



FIVE YEAR PLANNING MEETING

MINUTES

Friday, September 17, 2021

10:00 A.M.: – 12:00 P.M

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

Bianca Demara

Monica Cooper

Mary Slaughter

Vanessa Felix

Michael Coen

Kin Counts

Wendy Parent-Johnson

Scott Lindbloom

Kelly Roberts

Meghan Cox

Kristen Mackey

Erik Jensen

Benjamin Kaufman

Kristina Lopez

Council Members Absent

Angelina James

James Rivera

Janna Murrell

Vijette Saari

Traci Gruenberger

Kathy Levandowsky

Council Staff

Erica McFadden, Executive Director

Marcella Crane

Michael Leyva

Lani St. Cyr

Jason Snead

Steve Freeman

Member of the Public

Lionel Delgado

Sherri Wince - Chief Strategy Officer for the Department of Economic Security

Sarah Ruf

A. Call to Order/Welcome and Introductions

Chairperson Melissa Van Hook welcomed everyone to the Arizona Developmental Disabilities Planning Council (ADDPC or Council) Meeting started at 10:02 A.M. Introduction of new Councilmembers and roll call completed.

B. Minutes from May & June Meeting:

Chairperson Melissa Van Hook called for discussion of the minutes. Councilmember Kristina Mackey made a comment about the minutes not being accessible because of the wording in red. Chairperson Melissa Van Hook appreciated the comment and mentioned that the minutes will be adjusted in the future.

Chairperson Melissa Van Hook called for a motion to approve the minutes from May and June. Scott Lindbloom made a motion, seconded by Monica Cooper. The motion carried.

C. Fiscal/Contract Update:

Lani St. Cyr reviewed the ADDPC Financial Update. The Council has approximately \$91,300 in FY 2019 funds remaining to be spent by the end of this December (2021). For FY 2020 there is approximately \$430,800 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 \$228,000 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. We have received notification that we will be receiving an additional \$34,412 bringing the total award to \$1,535,342.

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. Funding Obligation/Approval Process:

Erica McFadden did a quick overview of the approval process for the funding the Council gets every year and, in most situations, the full council has the final say. For competitive solicitations, one of the changes is that the staff will determine upfront how long the project may renew, pending performance and budget availability. The duration of projects will be included in the workplans that are then voted on by the full council. If any changes need to be made, that is when the Council will be able to revise it. Executive committee will only make a final vote on funding decisions if timing is an issue and the full council cannot meet, but the full council will be informed if/when this happens. It usually happens over the summer months when full council meetings aren't typically scheduled. The staff doesn't make any funding decisions. Every decision truly is made by the full council, or Executive only when full council can't meet. The RFGA (reoccurring grants) and ISA (interagency service agreements) have a very similar process.

We built in the section on contract renewals and extensions so if a project is showing good performance then they can be up for a renewal. If project is showing bad performance, then it could be brought before the Executive committee for a vote and then the full council to determine whether or not the project needs to be terminated.

If a Council member has an idea, they can submit a Request for Information (RFI) form every fall that goes to an evaluation process then follows a similar process as above. If specific ideas are recommended, when there is funding available, these contingency projects that are voted to support by the full council can be moved forward with.

Mary Slaughter asked where do we find out who is on what committees? Melissa Van Hook answered we are currently restructuring the committees and will send a list out when available. Any Council member can be on any committee they want to be on.

The main changes are regarding removing the voting authority by Executive if Grants and Full Council are already slated to vote. This frees up more time for Executive to concentrate on other matters. In addition, a section was added on the renewal process, since that needed clarification on when projects renew and don't renew. Chairperson Melissa Van Hook calls for motion to approve the changes to the funding obligation and approval process. Scott Lindbloom makes a motion, seconded by Erik Jensen, motion carried.

E. 2022 Work Plan Review & 5 Year State Plan:

Erica McFadden reviewed the Five-Year Plan with the Council with all five goal areas. All the goals and activities are based on public feedback which was given through public forums and committees.

Erica went over the Self-Determination goal highlighting projects such as Supported Decision-Making, the Request to Speak (RTS) system and the Self-Advocacy Coalition. There were no questions regarding this section.

Erica highlighted working with vocational rehab (VR) under the goal Meaningful Careers. Asking Kristin Mackey if she would be able to provide input to help understand the gaps in the system, Kristin agreed. Kin Counts asked if there was a limit on how many goals and objectives the Council could have? Erica McFadden answered no, there is no limit. It is determined based on public input and the resources available to the Council to fulfill the Goals. Chairperson Melissa Van Hook suggested going over the five-year plan structure and how it was developed during new member orientation.

With the Inclusion and Engagement goal one thing that was highlighted was translating information into plain language which has been a barrier for many years within the disability community.

Also mentioned under the section was the disability data hub and annual self-advocacy surveys to determine if we are meeting the needs of the disability community.

Under the goal of Safety, the collaboration with the Arc of Arizona to help facilitate a coalition around abuse and neglect was highlighted.

Lastly under System Navigation there was conversation about creating a hub of information especially around transition points.

Mary Slaughter asked for clarifications on how to contribute ideas and or thoughts regarding goals and objectives, whether to submit a request for information or contribute on a committee? Erica McFadden answered her feedback may be better served on the committee since we hope to develop a committee around this goal. Chairperson Melissa Van Hook calls for a motion to approve the five-year plan. Scott Lindbloom makes a motion, seconded by Vanessa Felix, motion carried.

F. Grants Committee Report Out:

Self-Advocacy Leadership Training: Arizona Peer and Family Coalition, Year 3

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. The expansion will include 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 Melissa Van Hook called for a motion to renew a Self-Advocacy Leadership training for Arizona Peer and Family Coalition. Monica Cooper made a motion, seconded by Michael Coen, motion carried.

Supported Decision-Making Pilot Project: Southwest Institute for Families, Year 4

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 +200 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 Melissa Van Hook calls for a motion to approve the supported decision-making renewal. Scott Lindbloom makes a motion, seconded by Wendy Parent-Johnson, motion carried. JJ Rico abstained.

Self-Advocacy Leadership Training: Native American Disability Law Center, Year 3

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 (Navajo Nation). 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. Also, as an alternative to working with Greyhills Academy, NADLC proposed an alternative programming, such as a webinar series titled Native Americans Empowered through Self-Advocacy. Ten webinars will be monthly, beginning September through June.

Chairperson Melissa Van Hook called for a motion to approve the Native American Disability Law Center's Self-Advocacy Leadership Training year three renewal proposal. Motion was made by Monica Cooper, seconded by Meghan Cox. The motion carried.

Arizona Native Disability Center Proposal: Sonoran UCEDD, New 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.

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.

Chairperson Melissa Van Hook called for a motion to approve the proposal for Arizona Native Disability Center in the amount of \$120,000. Erik Jensen made a motion, seconded by Vanessa Felix, motion carried. Wendy Parent-Johnson abstained.

G. By-Law Revisions:

Melissa Van Hook and Erica McFadden discuss bylaw provisions that have been approved by the Attorney Generals Office. The first revision was taking out the provision that said all Council members must serve on a committee.

Scott Lindbloom suggested including term limits. Melissa Van Hook mentions that the Council can discuss that in the future. However, it is not up for a vote today.

Secondly, there were some revisions around how the Executive Director is supposed to act as the official spokesperson the Council. If the subject matter meets the goals and objectives of the Council, then the Executive Director can speak on behalf of the Council. If the subject matter does not meet the goals and objectives of the Council, then Executive Director will seek the approval of the Full Council or the Executive committee if time is an issue. Next the definition of quorum was clarified to say having one more than half the filled seats. Lastly, anti-lobbying statement was added.

Chairperson Melissa Van Hook calls for a motion to approve the revised bylaws. Mary Slaughter made the motion, seconded by Kin Counts, motion carried.

H. Announcements:

Chairperson Melissa Van Hook mentioned hopefully having it in person meeting in November and asked if any Council member had an opinion please contact Erica.

Erica McFadden announced the Covid 19 town hall meeting on September 30.

H. Call to the Public:

Sarah Ruf said hello and mentioned she is working with the mental health community on IDD access and is interested in the training that Peer and Family Coalition are doing.

Lionel Delgado asked if ADDPC was writing an op-ed on Disability Employment Awareness Month and asked how the current marijuana laws were impacting the workers who work with the DD community.

I. Adjourn:

Chairperson Melissa Van Hook called for a motion to adjourn. Scott Lindbloom the motion to adjourn, seconded by Monica Cooper, the meeting adjourned at 12:00 pm.