

**Quarterly Public Meeting Agenda**

**Thursday, December 14, 2023, 3-5 pm**

**Attendance:**

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| **DD Councilmembers** | **Councilmember Category/Organization** | **Attendance** |
| Andres Alejandro Crucet-Choi | Community Member | Present |
| Andrew Reese | Department on Disability Services | Present |
| Anjanette Shelby | Community Member | Present |
| Anna Dunn | Health Services for Children with Special Needs | Present |
| Bernard Crawford | Community Member | Absent |
| Berta Mata | Advocates for Justice and Education | Absent |
| Charon P.W. Hines | Department of Aging and Community Living | Present |
| Derrick Simms | Community Member | Absent |
| Elisa Peña Zavala | Community Member | Absent |
| Jane Brown | Disability Rights DC | Present |
| Kafui Doe (Proxy: Simileoluwa Ekundayo) | DC Health | Present |
| Laraven Gaymon | Community Member | Absent |
| Lindsey Wilkes | Community Member | Absent |
| Melisa Byrd (Proxy: Katherine Rogers) | Department of Health Care Finance | Present |
| Nikki Stewart | Office of the State Superintendent of Education | Present |
| Oliver Roy | Community Member | Present |
| Sandy Roskes | Community Member | Absent |
| Tawara Goode (Proxy: Robin Shaffert) | Georgetown University Center for Excellence in Developmental Disabilities | Present |
| Thelma Green | Community Member | Absent |
| Uchenna Egenti | Community Member | Absent |
| Yetta Myrick | Community Member | Absent |
| Zoe Gross | Community Member | Present |

**\* There is one vacant seat on the DD Council in the category of community member.**

**DD Council Staff Present:**

Alison Whyte, Executive Director

Carla McCaskill, Program Support Specialist

Claire Simon, Disability Community Health Worker

Kevin Wright, Program Support Assistant

Luz Collazo, Program Analyst

**Members of the Public Present:**

ASL Interpreter: Julie

ASL Interpreter: Lucy

Atsede

CART Captioner: Angie

Dajon Chambers

Edward Dana

Ericka Peterson

Gail Avent

Geoff Musti, Station MD

Jeannette Martin

Jenny Pearson, DC Relay

Kimberly Ortiz

Monica Sanjur

Rhonda White

Shelby Wyand, MedStar

Spanish interpreter: Christian

Spanish interpreter: Octavio Vallejo

| Topic | Minutes |
| --- | --- |
| Welcome and Call to Order | The meeting was called to order by the DD Council Chairperson, Anjie Shelby, at 3:05pm. |
| Explanation of Virtual Platform and Accessibility | Alison Whyte, DDC Exec. Dir. explained the access features of the meeting, including ASL interpreters, CART captions, and Spanish interpretation.  |
| Introduction of Councilmembers and DDC Staff | Anjie Shelby invited DD Councilmembers and staff to introduce themselves and share what they like about this time of year. There is a quorum of 12 Councilmembers present.  |
| Membership Changes | Alison shared that Stephanie Lanham resigned from the DD Council due to personal reasons. This leaves one vacant seat for a person with a developmental disability or a family member to fill. |
| Chairperson Remarks  | Anjie Shelby shared that the Commission on Persons with Disabilities is looking for new members. The Commission is an advisory body for the Office of Disability Rights. Anjie also encouraged all Councilmembers to join one of the three DD Council Committees - State Plan Committee, Advocacy and Public Policy Committee, and Racial Equity Committee. |
| Vice Chairperson Election Results | Alison shared that 13 out of 22 Councilmembers have voted for the Vice Chair position. We need more votes because the vote is too close. Charon P.W. Hines suggested creating a video or recording of the candidates so that new Councilmembers can feel more comfortable deciding who to vote for. DD Council staff agreed to support the candidates in creating a video or recording with their statement. |
| Review of Previous Meeting Minutes1. September 21, 2023, Minutes
 | Item: September 21, 2023 MinutesDiscussion/Corrections: None1st Motion: Zoe Gross2nd Motion: Nikkie StewartVote: Approved |
| FY24 DD Council Budget Vote | Alison Whyte, DDC Exec. Dir presented the proposed budget for FY24.Item: FY24 DD Council BudgetDiscussion/Corrections:* Andres Alejandro Crucet-Choi asked, “Do we have sufficient funds for translation costs?” Alison shared that we have $10,000 dedicated to interpretation and translation. We provide language access proactively for some meetings, and upon request for others, and $10,000 has been enough to meet our needs in the past. For some of our activities, other agencies, DDS in particular, cover language access costs.
* Anna Dunn asked, “Where do funds for committee work come from?” Alison shared that committee work would fall under State Plan activities and come out of those line items depending on the focus of the activity.

1st Motion: Anna Dunn2nd Motion: Zoe GrossVote: Approved |
| State Plan Committee Updates | Jane Brown, Committee Chair, reviewed the work of the State Plan Committee and shared updates. The FY24-25 Grant Review process is underway from December 7, 2023 through January 12, 2024. There were 16 applications submitted. Grant winners will be announced in late January and grantees should receive their funds in March 2024. |
| Advocacy and Public Policy Committee Updates  | Alison and Claire Simon shared updates from the Advocacy and Public Policy Committee. The Committee is working on finalizing an FY24-25 Advocacy and Public Policy Agenda with a list of priority issues and a Health Equity Position Paper. The Committee will meet in February to finalize these documents and bring them to the full Council in March 2024 for a vote. |
| Presentation[The Judith Campaign](https://ddc.dc.gov/page/judith-campaign) | Kevin Wright shared The Judith Campaign, the DD Council’s public awareness campaign to honor Judith Heumann and promote these values:1. **J**ustice for all
2. **U**ncomfortable conversations, honoring that advocacy can be hard and uncomfortable
3. **D**irect support and the care workforce
4. **I**nclusion
5. **T**hrough My Eyes, honoring individual stories
6. **H**ow can we make the world we want?

The introduction video and Bob William's video were shared. Additional videos will be released throughout the year, and everyone is encouraged to share them. |
| Presentation Station MD  | Station MD has a mission to help people with intellectual and developmental disabilities (IDD) thrive in the community by avoiding unnecessary ER visits. Station MD is a telehealth program that specializes in working with people with IDD. They are working in DC with some people who receive services from the Department on Disability Services, and they are interested in expanding.  |
| DD Council Executive Director Report | Alison shared the following updates:* Annual DD Council Retreat will be on Thursday, February 1st. More information to come!
* Bridging Aging and Disability Networks and Racial Equity Community of Practice - recordingss from the August Future Planning Series are on our YouTube page. We will be continuing our work on future planning in the coming year.
* Reminder to Councilmembers: please share bios and photos with Kevin so we can update our website.
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| DD Council Organizational Representatives Updates  | DD Network: Disability Rights DC at University Legal Services – Jane Brown shared that there is an advocacy push with the Census Bureau. There are proposed questions about disability, and many disability rights advocates think they will lead to the Census undercounting people with disabilities, which will, in turn, impact funding. Disability Rights DC and other advocacy organizations will work to get the questions changed. Jane also shared a reminder that the Personal Needs Allowance (PNA) for people who receive Medicaid IDD Waiver services from the Developmental Disabilities Administration (DDA) increased from $100 to $150.DD Network: Georgetown University Center for Excellence in Developmental Disabilities (GUCEDD) – Robin Shaffert shared that Inclusive Schools Week was in early December. GUCEDD did a presentation and writing exercise with high schoolers about “what makes them feel included,” and it was a fun, engaging experience. They are working towards having a program regarding inclusive post-secondary school options in February. They want to start a public discussion about what people would want to see in this program, while centering equity.Health Services for Children with Special Needs (HSCSN) – Anna Dunn shared that HSCSN has an Enrollee Advisory Council that meets regularly, and they welcome feedback. HSCSN is working hard on issues with eligibility and enrollment and families who fell out of coverage after the public health emergency unwinding. Deputy Mayor Turnage confirmed today that everyone who lost coverage will be re-enrolled. HSCSN has a value-add benefit to make sure that enrollees have access to more than just Medicaid. This benefit provides access to things like athletic camps, summer camps, respite care for caregivers, and fun activities like the upcoming holiday party. Advocates for Justice and Education – not present.Department on Disability Services (DDS) – Andy Reese shared that they are working on the Comprehensive Statewide Needs Assessment of the vocational rehabilitation services that the Rehabilitation Services Administration (RSA) provides. RSA’s goal is that everyone with a disability who needs job support gets it. They want to reach more people, especially in under-resourced areas. People can complete a survey for this needs assessment until December 15, 2023. Andy also shared that the PNA for people in Intermediate Care Facilities (ICFs) increased from $70 to $100 and for people receiving waiver residential services, it increased from $100 to $150.Department of Aging and Community Living – Charon P.W. Hines shared that DACL celebrated with over 3,000 seniors for the 25th Annual Mayor’s Senior Holiday Party. DACL participated in a job fair in partnership with DDS and DCHR, where they had engagement opportunities for career opportunities at DACL. DACL aims to better support DC’s seniors with disabilities.Office of the State Superintendent of Education – not present.Department of Health Care Finance – not present.DC Health – Simi Ekundayo shared that DC Health is gearing up to start a needs assessment for a new grant cycle. They are looking for input from youth about how to improve health programming.Project ACTION! - not present.  |
| Public Comments & Community Announcements | There were no public comments or announcements. |
| Conclusion and Adjournment | 1st Motion: Andrew Reese2nd Motion: Robin ShaffertVote: ApprovedMeeting adjourned at 4:55pm.  |