



FULL COUNCIL MEETING

DRAFT MINUTES

Friday, May 20, 2022

10:00 AM – 12:00 PM

3839 North Third Street, Suite 306

Phoenix, Arizona 85012

Pursuant to A.R.S. § 38-431.01 (G), the Arizona Developmental Disabilities Planning Council and its standing and ad-hoc committees may obtain public comment if it so desires. A formal call to the public will take place at the end of the meeting. Members of the Board may not discuss items that are not specifically identified on the agenda. Meeting was conducted by teleconference.

Council Members Present

Melissa Van Hook, Chair

J.J. Rico, Vice Chair

Laura Bellucci

Kin Chung-Counts

Monica Cooper

Vanessa Felix

Erik Jensen

Katharine Levandowsky

Kristen Mackey

Wendy Parent-Johnson

James Rivera

Kelly Roberts

Vijette Saari

Mary Slaughter

Mateo Tree Top

Council Members Absent

Meghan Cox

Bianca Demara

Benjamin Kauffman

Kristen Lopez

Janna Murrell

Gabriela Orozco

Council Staff

Jon Meyers, Executive Director

Marcella Crane, Contracts Manager

Steve Freeman, Director of Communications

Michael Leyva, Contracts/Grants Coordinator

Lani St. Cyr, Fiscal Manager

Jason Snead, Research & Communications Specialist

Member of the Public

Kirk Cree, Community Outreach Coordinator, DES/DDD

Lionel Delgado, Community Advocate

A. Call to Order/Welcome and Introductions

Chairperson Melissa Van Hook welcomed everyone to the Arizona Developmental Disabilities Planning Council (ADDPC or Council). Meeting was called to order at 10:04 AM. Introduction of Council members and roll call completed.

B. Minutes from March 18, 2022, Meeting

Chairperson Melissa Van Hook identified an error to correct in the Minutes. Katharine Levandowsky also wanted a correction. Staff will correct the Minutes and repost. A motion was called to approve Minutes, with the identified concerns to correct. Monica Cooper approved the motion, seconded by Vijette Saari. The motion carried.

C. Fiscal / Contract Update

Lani St. Cyr reviewed the ADDPC Financial Update and explained the Council has approximately \$79,300 in FY 2020 funds remaining to be spent. The Administration for Community Living (ACL) has provided a one-time no cost extension for FY 2020 funds. Under this directive the obligation and project periods have been extended through September 30, 2022. The liquidation of funds and final reports will need to be completed by December 31, 2022. There currently is no extension for FY 2021 funding, but it was mentioned at the Technical Institute on May 5th an extension for FY 2021 funds is now being considered.

The Council has received the full allotment for FY 2021, in the amount of \$1,500,930 and has received a reallocation of FY 2021 funds from Puerto Rico in the amount of \$34,412, bringing the Council's total funding for FY 2021 to \$1,535,342. It has fully obligated the award amount and has met the September 2022 deadline; however, the work must be completed within the same timeframe. The Council currently has until September 30, 2023, to liquidate FY 2021 funds. Approximately \$796,337 remains to be liquidated.

The Council has received the remaining allotment for FY 2022 in the amount of \$924,752. This brings the total amount received to \$1,500,930, which is the amount previously estimated and is level to FY 2021 funding excluding the Puerto Rico reallocation. The obligation and project period are through September 30, 2023, with the liquidation of funds through September 30, 2024.

Next, the Council Funded Projects sheet was reviewed. The Committee was informed that the Sonoran UCEDD-Sexual Abuse Research project has been given another three-month no cost extension, so it is now running through September 30, 2022. Also, the Self-Advocacy Coalition project being conducted by the Southwest Institute for Families and Children has been given another three-month no cost extension, so it is now running through June 30, 2022. Finally, the Technology Enabled Employment project conducted by Northern Arizona University's Institute for Human Development has been granted a two-month no-cost extension through August 31, 2022.

Next, an update was given on the additional award of \$84,288 received for COVID-19 specific projects and vaccine hesitancy. These funds are being tracked and reported on separately. The funds must be obligated and work completed by September 30, 2022. To date the Council has spent \$23,063 and has encumbered \$55,498, which leaves an available balance of \$5,728.

Finally, the Budget Recommendation document showed items to be funded based on the workplan recommendations. The two renewal projects and the Conference Sponsorship RFGA were highlighted and budgeted for. It was noted that the amounts budgeted exceed what is being proposed by around \$77K.

- ACESDV was budgeted at \$27,900 and is requesting \$23,462.
- Prevent Child Abuse was budgeted at \$36,400 and is requesting \$18,970.
- Conference Sponsorships was budgeted at \$75K and the recommended projects total \$19,760.

D. Executive Director Report

Jon Meyers reported on the following agenda items:

- Michael Coen resignation/Council vacancies:
Jon was recently notified that Councilmember Michael Coen resigned from DES-DAAS and thus from the Council. His position leaves open a position to be filled from someone whose position is affiliated with the Older Americans Act. Jon will find out from our federal representative if this vacancy can be lenient and filled by someone who is not with DES but receives and/or works with receiving these federal funds (e.g. a representative from the Area Agency on Aging). The other position to be filled is a self-advocate position. Jon will also be speaking to those Council members whose term expires September 30, 2022.
- State Plan 2022 – 2026 Federal Feedback:
ACL provided Councils feedback on the five-year plan that was submitted last year. Staff met to develop a plan to correct the information that ACL needs when the Verity system is open for Councils to submit revisions. Revisions to the State Plan are due by August 15, 2022. To summarize the areas, Jon and staff are addressing the following items:
 - Council membership: We'll be updating the current list of membership.
 - DSA question: Staff was able to locate the original DSA designation of DES through a 1978 Executive Order establishing the Council under Governor Babbitt. The E.O. specifically lists DES as the Designated State Agency.
 - Goal Restatements: All of the goals were rewritten to conform to the requirement that they be measurable and timebound. Staff is still reworking the Self-Advocacy goal to meet the specific requirements per the DD Act.
 - We still need to restate a Targeted Disparity population.
- Programmatic Progress Reports 2020 & 2021:
Jon stated that we're still waiting for feedback on both PPRs for both fiscal years 2020 and 2021, which were submitted on February 28.
- Covid-19 Public Health Workforce within the Disability Network:
Jon stated the first set of monies for Covid projects is still be worked on. Both contractors are using the funds to survey parental attitudes about their children receiving vaccines for Covid-19. Another project idea will be developing resources for pediatric offices so that parents of children with I/DD have access to information. Funds must be used by September 30, 2022.
The second round of Covid-19 funds: DD Councils received notification of the additional monies for Covid-19 response in the amount of \$95,319 from the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) of 2021. These are one-time funding awards and funds must be used by September 30, 2024, to cover wages and benefits for public health professionals (directly or through contract) as well as the costs associated for equipment, training and supplies. Jon and Mary Slaughter have discussed different ideas on how these funds could be used. Kristen Mackey stated they are also receiving these funds as part of their oversight of statewide independent living center or SILC. Kristen expressed interest in collaborating with the Council to avoid duplication of efforts. In previous meetings, J.J. Rico of the ACDL is also a recipient of these funds and encourages collaboration of these dollars.
- NACDD Annual Conference:
NACDD Annual Conference is scheduled July 19-22, 2022, in Washington, D.C. Jon Meyers plans on attending and he welcomes Council members to join him. Earlier in the week, information was sent via email for Council members to review. There is a registration deadline and other travel requirements to comply with, if attending.

E. Committee/Roundtable Reports

1. Grants Committee:

New Funding - Conference Sponsorship: Marcella Crane provided a brief overview of the competitive solicitation for Conference Sponsorships. The RFGA was released on February 8, 2022, and applications were due on March 10. The maximum amount to apply for was \$5,000. A total of 8 organizations submitted applications and an outside evaluation committee was convened to review each proposal against the scope of work.

Contractors are required to provide their Conferences online (due to Covid-19 concerns); may request a registration fee, if necessary; provide all materials and resources in accessible formats if requested; provide ASL or other accommodations; and conduct outreach to unserved and underserved communities to participate. In addition, contractors are required to conduct a survey, after the event, and track the number of attendees and other demographic data for the Council. After a thorough evaluation and reviewing additional clarification responses, the committee is recommending the following for a one-year contract:

Special Olympics of AZ: \$4,928

SOAZ proposes the Athlete Leadership Program (ALP) designed to provide athletes, individuals with I/DD with the necessary skills to develop their personal and professional leadership skills that they can apply in their home, their team as athletes, and their own communities. The training will empower athletes to utilize their voices and abilities to undertake meaningful leadership roles, influence change, and create inclusive communities in AZ. The ALP will be implemented by SOAZ athletes, for other athletes, as their ideas and opinions will drive the direction of the program. Participants will meet on October 10-15, 2022, through half day workshops on various topics, that will build upon their own leadership skills, opportunities to lead events, and engage in speaking opportunities. Topics such as leadership development, use of social media, public speaking practices, and other topics will be covered by speakers during the training. The overall purpose is to train individuals with I/DD in various areas of leadership, and to pursue opportunities to serve their communities, so that they can live more self-determined lives.

Spina Bifida Association of AZ: \$4,832

SBAAZ proposed conference theme, "My Team: Experience Self-Determination and Repel Bullying", will spotlight healthy relationships and self-image for individuals with I/DD and their sibling(s); identify perspective and role of the caregiver; provide training to establish a strong self-advocacy and personal responsibility; and provide resources to assist with repelling bullying. The target audience are parents/caregivers of children with I/DD that are preschool through elementary age (0-8). It is important to note that this training is not meant to change the bully or the system that allows it, but to strengthen the child in their own identity and acceptance of their disability to make them impervious to bullying in that they are able to identify who has the problem and not internalize nor own as true attacks. Speakers have been identified, the conference will take place on February 11, 2023, and will be recorded and shared with other disability groups.

The Opportunity Tree: \$5,000

The Opportunity Tree proposes to conduct online information sessions for the families of their members, on the theme of sexual education. Online sessions will be offered for parents/caregivers, as the first step in offering comprehensive sexual education to their members. These introductory sessions will cover the following general topics, to include Understanding healthy boundaries; Healthy sexuality and healthy relationships; Internet, social media, and communications; How to recognize sexual abuse; How and where to report abuse; What to expect when a report is made; The right to be free from retaliation; and how to access trauma-informed counseling and other resources. Training topics will be offered quarterly during the contract period over Zoom (final dates to be determined). In addition, The Opportunity Tree has identified their qualified speaker who is already certified by Elevatus Training to be a sexuality educator and trainer for people with I/DD.

The University of Arizona/Sonoran UCEDD: \$5,000

The UA Sonoran UCEDD will host two 6-hour virtual conferences titled, "I/DD, Aging, Dementia: Screening, Support Adaptation & Access to a Support Network". The purpose of this proposed conference theme is to disseminate accurate information, discuss available tools, and present resources for caregivers/support teams who care for people with I/DD and are affected by Dementia. Tentative four topic areas include: Background/ID & Screening; Planning for the quality of life through the process; Adapting goals/daily activities/support; and Accessing support and services. Three speakers will be identified for each topic. By educating caregivers and support teams of people for people with I/DD with Dementia, the Sonoran UCEDD expects to enhance, strengthen, and expand access to accurate and user-friendly information.

The following applications were also reviewed but were not recommended for an award due to lack of information and/or did not comply with the requirements of the scope of work. They include Arts for All; Autism Society of Greater Phoenix; Epic Disability; and Premier Alliances.

Chairperson Melissa Van Hook called for a motion to approve the four applications under the Conference Sponsorship RFGA. The motion was made by Vijette Saari. The motion was seconded by Kristen Mackey. Wendy Parent-Johnson abstained. The motion carried.

Renewal Funding - Lani St. Cyr provided the summary of the following two renewals for Council approval. The first renewal application is from The Arizona Coalition to End Sexual and Domestic Violence (ACESDV), and is requesting renewal funding in the amount of \$23,462 to continue providing training statewide to reduce sexual assault of individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities. They will provide training to service providers focusing on the causes and impacts of sexual assault among those with disabilities, and how to identify, report, and prevent these abuses.

The target population includes staff at group homes, day treatment centers, independent living centers, community-based disability advocacy organizations, and long-term care facilities. To date they have conducted outreach to 120 providers, exceeding their goal of 50. They had 149 people register and 82 attend their first training held on March 31, 2022. This brought them close to their 100-attendee goal. They also had a training scheduled for April 20th and another for May 23rd, which we do not have data for yet, but they are on track to exceed their target. Their first training was delayed due to Covid-19. All trainings have been scheduled to be online and are being recorded and posted to ensure continued community education and engagement. They are also working to overcome technology challenges experienced during the first training. Survey results have been positive with attendees stating either some or all the training will be useful for their work.

For year two, they will continue working with the same partners (The Opportunity Tree, The Arc of Arizona, the DD Planning Council, and the Arizona Statewide Independent Living Council). They anticipate their staffing to be similar and the program design and evaluation process to remain the same. They plan on:

1. Updating the sexual assault curriculum for I/DD service providers
2. Conducting outreach to 100 I/DD service providers in Arizona, and
3. Training 150 I/DD Providers

Their provider outreach is statewide and includes those in rural areas and those serving indigenous or Native populations. They have worked with the Southwest Indigenous Women's Coalition in identifying their outreach targets as well as government partners such as DDD.

Chairperson Melissa Van Hook called for a motion to approve the Education on Reducing and Responding to Abuse proposal submitted by ACESDV in the amount of \$23,462. The motion was made by Monica Cooper. The motion was seconded by Erik Jenson. The motion carried.

Renewal Application: Prevent Child Abuse AZ

Lani provided a summary of the second-year renewal proposal for the Bringing the Protective Factors Framework to Life submitted by Prevent Child Abuse Arizona. Prevent Child Abuse Arizona in partnership with Care 4 the Caregivers is requesting renewal funding in the amount of \$18,970 to deliver up to 38 hours of training to professionals and families of individuals with I/DD through three different training curricula.

In the first year of the project, they adapted the Strengthening Families-Protective Factors Framework curriculum to include a special disability edition. This curriculum is designed specifically for professionals who work with families of individual with I/DD. They also designed two caregiver-specific trainings: After the Diagnosis, which supports families with knowledge and information after they have received a disability diagnosis for their child; and the Grandparent Connection, which supports grandparents of differently abled grandchildren to understand how to best support their grandchild's parents.

Their goal in the first year was to work with 150 families and at least six organizations by delivering:

- 9 Protective Factors Trainings
- 4 After the Diagnosis Trainings
- 4 Grandparent Connection Trainings

To date, they have adapted each of the three curricula. They have conducted 7 of the 9 Protective Factors Trainings to a total of 126 people from more than 10 organizations and have conducted 1 After the Diagnosis and 1 Grandparent Connection training, each with 9 participants. Covid-19 created a barrier to conducting in-person courses and created a lack of direct contact with caregivers in this population.

They were able to form many community partnerships in the first year including: Ability360, AARP, The Kinship Coalition, SARRC, and Guthrie. They plan on continuing these partnerships in the second year as well developing new partnerships with the Hope Group, Kyo, Bista, Easterseals, and The Children's Clinic in Tucson. They have discovered how to make the trainings more beneficial to Applied Behavioral Analysis (ABA) companies by offering continuing education credits for ABA therapists who take the training.

Post-training surveys have been positive and reflect that those that have received the training are changing their mindsets and how they work with families in the I/DD community. They plan on using Survey Monkey in the next year to strengthen the feedback they are capturing.

The goal for the second year is to deliver up to 38 hours of training with most of the time being spent delivering 15 2-hour Protective Factors Trainings to professionals. They also plan on delivering 1 After the Diagnosis Training and 1 Grandparent Connection training but will remain flexible to meet the needs and demand they find over the year. In total they would like to conduct between 17-20 trainings to 120 individuals with an overall impact to 200 families through the various trainings.

Chairperson Melissa Van Hook called for a motion to approve the Bringing the Protective Factors Framework to Life proposal submitted by Prevent Child Abuse Arizona in the amount of \$18,970, with the ability to increase their award amount to the original year 1 award if the contractor can secure the matching funds. The motion was made by Vijette Saari. The motion was seconded by Katharine Levandowsky. The motion carried.

2. System Access & Navigation Committee:

Mary Slaughter stated the committee met on May 16 to discuss the objectives and to further identify the target population that is overlooked, seniors with disabilities that are transitioning to retirement. The committee is seeking to address how to provide accurate and current information to individuals with I/DD and their families and what information is currently available. Rayla Pillar, a Program Manager of Employment with The Opportunity Tree, gathered information on resources for the elder population. The committee has discussed developing a survey to find out what do future retirees who are individuals with I/DD want in their retirement, and also to address what resources and supports are available and what would be needed. As previously stated, they are also discussing ways to use the PHWF Covid-19 monies to support this work.

3. Meaningful Careers Committee:

Melissa Van Hook provided the summary of work by the committee. The Council partnered with the DD Network (Sonoran UCEDD, Institute for Human Development, and Arizona Center for Disability Law), Arizona Employment First, and Arizona Association of People Supporting Employment First Chapter, to develop a series of six webinars around employment and transition. The series titled *Creating a Successful Path*, was launched April 14th, by Jon Meyers when he welcomed everyone to the first webinar and introduced Janna Murrell and Ceci Hartke from Raising Special Kids who presented *Imagining a Great Life for Your Son or Daughter*; 70 people attended. Everyone loved Janna and Ceci's presentation. One individual asked if they could present in schools. What an awesome opportunity that would be!

Melissa stated she had an opportunity to serve as moderator for the second webinar on May 12th. Betty Schoen from DES was the featured presenter, and she delivered an excellent presentation, *The Critical Role VR Plays in the Transition Process and Beyond*. We had 136 participants! Melissa was impressed with the planning, organization, and format of the webinar. The host and coordinator Jeff Javier from the Sonoran UCEDD made her and Betty feel comfortable. He set up the two ASL and CART interpreters, as well as the Spanish speaking interpreter. It was a lot to coordinate, but it all was handled smoothly and efficiently. Jeff did an amazing job! Betty did an excellent job sharing information on the role VR plays in the transition process. There were lots of questions and the feedback was very positive. We received 38 completed surveys which is a good response rate. Melissa stated she is confident the four remaining webinars will be great; they are scheduled the second Thursday of each month from 10 am - 11 am:

June 9: Yes, Your Child Can Attend College: Supporting Inclusive College Transition Practices

July 7: There is Another Path to Take: Apprenticeships and Career & Technical Education (CTE)

August 11: An Unexpected Journey: My Story Through a Person-Centered Planning Lens

September 8: Why Employment First Must Be a Priority in Arizona

The group will increase awareness and attendance for the remaining webinars and has a plan in place to help promote them which includes sending invitations, weekly reminders, encouraging individuals to invite others to participate, announcements in monthly newsletters, and utilizing social media. Staff will share analytics at the conclusion of the webinars. *Creating a Successful Path* is a great demonstration of true partnership and collaboration. On behalf of the Council, Melissa thanked all the partners, presenters, moderators, and staff for their hard work on putting the webinar series together.

Melissa reviewed the Meaningful Careers FY 2022 Work Plan with Council members. Melissa highlighted the status of various activities associated with the three objectives. The Provider Transformation activity has been delayed until meaningful discussions with employment service providers and Vocational Rehabilitation can take place that indicate there is broad support for the effort.

4. Behavioral Health & I/DD Committee:

Jason Snead stated the Behavioral Health and I/DD Committee established a core group to meet with different healthcare plans to further investigate the gap within the behavioral system in relation to crisis response. The core team met with Care1st on April 19, 2022; this agency handles crisis response in southern Arizona. The group discussed issues around communication between state agencies, which was a major area of concern. The agencies use a database to keep track of individuals that utilize the crisis system and notify the appropriate parties so that the individual can get the appropriate care. The Division of Developmental Disabilities (DDD) did not want to share the data with the group because they viewed it as "soft data". However, Care1st was willing to share their quarterly reports with the group. On May 3, 2022, the core group met with Mercy Care, which is the agency that handles crisis response in central Arizona. Mercy Care said that they would focus on training in the behavioral health arena regarding folks with I/DD and were interested in feedback from the community. Also, Mercy Care is interested in the way communication devices are treated in the behavioral health system. The core group had heard reports of individuals having their Augmentative and Alternative Communication (AAC) devices confiscated upon entry into a behavioral facility, which is a civil rights violation under the ADA. The core group is addressing this issue by drafting a letter to behavioral health agencies and government entities explaining the violation. Jon Meyers also mentioned the work around the 988-crisis number and the need to educate the policymakers of what individuals with I/DD encounter and that we all need to work together to improve crisis supports. Jason mentioned that it has been an absolute pleasure working with the core group that has a great deal of passion for this issue. There is still a lot of work to do.

F. Research Project Presentation

Melissa Van Hook stated that agenda Item F is tabled. Chellis Hall, a graduate student at ASU and intern with the Council, was not able to present at the Council meeting and his presentation will be rescheduled.

G. Announcements:

J.J. Rico stated that ACDL will soon post several job openings and is encouraging Council members to help spread the word.

Kelly Roberts stated that NAU/IHD's 2022 IHD Evidence for Success Hybrid Disability Conference will take place in Scottsdale June 20-21, 2022. Registration is open; however, the early bird discount rate ends on May 20, 2022. The website for information is <https://nau.edu/ihd/2022-ihd-conference/>

Vanessa Felix asked for information related to the ABLE accounts. Jason Snead will follow up with Vanessa. The website for information is <https://www.az-able.com>

H. Call to the Public:

Kirk Cree with DES/DDD appreciated attending the Council meeting.

Lionel Delgado is a consumer and stated his concern about the upcoming camp season, as restricting people with disabilities continues among various summer camp providers. Families and parents have brought up their concerns. Mr. Delgado would like for DES/DDD to address his concerns.

I. Adjourn:

Chairperson Melissa Van Hook adjourned the meeting at 11:30 AM.