**Quarterly Public Meeting Agenda**

**Thursday, September 21, 2023, 3-5 pm**

**DD Councilmembers Present:**

1. Andres Alejandro Crucet-Choi
2. Andrew Reese, Department on Disability Services (Rehabilitation Act)
3. Anjie Shelby
4. Anna Dunn, Health Services for Children with Special Needs (HSCSN)
5. Bernard Crawford
6. Charon Hines, Department of Aging and Community Living (Older Americans Act)
7. Cheri Mallory
8. Dr. Kafui Doe, DC Health (Social Security Act, Title V - Maternal and Child Health Programs) – represented by proxy, Simileoluwa Ekundayo
9. Jane Brown, DD Network: Disability Rights DC (Protection and Advocacy Agency)
10. Lindsey Wilkes
11. Melisa Byrd, Department of Health Care Finance (Social Security Act, Title XIX - Medicaid)
12. Nikki Stewart, Office of the State Superintendent of Education (Individuals with Disabilities Education Act)
13. Oliver Roy
14. Ricardo Thornton
15. Tawara Goode, DD Network: Georgetown University Center for Excellence in Developmental Disabilities represented by proxy, Robin Shaffert
16. Yetta Myrick
17. Zoe Gross

**DD Council Staff Present:**

Alison Whyte, Executive Director

Kevin Wright, Program Support Assistant

Luz Collazo, Program Analyst

Xavier Peeples, Contractor

**Other Participants Present:**

Erica Thomas, RCM of Washington

Maria Stangherlin, DC Social Hikes

Marianelly Johnson, Special Olympics DC

Rhonda White, Quality Trust

Rosemary McDonnell, HSEMA

Sarah Grime, School Talk DC

**DD Councilmembers or Staff Absent:**

Berta Mata, Advocates for Justice and Education

Carla McCaskill, Program Support Specialist

Derrick Simms

Elisa Peña Zavala

LaRaven Gaymon

Montezz Green

Naisha Dembele, School Talk DC

Sandy Roskes, new Councilmember

Stephanie Lanham

Thelma Green, new Councilmember

Uchenna Egenti

| Topic | Minutes |
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| Welcome and Call to Order | Anjie Shelby, Chair  The meeting was called to order by Anjie Shelby at 3:06 p.m. |
| Explanation of Virtual Platform and Accessibility | Alison Whyte, DDC Exec. Dir. briefly explained the access features of the meeting, including ASL interpreters, real-time captions, and Spanish interpretation. |
| Introductions and Membership Changes | Anjie Shelby invited DD Councilmembers and staff to introduce themselves. Alison Whyte indicated that there are incoming and outgoing Councilmembers present. For voting purposes, incoming Councilmembers will not be asked to vote at today’s meeting. |
| Review of Previous Meeting Minutes   1. March 16, 2023 Minutes 2. June 22, 2023 Minutes | Ricardo Thornton, the Vice Chair called for a vote on Minutes from the 3/16/23 and 6/22/12 meetings.   * March 16, 2023: Motion: Yetta Myrick, Second: Cheri Mallory, **Vote: Approved** * June 22, 2023: Motion: Bernard Crawford, Second: Yetta Myrick, **Vote: Approved** |
| Welcome, New Councilmembers! Thank You, Veteran Councilmembers! | Anjie Shelby extends a heartfelt welcome to new members and invites their input and expertise to help bring positive change. Anjie also extends her goodbye to the five members leaving the Council after years of incredible service to DC’s residents with DD and their families.  Alison Whyte extends her gratitude to Cheri Mallory, Montezz Green, School Talk - Sarah Grime and Naisha Dembele, and Ricardo Thorton (the longest serving member of the DD Council).  Ricardo Thornton and Cheri Mallory extend their gratitude to the Council for the opportunities it provided. |
| Brief Overview of DD Councilmember Responsibilities | Alison Whyte provides a brief overview of DD Councilmember responsibilities, and the vision and goals of the Council. |
| Chairperson Remarks   1. Commission on Persons with Disabilities | Anjie Shelby shared that the Commission meets monthly and welcomes everyone. |
| Election of Leadership Roles (Vote Required via secret ballot)   1. Vice Chairperson 2. Co-Chair, APP Comm. | Alison Whyte asked Councilmembers to look out for an email to vote for Vice Chairperson. The previous vote did not receive quorum.  The Co-Chair of the Advocacy and Public Policy Committee will be elected by that Committee. |
| State Plan Committee - Grantee Updates   1. Grant Review Committee Recruitment 2. Grantee Presentations | Jane Brown, Committee Chair, and Luz Collazo, DDC Staff reviewed the work of the State Plan Committee and invited grantees to share updates.  Family Ties of DC  Rhonda White introduced herself and reviewed FY23 successes from Family Ties of DC:   * Parent Summit Part 2, “What about you, the Caregiver?” on Monday September 25, 2023, for the parents and caregivers who are taking care of someone with a disability * September 28, 2023, 12-1:30 pm will be the day of a Q&A for parents to obtain support and help   Special Olympics  Marianelly Johnson, of Special Olympics DC spoke about the Athlete Leadership Training. Athletes have a choice on how they lead in the special Olympics. The roles are Athlete Representative, Sports Leader, Health Manager, Event Coordinator, and Global Messenger.   * Family Engagement Champion Event was held on September 20, 2023 at Busboys & Poets.   From Lives Apart to Lives Together  Sarah Grime gave the following update:   * March 1, 2023 was a screening of the oral histories collected thus far, and a panel discussion with the creators. This event gathered nearly 100 people. * Youth editors on the project have helped produce content for the videos.   My Body, My Choice  Erica Thomas shared that the purpose of the project is to help define body autonomy and understand how to set boundaries.   * There were ten sessions: 7 via ZOOM and 3 in person. There was a Spanish interpreter. * Erica Thomas went into detail about each of the sessions then showed a picture from a self-defense class.   Next Chapter Book Club  Erica Thomas shared that their book club meets every Wednesday from 5-6 PM. She shared quotes from book club participants.  DC Social Hikes  Maria Stangherlin shared that DC Social Hikes provides and inclusive environment for children with developmental disabilities. They go on hikes and runs in nature every Saturday. |
| Advocacy and Public Policy Committee Updates   1. New Advocacy Agenda for FY23-24 | Ricardo Thornton, Committee Co-Chair says there will be a meeting coming up to review the Advocacy Agenda. Committee members should look for an email from Alison. |
| Presentation: Special Education Hub | Trianna Downing and Jenifer Souza-Dodds gave a presentation about the Special Education Hub, a tool to help individuals, families, and advocates access information about special education in DC. <https://specialeducation.dc.gov/> |
| DD Council Executive Director Report   1. FY24 Budget Update 2. Bridging Aging and Disability Networks Grant Update 3. Staffing and Public Health Workforce Update 4. Website Updates | Alison Whyte shared that a proposed FY24 budget was not ready yet. This will be presented at the next meeting. Councilmember stipends for FY23 will be processed by September 30, 2023 and checks should come out in October. The Aging and Disability work has been focused on future planning – there was a 3-part series in August that will be put on the DD Council website. Xavier Peeples is introduced for work done on COVID-19 and Long COVID awareness. Kevin Wright reminded Councilmembers to share their bio and photo for DD Council website updates. |
| DD Council Organizational Representatives Updates   1. DD Network – Disability Rights DC at University Legal Services and Georgetown University Center for Excellence in Developmental Disabilities 2. Health Services for Children with Special Needs (HSCSN) 3. Advocates for Justice and Education (AJE) 4. Department on Disability Services (DDS) 5. Department of Aging and Community Living (DACL) 6. Office of the State Superintendent of Education (OSSE) 7. Department of Health Care Finance (DHCF) 8. DC Health 9. Project ACTION! | Organization Representatives:   * Robin Shaffert discussed the work being done by the UCEDD. * Anna Dunn (HSCSN) gave a brief update on HSCSN work. * Andrew Reese (DDS) spoke about two conferences coming up – Latinx Conference on Disabilities (September 30th) and Mayor’s Disability Expo and Technology Fest (October 21st) * Charon Hines (DACL) speaks about programs and services being given to those in the Aging and Community Living community. * Nikki Stewart (OSSE) talks about special education performance reports coming out on September 29th via the OSSE website. * Simileoluwa Ekundayo (DC Health) gave a brief update. * Ricardo Thornton (Project ACTION) spoke about the recent PA! board meeting. |
| Public Comments & Community Announcements | Rosemary McDonnell (HSEMA) encouraged everyone to check out the Office of Disability Rights’ newsletter for October, which featured an article written about emergency preparedness and response.  Bernard Crawford expressed his gratitude for those who are leaving the DD Council. |
| Conclusion and Adjournment | Anjie Shelby concluded the meeting. The next meeting will be in December. Meeting is adjourned at 5:08 p.m. |