

FULL COUNCIL MEETING

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

July 18, 2013
3:00 PM

MINUTES

MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE

Tina Campanella, Chair
L. Thomas Mangrum, Jr
Antonia Brathwaite Fisher
Kathy Gosselin
Alisa Jackson-Gray

Ricardo Thornton
Cathy Anderson
Susan Maclean
Tiffany Smallwood
Victor Robinson

STAFF

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

OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE

Dana Fink, Institute for Educational Leadership
Elie Simato, Personal Assistant
Erin Leveton, Department Disability Services
Leila Peterson, Schooltalk
Sara Grimes, Schooltalk
Griffin Vornor, National Association of Council on Developmental Disabilities (NACDD)
Hillary Spears, NACDD
Latonya Brooks, I'm Determined Youth Conference (IDYC)
Teriana Cox, IDYC
Terrana Cox, IDYC
Tamara Hill, IDYC
Ron Smith, Student, DCAP

CALL TO ORDER

Tina Campanella, Chair, Developmental Disabilities Council, welcomed everyone and stated the DDC has an important Executive Session that we need to get done today so we will be closing out the public portion of this meeting a little early. She then stated the first thing we typically like to do (since the meetings are open to the public and we often get guest) is to go around the room and have everyone introduce him/herself. Following introductions, the Chair called the meeting to order.

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REVIEW/APPROVAL OF MINUTES (October 18,, 2012)

The Chair stated everyone should have received a copy of the January 17, 2013 and April 25, 2013 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 of January 17, 2013 and April 25, 2013. The motion was seconded and passed.

CHAIR REPORT

Welcome New DDC Members - The Chair informed the membership that three new members have been appointed to the DDC. They include Amber Keohane, Tiffany Smallwood and Alisa Jackson-Gray. She went on to say that Tiffany Smallwood (who is in attendance today) is a graduate from the first class of the DC Advocacy Partners Program so this shows that our dreams have started to fulfill themselves. We are starting to bring up folks who are ready to step-up and take leadership roles. The Chair then asked Ms. Smallwood if she would like to add anything.

Ms. Smallwood stated she is involved in many things one of which is epilepsy because her daughter has epilepsy. However, IEPs and DC Public Schools is what she would really like to focus on and whatever she can do, she is here to help and looks forward to working with the DDC.

The Chair stated that diversity is going to be very important and she is sure those issues will come sooner than you think. Nevertheless, we want to focus on the life-span and are glad to have her on board. Another graduate of the DC Partners Program is Ms. Alisa Jackson-Gray.

The Chair advised that the DDC will be talking about a potential retreat in Executive Session and one of the reasons we want to do that is because we have new members and we need to think about our leadership group and reconstituting that.

DDS & DDC Awarded Community of Practice: Supporting Families Throughout the Lifespan Grant - The Chair stated there was some exciting news about the Department on Disability Services and DDC being included in a National Community of Practice around Supporting Families asked Cathy Anderson or Erin Leveton to address this since they both attended the national meeting.

Cathy Anderson, Director, Department on Disability Services (DDS)/Developmental Disabilities Administration (DDA), stated the Community of Practice: Supporting Families Throughout the Lifespan Grant is a joint partnership with the Administration on Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities and the National Association of State Directors of Developmental Disabilities Services. Five states (the District of Columbia, Connecticut, Oklahoma, Tennessee and Washington) were selected to participate. She went on to say Missouri is sort of the sixth state (if you will), because Missouri was where they piloted and tested this whole process of supporting families throughout the lifespan and they are excited about it. The national meeting included a day and a half of intense information sharing. Coming up at the end of August, the DDS and DDC will hold their first meeting with their federal partners here in District of Columbia (DC). This will be a two-day event. The first day will be with the state team and the second day will be with their broader stakeholder groups. This is a five-year grant with an opportunity to be a part of this learning community and

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really figure out how to support families across the lifespan. She thinks one thing that they really drove home (which was exciting) was that this is not just a program or a menu of services. It is about supporting families across the lifespan.

The Chair reiterated the national kick-off has occurred and, as Ms. Anderson said, there is more to come. She thinks this is something we will definitely want to support in the coming years. She then thanked Ms. Anderson.

August 6th TASH Local Host Committee Kick-Off Event - The Chair informed the membership that the TASH local host committee has been working and doing some planning in preparation of the National TASH Conference coming to DC in 2014. In regards to that, the local host committee has extended an invitation for others to join them at a kick-off reception August 6, 2013 at the Renaissance Hotel. At this kick-off reception, participants will connect with others and learn more about the annual TASH Conference. They will also learn what participating on the local host committee entails. She stated that additional information on this event is included in today's folder.

Other Thoughts – The Chair stated the DDC had another productive year and, as she said earlier, we did have some turn over but we were able to get new members and continuity has stayed strong in terms of our projects in spite of some challenges like the sequester and we have been able to move forward. She thinks it is a real testament not only to community support but also to the staff (Mat, Sudie and Denice) for their efforts to help keep things moving forward and maintaining our momentum and she wanted to thank them.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Mat McCollough, Executive Director, DDC stated the DDC has been super involved over the last several months and he would like to begin his report with the "Achieving Employment First Conference" the University Center for Excellence in Developmental Disabilities (UCEDD) held back in June. He then asked that Toni Fisher provide a brief summary of the conference.

Toni Brathwaite Fisher, Associate Director, Georgetown University Center for Child and Human Development/University Center for Excellence in Developmental Disabilities, stated the conference entitled "Achieving Employment First" was done in support of what the Department on Disability Services and many others are doing as it relates to employment of people with disabilities. Other partners included the DDC, St. John's Community Services, Quality Trust, University Legal Services (our Protection and Advocacy Agency) and Project Action!. The conference was held on June 10, 2013 at the Kellogg Conference Center at Gallaudet University and the three tracts of workshops included Transition; Customized Employment; and Policy and Resources which were conducted by a cross section of local and national experts. Although it was a rainy day, they had a great turnout of 116 participants. Based upon the evaluation results, it was a good conference and the participants walked away feeling they got something out of it. She then thanked all of the partners for making this conference a success.

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Cathy Anderson interjected that DDS had about 20 – 25 of their staff to attend this conference. Afterwards at this weeks' DDA monthly town hall meeting (where all of our DDA staff come together), she asked them to present in small groups of two to four people and they spent an hour and a half going over what they learned, how they were going to use it, and what they thought were the biggest challenges. She thinks the information the staff shared was great and what they learned was amazing and she just wanted everyone to know that.

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

APSE National Conference (June 25-27, 2013) - The Executive Director and another member of the staff attended the APSE National Conference that was held in Indianapolis, IN on June 25 -27, 2013. There was a great emphasis on employment first at the conference and they were joined by our partners and colleagues from St. John Community Services and others that are on the Employment First Workgroup that we currently have. He thinks it was a great opportunity to get DC on the map in terms of APSE and we were one of the newest members in terms of the Employment First Network.

NACDD TA Institute & Annual Meeting (July 8-10, 2013) - The National Association of Councils on Developmental Disabilities (NACDD) held its Technical Assistance Institute on July 8, 2013. Later on that evening, NACDD, along with the DDC, co-hosted a reception welcoming all of the DD Council partners from across the United States to DC. The Executive Director extended his thanks to all of those who joined in that celebration.

The actual Annual Meeting entitled "*Mission Possible: Advancing Expectations in Our Communities*" was held June 9-10, 2013 and the DDC was asked to do a presentation on our employment initiative in DC. A copy of his presentation is included in today's folder for those who did not attend the conference.

In addition, the Executive Director has been reelected to serve another term on NACDD's Board and he is very happy about that.

July 30th: Invitation to Present – Society of Public Health Educators (SOPHE) Webinar - The Executive Director has been invited to present at the Society of Public Health Educators' Webinar. His presentation will be on the Affordable Care Act and its impact on people with disabilities.

August 1st: Invitation to Present – Community HealthCorps Program Development Institute & Grantee Meeting - The Executive Director has also been asked to present at the Community HealthCorps Program Development Institute and Grant Meeting on August 1, 2013. He was asked to speak about inclusiveness of individuals with disabilities in a service environment as it relates to program training and management. Although the Community HealthCorps is based in Maryland, their conference will be held in DC.

Affordable Housing Opportunity: Camden South Capitol - Included in today's folder is information on an Affordable Housing Opportunity provided by the Camden South Capitol for

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those who are looking for affordable housing. There are 12 apartment homes designated for low or moderate-income households.

In conclusion, the Executive Director stated he will be taking part in work dealing with the Accessible Taxi Program. Last year, the Council of the District of Columbia passed the Wheelchair Accessible Taxicab Parity Amendment Act to expand the number of wheelchair accessible taxicabs in DC. Currently there are 20 of those taxis on the streets, which were funded by the Council of Governments, and now it is our responsibility (the DC Metropolitan Area) to identify appropriate funding and bring taxicabs that are more accessible to DC. It is an ongoing process that he has been involved in and will continue be throughout 2013 and 2014.

FINANCIAL REPORT

Sudie Johnson, Program Analyst, DDC, provided a brief overview of the DDC Financial Report, which included the non-personnel year-to-date expenditures, other expenses and the projected uncommitted carryover. This information was also included in today's folder.

The Chair thanked Ms. Johnson for her report and asked if she would provide a full budget including personnel expenditure in her budget report for our next meeting.

DC SUPPORTING FAMILIES: COMMUNITY OF PRACTICE PROGRAM

The Chair advised that she knows she has already gone out of order and discussed the Community of Practice however, she asked if Ms. Anderson or Ms. Leveton had anything else they would like to add.

Ms. Anderson stated Erin Leveton is the facilitator for the group and asked if she would like to add anything.

Erin Leveton, Legislative and Policy Analyst, Department on Disability Services, stated it was very inspiring for her to be there and to hear the message from all of our national partners who are working on this and all of the different points. Sort of really seeing what we have to do to think about how we build these supports, listen to these families and work with families to kind of approach this in a different way, so that it is not a new Medicaid service. It is not a new waiver, but it is about collaborating with the community differently than we have before. The first kick-off event will be held in August and they are going to start reaching out to people that they already are connected with. The challenge will be reaching the people they don't know. She further stated that they will be working with everyone here and others they know who can help them identify some of those people so they can start building communication and trust with the entire group so we can develop this together.

DDC FUNDED PROGRAMS UPDATE

DC Advocacy Partners Program - Dana Fink, Assistant Project Coordinator, Center for Workforce Development, Institute for Education and Leadership (IEL) provided the following update. The DC Advocacy Partners Program is a free, nine-month training program, designed for self-advocates and family members of children with intellectual and developmental disabilities. It is in

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its second year and there are 21 participants in the current class. The program has held six out of its nine planned sessions and in their last session entitled “Influencing Federal and State Policy” they had guest speakers. The Partners practiced giving testimony on video tape about the impact of SSI and Medicaid. They gained a deeper understanding of some advocacy work as well. The seventh

Session, “Connecting Activities: Navigating the Community”, will be held this weekend. This session will be packed with everything from transportation, to housing, to assistive technology, to independent living, etc. The participants are also ramping up for their graduation, which will be held on September 21, 2013. IEL will be sending out a formal invitation to the membership and she hopes that everyone will be able to attend because that will be an opportunity to meet the class and hear presentations of their long-term projects. A copy of the upcoming sessions was included in the handouts and anyone interested in stopping by during one of the sessions, should contact her.

Get Involved DC! Program – The Chair informed the membership that we do not have a representative from Inclusion Research Institute here today to provide an update on this project; however, a summary of the upcoming schedule of events for this program is included in today’s folder of information.

Building Economic Strength Together - The Chair advised that the same holds true for the Building Economic Strength Together Program (no representative present); however, there is included in today’s folder a summary of upcoming activities related to this program. The Executive Director provided a brief summary of that information.

Social Role Valorization - The Chair advised there was a training session held in May. The Executive Director interjected that several services providers, family members and advocates attended that session. Currently they are in the process of trying to figure out when they should hold the Social Role Valorization Leadership Institute, which involves a more comprehensive period of time (four days). They want to get more of the service coordinators and service providers involved and are currently in communication with the Department on Disability Services but may have to wait until the spring of 2014 when things are not as busy as they are now. He stated he would keep the membership updated on what is happening with this program throughout the summer.

JULY 27, 2013 PROJECT ACTION! Self-Advocacy Conference:

The Chair asked if any of the Project Action! members present would like to say a few words about the upcoming conference.

Victor Robinson stated that what they are trying to do in terms of the Project Action! Conference entitled “Keys to a Better Life” is to educate and get more people involved in self-advocacy. There will be sessions such as Keys to Getting and Keeping a Job, Keys to Serving on a Board, etc. that will be led by self-advocates including himself, Ricardo Thornton and Ryan King. He then disseminated information on the upcoming conference along with the registration form for anyone interested in attending.

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Following a brief discussion, the Chair asked if everyone could help push promotion for this conference during this last week, and it would be greatly appreciated.

SEEKING PUBLIC COMMENTS: Home & Community Based Services Waiver

Ms. Leveton informed the membership that the Department on Disability Services (DDS) is in the process of revising all of the rules governing the Home and Community Based Services waiver for People with Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities (“HCBS IDD waiver”). There are 26 sets of new rules that will be forthcoming. The first set has already come out and many of those are like general provisions such as, eligibility for the waiver and provider qualifications, those types of things. Those rules were published on July 12, 2103 in the DC Register with a thirty day comment period. She doesn’t have a publication schedule for the remaining sets of rules that will be coming out yet. However, DDS plans to put them up on their website as they are published with a link

to the official website so that everyone can take a look at them. She also sends the rules out to a group of people who have asked her for them and stated she’d be happy to send them to anyone else who asks.

PRESENTATION – I’m Determined Conference: Guest Speakers Teriana Cox & Tamara Hill

Teriana Cox and Tamara Hill both shared their experiences at the I’m Determined Youth Summit, which is a self-advocacy program that helps young men, and women with a variety of disabilities become better advocates and lead more self-determined lives. The summit was held June 19-21, 2013 at James Madison University in Harrisburg, VA. They both agreed that they learned a lot about how to advocate for themselves, which they felt, was very important. The group then thanked Sarah Grime and Ms. Peterson from Schooltalk DC for even opening up this opportunity to Teriana and Tamara because it was originally only for Virginia Students. They also thanked the DDC for their support in securing the groups transportation to and from the summit.

The Chair thanked the group for coming to the meeting and sharing their experiences and stated that we look forward to contributing lots more in the future.

RESOURCES & ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Executive Director announced that information on the following resources were included in today’s folder: CESI Debt Solutions dealing with financial services; and the CESI’s Assure Financial Services & Education for Caregivers of senior citizens or persons with disabilities.

The Chair announced that the Administration on Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities has recently put out an announcement for Technical Assistance Grants to coalitions of groups to try to advance some of the self-advocacy movements. In this regard, DC has been contacted by two groups to be involved. There are two opportunities, one of which would put the self-advocates here in somewhat of a leadership role in collaborating with other organizations around not so much doing technical assistance for other people but making sure that the network shares their resources. This will be sort of a community of practice model where people who know a certain thing, but may not know another thing, share their strengths and experiences that they developed over the years with one another. She stated this will come together quickly over the next week or

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so and we should have more information about that application and the potential for perhaps the self-advocates taking on that role as we go forward. She knows the advocates will want everyone's support.

The Chair also announced that Quality Trust's annual Cruising for a Cause is coming up on Sunday, July 28, 2013 and there are still a few tickets left if anyone is interested. Teriani Cox has been invited to be one of the guest speakers on the cruise so that people who attend can hear directly from adults and youth who are really the beneficiaries of some of what Quality Trust does.

UPCOMING EVENTS

The Chair stated we have already talked about a number of the events that are noted on today's agenda including the Get Involved DC! Program, the BEST Training, the Project Action! Conference and the TASH Kick-Off Event. Other announcements included, DC Sibs in the City, which will be held October 19, 2013, and the Annual Moving Forward Together Secondary Transition & Community Forum, which will be held October 25-26, 2013 at Martin Luther King Jr. Memorial Public Library.

The Chair then announced that this concludes the public portion of this meeting and asked that non-members transition out so that the membership could finish conducting its business.

ADJOURNMENT

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

NEXT MEETING DATE

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

Respectfully submitted,

Denice McCain
Staff Assistant