, consistent with and in consultation with the Executive Committee or the Advocacy and Public Policy Committee regarding specific policy issues.
   3. Be responsible for carrying out the directives of the Council and the Council membership.
   4. Be responsible for ensuring officers of the Council and Councilmembers are informed and enabled to carry out their assigned tasks.
   5. Be responsible for ensuring all Councilmembers serve on a committee and be an ex-officio member of every committee.
   6. Be responsible for ensuring that Council committees have the resources and support to carry out their work.
   7. Coordinate an evaluation of the Executive Director annually.
2. Perform all tasks assigned by the Chairperson.
3. Assist the Chairperson in ensuring Council committees are working effectively.

# Position: Co-Chair of the Advocacy and Public Policy Committee

## Candidates:

There are no current candidates for this position. This position will be chosen and voted on during the Advocacy and Public Policy Committee meeting.

## Qualifications and Duties:

1. Collaborate with DD Council Staff liaison and other Co-Chair of the Advocacy and Public Policy Committee to set quarterly meeting dates.
2. Co-facilitate Committee meetings.
3. Provide Committee updates at quarterly public DD Council meetings.
4. Speak for the Council, consistent with and in consultation with the Executive Committee regarding specific policy issues.
5. Oversee the development of an Advocacy and Public Policy Agenda on an annual or bi-annual basis.