



EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
Friday, September 11, 2020
9:00 a.m. – 10:30 a.m.
Video Conference

MINUTES

The Executive Committee meeting of the Arizona Developmental Disabilities Planning Council (ADDPC) was convened Friday, September 11, 2020 via video/teleconference. Notice having been duly given. Present and absent were the following members of the ADDPC.

Members Present	
------------------------	--

John Black, Chairperson, In-Person Melissa Van Hook, Vice-Chair, Telephone Monica Cooper, Telephone Scott Lindbloom, Telephone J.J. Rico, Telephone	
---	--

Staff	Guests
--------------	---------------

Erica McFadden, Executive Director Marcella Crane, Staff Lani St. Cyr, Staff Michael Leyva, Staff Jason Snead, Staff	Elisabeth Navarette
--	---------------------

A. Call to Order/Welcome and Introductions

Chairperson John Black welcomed everyone to the Arizona Developmental Disabilities Planning Council (ADDPC or Council) Executive Committee meeting. The meeting was called to order at 10:04 a.m. Roll call and participant introductions were completed.

B. Minutes from June 30, 2020 Executive Committee Meeting

John Black asked members if they had a chance to review the minutes and if there were any changes. Motion was made to approve the minutes by Scott Lindbloom and seconded by Monica Cooper . The motion unanimously carried.

C. Fiscal/Contract Update

Lani St. Cyr explained that the Administration for Community Living (ACL) provided an addendum to the Grant Flexibilities Guidance Letter issued on April 28, 2020. The guidance letter distributed in April gave an automatic no-cost one-year extension for the three open grant years (FY18,19, 20). The addendum received on September 2, 2020 essentially reversed the guidance given in April. This has created a challenge for our Council, as we have been offering no-cost extensions based on the April guidance. Since April, staff has offered 11 no-cost contract extensions to grantees. Based on the new addendum to the guidance, staff has submitted a liquidation waiver request for FY18 for the four contracts that now extend beyond the original date of September 30, 2020. Staff has also submitted a grant extension letter for FY19 to extend the project period, which will allow the program work to continue through September 30, 2021, even though this extension was already granted in the original Notice of Award.

Next, the three financial documents starting with the ADDPC Financial Update were reviewed. It showed approximately \$196,430 in FY 2018 funds remaining to be spent by the end of September 2020. For FY 2019 the Council has fully obligated the funds by the original September 2020 deadline, but must ensure all work is completed by September 30, 2021. There is approximately \$624,747 remaining to be liquidated by September 30, 2021. For FY 2020 the Council has received an additional allotment in the amount of \$48,860 bringing the total award amount to \$1,536,283. There is approximately \$549,500 to be obligated by September 30, 2021. The Council has already identified projects for these funds and the work must be completed within the obligation period. The final liquidation period for FY 2020 is September 30, 2022.

The Council Funded Project document showed the list of contracts given no-cost extensions based on the April Covid-19 guidance. It was explained that the second year of the Inclusion Classroom Profile project awarded to the Department of Education would no longer be funded due to Covid-19, but that they are welcome to resume the project at a later date. The contracts that went through the approval process and have July start dates are now reflected on the sheet.

Finally, the Budget Recommendation document showed items to be funded based on the workplan recommendations. Agenda items to be discussed were highlighted to show the availability of funds and the prior approval of the Council. A column has been added to show FY 2021 funding, currently being estimated at level funding, and shows additional renewal projects reflected in the 2021 workplan.

Council staff will work to ensure funds are liquidated, but it is expected that the Council will have to revert some money, even if our extension is granted. Staff are also identifying projects this year where work can be completed by September 30, 2021 to ensure funding is expended by ACL deadlines. J.J. asked if other Councils were fighting back with the change in flexibility.

Erica stated they were not yet, because Councils were waiting to see what happened after extensions were requested from ACL. It was explained that ACL has granted flexibilities that were outside of regulations and now they were back tracking to correct their mistake. No action was taken on this item.

D. Grants Committee

BEST-Building Employment Supports & Training-Renewal Year 3-City of Tempe

Marcella Crane gave an overview of the City of Tempe's Building Employment Support and Training (BEST) project and explained they awarded a grant to develop an integrated employment program for people with I/DD. This project has three goals: change Tempe's inclusion culture and language competency; hire six employees with developmental disabilities to increase neurodiversity; and create a municipality model to share with others for replication.

For the past 2 years, Tempe's BEST project has assisted, recruited, and screened applicants for positions within City departments; surveyed and trained City of Tempe personnel on Inclusion Culture and Language Competency; updated hiring practices that are reflective of Inclusion and cultural competencies; and created a model best practice that can be replicated in other cities. Key consultants that work with BEST staff include the Sonoran UCEDD for training and model facilitation, and Life Quest for data evaluation of all surveys.

Tempe's BEST program has created a process to recruit, screen and hire people with I/DD. To date they have had 36 applicants, with 3 hires. There are 14 applicants actively going through a review process; however due to the Covid-19 pandemic, there is a hiring freeze. Recruitments come from multiple partners, including colleges, universities, disability organizations, providers, DDD and VR. Applicants can be from other cities as well (not living within the City of Tempe).

Tempe's BEST program is recognized as Employment First Tempe. The ADA coordinator has conducted surveys and trained municipal staff on inclusion, culture change and cultural competencies. Materials are also translated into Spanish. In Year 2, over 600 employees were surveyed (results to be provided in 4th quarterly report.) and they have conducted one online training in June with 49 employees. A training scheduled in March was canceled due to Covid-19 (During year 1- 100 employees were trained). Comments have been favorable, showing Tempe employees attitudes changing toward hiring and working with people with disabilities. BEST has also surveyed its partners/stakeholders to ensure their feedback is incorporated in the program design and implementation.

In addition, Human Resource has made systemic changes to their announcement and hiring practices to ensure people with I/DD have an opportunity to apply. Feedback from various departments ensures they find the best candidate for them and allows them be part of the hiring process.

The BEST program will be finalizing their model for use in replication by other municipalities. Arizona Employment First will provide support. One of the key issues for municipalities is to ensure adequate funding for this program.

Quarterly program reports, including an update on the Gantt chart have been received in a timely manner and speak to their narrative. Fiscal reporting is also timely and acceptable. Proposal details Year 3 staffing changes.

Michael Leyva gave additional insight on the project and Jonae Harrison from the City of Tempe was also available to address questions from the committee. There was additional discussion and compliments on the project, progress, and staff.

Chairperson John Black called for a motion to approve City of Tempe's BEST program for a third year in the amount of \$124,731. Motion was made by JJ Rico; seconded by Scott Lindbloom. The motion carried.

Encore Employment Project-Renewal

Michael Leyva shared info on Beacon project renewal and the clarifications the committee had asked Beacon for before finally recommending their renewal. They shared their Covid plan and clarified how they were indeed using the Griffin-Hammis customized employment model, and not just supported employment. Concern from a committee member, J.J. Rico, was raised that they were doing more of the same work and retaining members in their center based or group supported employment activities, but Melissa Van Hook reassured J.J. Rico that there were a significant number of clarifications requested by the committee, and it was clear they were trying to do things differently. during a meeting held June 10, 2020. Chairperson John Black called for a motion to approve the Encore Employment Project for a second year in the amount of \$70,265.96. Motion was made by Scott Lindbloom; seconded by Monica Cooper. The motion carried.

Supported Decision Making Pilot Project- Year 3 Renewal- Southwest Institute for Families and Children

Marcella Crane gave the background of Southwest Institute for Families and Children (SWI) and how they are working with The Arc of Arizona and the Arizona Center for Disability Law to educate the community on Supported Decision Making (SDM). The purpose of this grant is to not take away the use of legal guardianship but to educate people with I/DD, their families and caregivers, medical, legal and educational professionals that SDM may be a better alternative to ensure people with I/DD retain many of their rights. Several components that are part of this grant have been implemented or will continue in the third year. They include continue meeting with the SDM Advisory Group; develop, refine and carry out online trainings to specific stakeholders; and refine proposed legislation for the upcoming January 2021 Arizona legislative session. This includes seeking sponsorship and hearings of the bill.

Progress to Date: SWI meets on a regular basis with the SDM Advisory Group – those minutes are included in their narrative reports to the ADDPC and Erica McFadden is part of this group. They have developed specialized training curriculum for the audiences of people with I/DD, their families and caregivers; medical; legal; and education stakeholders. As the Covid-19 pandemic continues, all trainings will be administered online to reach population around the state, especially in Phoenix, Tucson, and Flagstaff. During the 4th quarter of Year 2, 7 trainings are scheduled targeting each specific group (information is posted on SWI and ADDPC's website).

Any face-to face trainings will resume once it is safe to do so under the guidance of the state's health department. Trainings will be conducted by SWI, The Arc of AZ and ACDL staff. SWI has also produced training videos and the training materials have been translated into Spanish and are either posted or being posted on SWI's website. SWI is also working with the Leti Foundation to schedule an online training for Spanish speaking families. They also plan on reaching out to the Native American community and sharing the training materials with both UCEDDs and the Native American Disability Law Center.

In terms of proposed legislation status, HB2769 was sponsored by Representative Longdon and cosponsored by John Allen and was heard in House Judiciary. The bill was amended and passed the House of Representatives. Prior to the legislative session ending due to the Covid-19 pandemic, the bill was transferred to the Senate. In the third year of the grant, this will be a priority for SWI and The Arc of AZ to help pass the bill in next legislative session. Once again, Representative Longdon has expressed interest in sponsoring the bill.

Chairperson John Black called for a motion to approve Southwest Institute for Families and Children's Supported Decision-Making project for a third year in the amount of \$59,243. Motion was made by Melissa Van Hook; seconded by John Black; JJ Rico abstained. The motion carried.

Self-Advocacy-RFGA

Lani St. Cyr gave an overview of the two projects that were submitted under the Self-Advocacy Scope of Work, including the clarifications requested by the committee during the August meeting.

The first project reviewed was submitted by Southwest Institute for Families & Children (SWI) which would work with The Arc of Arizona and Self-Advocacy Solutions, a newly formed self-advocacy coalition in Arizona that is comprised of individuals and organizations interested in growing the self-advocacy movement in Arizona. Various partners are part of Self-Advocacy Solutions and include: the Arizona Autism Association, Ability 360, People First of Arizona, Youth Action Council of Arizona, People First of Tucson, as well as other individuals. The proposed project has several objectives to achieve and partners include both UCEDDs, The Arc of Arizona, and Therese Moore as a consultant. Three key objectives were outlined in their proposal and include:

1. The Self-Advocacy Solutions will serve as the advisory committee to SWI and this grant and will oversee the implementation of the grant goals and objectives, provide feedback on materials created and help address barriers.

2. Develop and strengthen self-advocacy groups by working with 5 organizations or agencies that are willing to develop and/or strengthen a self-advocacy group for people with I/DD. Each organization will have up to \$2000 to use for their activities (costs must be approved by SWI and fall under the federal OMB guidance on allowable costs). SWI will oversee this reimbursement process. Technical assistance for each self-advocacy group will be provided by (both UCEDDs) and Therese Moore.

These groups must develop a mission or vision statement, bylaws, and a strategic plan by the end of the funding year, that includes recruitment and sustainability. Each group must also address one goal with a measurable objective that is chosen

- by the self-advocates of an issue that is of important to them. Possible goals can address Legislation, Community Barriers, or Personal Growth and Involvement.
- Self-Advocacy groups must become members of the Self-Advocacy Solutions, with at least one member from each group participating in meetings held by Self-Advocacy Solutions.
- Self-Advocacy groups must make an effort to attend the self-advocacy conference that will be held in the last quarter of the grant period. Each group will be required to participate and present information about their group and their achievement towards their stated goal and objectives.

3. The Arc of AZ, SWI and its collaborators will host a Self-Advocacy and Disability Conference during the last quarter of the funded period. The proposed conference will bring self-advocates from around the state and those are part of the self-advocacy groups to network, learn, and present their information. Presentations by key speakers will also cover topics such as healthcare, employment, social services, education, and self-advocacy skill development.

Proposed funding is allocated in staffing/personnel (including fringe benefits Travel, and Professional Services. Letters of support are included by both UCEDDs.

The second proposal reviewed was submitted by Special Olympics Arizona. The Committee discussed the strengths and weaknesses of the submitted proposals and it was determined that it was difficult to ascertain what components of the Special Olympics of Arizona proposal were new and what were parts of already existing projects. The committee felt the proposal submitted by Southwest Institute for Families and Children better captured the intent of the Scope of Work and recommended Southwest Institute for funding. Melissa Van Hook made a motion to approve the proposal from SWI for Families. The motion was seconded by J.J. Rico. The motion was carried.

E. FY 2021 Additions & Discussion

Erica McFadden shared that there was one change made before the full council votes next week. The line item for foster youth was expanded to include special education technical assistance due to all the Covid related calls. ACDL is at capacity so the expansion of funding would support a technical assistance line strictly for special education. Melissa Van Hook asked for a copy of the draft scope of work. Erica stated she is working on the language with J.J. Rico since we cannot fund direct services. Before the next Council meeting, she would send her a copy. If the Council votes to approve, Erica would share the draft with whomever on the Council wants to give review and feedback. We would need to have some authority to go back and forth with procurement knowing some language could change, as this is a sole source vendor request. Erica requested that any other changes to be considered by the full council be submitted to her before the full council meeting for consideration.

F. Council Agenda Review

John Black shared that we would have special guests at the next meeting. Improvement Assurance would be there to walk the Council through the strategic planning process for the next year.

G. Announcements

Scott Lindbloom mentioned that he was appointed as the Vice Chair of DDAC. Erica also mentioned that he would be facilitating a roundtable for our national council on social isolation, mental health and COVID-19.

H. Adjourn

John Black called for the meeting to adjourn. The motion was made by Monica Cooper and seconded by Melissa Van Hook. The motion unanimously carried. The meeting adjourned at 10:09 a.m.

Dated this 16th day of September, 2020
Arizona Developmental Disabilities Planning Council