



GRANTS AND CONTRACTS COMMITTEE

Friday, August 27, 2021

2:30 P.M. – 4:00 P.M.

3839 North 3rd Street, Suite 306, Phoenix, Arizona 85012

MINUTES

The Grants and Contracts Standing Committee meeting of the Arizona Developmental Disabilities Planning Council (ADDPC) was convened virtually Friday, August 27, 2021. Notice having been duly given. Present and absent were the following members of the ADDPC.

Members Present	
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Monica Cooper, Chairperson	Michael Coen
Bianca Demara	Kelly Roberts
Wendy Parent-Johnson	

Members Absent

Staff	Guests
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Lani St. Cyr, Staff	
Marcella Crane, Staff	
Erica McFadden, Staff	

A. Call to Order/Welcome

Chairperson Monica Cooper welcomed everyone to the Arizona Developmental Disabilities Planning Council (ADDPC or Council) Grants and Contracts Committee meeting. The meeting was called to order at 2:33 p.m. Roll call and participant introductions were completed.

B. Minutes from May 10, 2021 Meeting

Chairperson Monica Cooper asked members if they had a chance to review the minutes and if there were any changes. No changes were requested. Monica asked for a motion to accept the minutes as written. Motion was made by Bianca Demara; seconded by Michael Coen. The motion carried.

C. Fiscal/Contract Updates

Lani St. Cyr reviewed the ADDPC Financial Update. The Council has approximately \$124,200 in FY 2019 funds remaining to be spent by the end of this December (2021).

For FY 2020 there is approximately \$469,000 in funding remaining to be spent. The Administration for Community Living (ACL) is providing a one-time no cost extension for FY 2020 funds. Under this directive the obligation and project periods will be 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.

The Council has received the full allotment for FY 2021, in the amount of \$1,500,930 and there is approximately \$187,900 remaining to be obliged by September 2022. The Council has already identified projects for these funds and has contingency projects to cover contract awards that are not fully spent.

ACL has notified us there will be a reallocation of FY2021 funds from Puerto Rico. The amount is unknown, but funds will be reallocated after August 13, 2021 and before September 30, 2021.

Next, an update was given on the additional award received for COVID-19 specific projects in the amount of \$84,288. 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 \$8,007 and has encumbered \$70,553, which leaves an available balance of \$5,728.

Next, the Council Funded Projects sheet showed the Beacon Group- Model Training Program Year 2 was given a two-month no-cost extension through December 31, 2021. Native American Disability Law Center-Leadership Training Year 2- received a three-month no-cost extension through September 30, 2021 and pending formal request- another three-month no cost extension will be granted to the Sonoran UCEDD Sexual Abuse Research project. Finally, Southwest Institute for Families- Self-Advocacy Coalition- was granted a three-month no-cost extension. It was noted any outstanding invoices will be followed up on.

Finally, the Budget Recommendation document showed items to be funded based on the workplan recommendations. The two leadership training renewal proposals submitted by Native American Disability Law Center and the Arizona Peer and Family Coalition as well as the Supported Decision-Making renewal proposal submitted by Southwest Institute for Families and Children were not originally budgeted for additional renewals, however, there were enough surplus funds to cover these projects. The Native Center was never budgeted for but was always considered a contingency project. The funds are available to move forward with this project pending Council approval and with the expectation we will receive additional funding from Puerto Rico. We anticipate projects will not fully spend their award amounts, so contingency projects can be considered. The goal is to have FY2021 funding fully obligated in the first year, so projects can be completed in the second.

D. Self-Advocacy Leadership Training- Arizona Peer and Family Coalition

Marcella Crane gave an overview of the third-year renewal proposal submitted by the Arizona Peer and Family Coalition. In the past year they have been able to train 99 individuals (86 with I/DD and 13 professional stakeholders) (3 from the deaf and hard of hearing community and 15 from the Latino/Hispanic communities). They have developed two additional trainings (Civic Leadership Development 2.0 and Civic Leadership Development Mini-Training). They plan on educating another 25 individuals before the end of this contact period. They have referred three of their graduates for the board of directors with the Arizona Center for Disability Law.

They have discovered a desire for peer-to peer mentorship and individual support which they would like to provide in the third year. Also, in the third year, they plan to educate 80 individuals. They will have the option of taking one of three trainings (Civic Leadership Development, Civic Leadership Development 2.0 or Civic Leadership Development mini-training). 50 individuals with I/DD are expected to attend in person, with 15 additional in Spanish, and the others to view recorded sessions. There is expected to be two in-person trainings, one in Pima and the other in Maricopa Counties.

In addition, they plan to expand their program to offer 120 hours of peer-to-peer mentoring to 10-15 unique individuals with I/DD. This will include 1 hour per month of 1:1 individual guidance and education. They will continue to hold monthly meetings to check in with all program participants who have previously gone through the Civic Leadership Development trainings. Each participant will receive pre and post-tests to collect data as well as a survey 3 months following the training.

Chairperson Monica Cooper called for a motion to approve the Self-Advocacy Leadership third-year renewal proposal submitted by The Arizona Peer and Family Coalition in the amount of \$10,390. Motion was made by Bianca Demara; seconded by Kelly Roberts. The motion carried.

E. Self-Advocacy Leadership Training- Native American Disability Law Center

Marcella Crane gave an overview of the third-year renewal proposal submitted by the Native American Disability Law Center (NADLC) for Self-Advocacy Leadership Training. The Equal Native Youth Voices self-advocacy project focuses on Native American youth with intellectual and developmental disabilities and helps them to increase their understanding of their legal rights and develop their skills so they can speak for themselves.

They work with students in the Exceptional Student Services Program (ESS) at Greyhills Academy High School in Tuba City. In the last fiscal year, they worked with 15 students in grades 9-12. The curriculum is rooted in Dine (Navajo) philosophy and is centered on self-advocacy, employment and community inclusion. Results of surveys verify the program helps participants increase their understanding of their options, awareness of available supports, and ability to advocate for the services they need to help them achieve their goals.

This project gives young people the opportunity to practice speaking before others, identify their goals, and advocating for the supports necessary to achieve those goals. It had increased collaboration and links between various entities including the Navajo Advisory Council on Disabilities; Vocational Rehabilitation services; and introduced students to other young people advocating for themselves.

Zoom webinars have given students more confidence in voicing their thoughts and goals in employment and planning after they graduate. Consistent access to the internet has been a challenge due to lack of cellular signals. Lost connectivity contributed to difficulty in completing surveys during zoom sessions. The curriculum was also adjusted to have all students provide a final presentation on their career research, which included 23 students and staff. These presentations demonstrated the students understood the purpose and objectives of the VR agencies and they were able to reference transition services offered by Tribal and State VR services.

NADLC reached out to the Hopi VR Counselor to see if they can expand in that community in the third year of the project and it was determined that the need is there. They plan on developing a series of training for parents on IDEA provided through the zoom platform to VR Clients who are transitioning out of high school. These trainings will be modified to reflect the Hopi cultural philosophies. They are still working on finalizing the commitment for the project at both Greyhills Academy and in the Hopi community for the third year, but are coming up with alternatives, such as a webinar series titled Native Americans Empowered through Self-Advocacy. These would be held month September through June.

Chairperson Monica Cooper called for a motion to approve the Native American Disability Law Center's Self-Advocacy Leadership Training year three renewal proposal in the amount of \$37,933. Motion was made by Bianca Demara; seconded by Michael Coen. The motion carried.

F. Supported Decision-Making Pilot Project

Marcella Crane reviewed the year-four renewal proposal submitted by Southwest Institute for Families and Children (SWI) for the Supported Decision-Making pilot project. The main goal of the project is to increase the use of supported decision-making among people with intellectual and developmental disabilities as a less restrictive alternative to legal guardianship.

Over the course of 3 years, they have conducted various trainings in person the online about supported decision-making to various groups of people including people with I/DD and their parents and caregivers, education professionals, social service providers, and medical staff. Curriculum is offered for free in both English and Spanish on SWI's website. They also offer training videos with downloadable worksheets corresponding to each for each chapter of the curriculum.

During the current year they have provided 9 presentations to 61 participants through formal classes. They were invited to present at 10 other conferences and meetings about supported decision-making where they presented to another 205 people. They plan to complete two online presentations in August and another two in September and will be presenting at the Self-Advocacy Solutions Self-Advocates Conference in September. They would like to plan more face-to-face events, but the online meetings have allowed them to reach a broader more geographically diverse audience, with participants across the country.

While they were unable to have the supported decision-making bill pass through legislation this year, they have had considerable success communicating the importance of supported decision-making to the legislators. The bill passed with a nearly unanimous vote in the House of Representatives, however, it lost by one vote in the Senate. They believe they will have greater support and a better outcome next year.

As part of the year-four renewal SWI will continue to partner with The Arc of Arizona and Arizona Center for Disability Law. SWI will implement a new program called Supported Decision-Making Academy, in which individuals with IDD and their families and caregivers will develop their own supported decision-making agreements. Over two months, participants will be given weekly homework assignments to implement the lessons learned within their own lives. At the end of the two-month course, participants will graduate with their own fully developed supported decision-making agreement in place. With their partners they plan on providing five separate courses throughout the year. They aim to recruit 10-15 participants per course including individuals with IDD and parents/caregivers and provide continued technical assistance.

They will also continue and plan to provide a minimum of 10 trainings to relevant stakeholders such as educators, social service providers, medical staff, and legal professionals. They will continue to pursue legislation on the state level. They will work with legislators to push forward a bill that recognized supported decision-making as a viable alternative to legal guardianship and provides protections for individuals with disabilities who choose to use supported decision-making agreements in their lives. They will also work to educate the public about supported decision-making legislation and encourage individuals to speak with our legislator to support any bill that is introduced to the legislature.

Chairperson Monica Cooper called for a motion to approve the year-4 Supported Decision-Making pilot proposal submitted by Southwest Institute for Families and Children in the amount of \$59,243. Motion was made by Bianca Demara; seconded by Michael Coen. The motion carried.

G. Arizona Native Disability Center Proposal

Erica McFadden gave an overview of the Arizona Native Disability Center proposal submitted by the Sonoran UCEDD and explained that it had been reviewed previously by

the Executive Committee. This project will establish an Arizona Tribal focused Native Center based on the Oyate Circle model that was developed in South Dakota, which will increase knowledge of disability services, advocacy, and programs available to the 22 reservation communities and off-reservation urban communities. Talking Circles will be held across reservation communities and in cities with a high Native population to capture urban Indian perspectives and needs. This approach is proven to be an effective strategy to gather data, input, needs assessments, comparative analysis and discussion/listening sessions for inclusion from native communities and people with disabilities.

This proposal is for a 4-year planning, development and implementation process. The focus is on the tribal members with disabilities, which has the highest rate of disability of any other cultural group. The outcome is to enhance trainings and support for Tribal members with disabilities and create an infrastructure foundation for future sustainable collaborative partnerships and program development. The Native Center will provide on-site and virtual trainings, continuing education, workshops and provide a hub for Tribal partners that want to improve services for Tribal members with disabilities.

The first year will have at least 6 talking circles. A minimum of 4 talking circles will be in different areas of the state (northeast, northwest, central, southern) with the other two will be held in Phoenix and Tucson. The talking circles will inform what is needed and determine the solution as to how the Native Center will be created and what services and supports will be provided.

Also, in the first year the Sonoran Center will conduct a search to hire a tribal member to be the Director of the Native Center. They will ensure they have extensive experience in human services with a preference of disability specific professional and personal experience. This person will be expected to administer the Native Center as well as conduct the talking circles activities. Jim Warne will serve as Executive Director and Adviser to the new Director and Wayne Weston of the South Dakota program will serve as a contractor conducting administrative training and support for the new hire.

The Sonoran Center will be the primary sponsor and the new Center will serve as host for the 18th Annual American Indian Disability Summit and the 2nd Annual American Indian Disability Youth Summit. Three Native Center events outside of talking circles will occur and relationship and trust building as well as enhanced partnerships and the creation of new partnerships will be a focus. They also plan on the following activities:

- Present and train within the university to ensure effective and positive experience for tribal members
- Introduce new curriculum for the university to potentially gain new courses addressing Native and indigenous disability issues and approach
- Attend and present at 3-4 tribal events for engagement and marketing
- Begin new curriculum development for ongoing university coursework and community training/continuing education opportunities

- Develop and provide 2-3 webinars based on Talking Circle outcomes
- Create a website presence that will be housed on the Sonoran Center's website
- Design a minimum of three resources to respond to identified areas of requested information during Talking Circles and share on website, social media, and list serves
- Provide half-day virtual education events for state agency personnel to include vocational rehabilitation, developmental disabilities, and AHCCCS.

Chairperson Monica Cooper called for a motion to adjourn the meeting. Motion was made by Bianca Demara; seconded by Kelly Roberts. Wendy Parent-Johnson abstained from voting. The motion carried, meeting adjourned.

H. Adjourn

Chairperson Monica Cooper called for a motion to adjourn the meeting. Motion was made by Michael Coen; seconded by Bianca Demara. The motion carried, meeting adjourned.

Dated this 31st day of August 2021
Arizona Developmental Disabilities Planning Council