



## **FULL COUNCIL MEETING**

### **MINUTES**

Friday, January 21, 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  
Laura Bellucci  
Kin Chung-Counts  
Michael Coen  
Monica Cooper  
Meghan Cox  
Bianca Demara  
Vanessa Felix  
Benjamin Kauffman  
Katharine Levandowsky

Kristina Lopez  
Janna Murrell  
Gabriela Orozco  
Wendy Parent-Johnson  
Kelly Roberts  
Vijette Saari  
Mary Slaughter  
Mateo Tree Top

#### **Council Members Absent**

J.J. Rico  
Erik Jensen  
Kristen Mackey  
James Rivera

#### **Council Staff**

Marcella Crane  
Steve Freeman

Michael Leyva  
Lani St. Cyr  
Jason Snead

#### **Member of the Public**

None in attendance

#### **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 10:01 AM. Introduction of Councilmembers and roll call completed.

**B. Minutes from November 19, 2021 Meeting:**

Chairperson Melissa Van Hook called for a motion to approve minutes. Vijette Saari made a motion, seconded by Monica Cooper. The motion carried.

**C. Fiscal / Contract Update:**

The federal financial reports for FY 19, 20, and 21 were submitted by the December deadline. The FY 2019 award amount was fully liquidated. There is approximately \$179,150 in FY 2020 funds remaining to be spent/liquidated.

The Administration for Community Living has provided a one-time no-cost extension for FY2020 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 will be no extension for FY 2021 funding.

The Council has received the full allotment for FY 2021, in the amount of \$1,500,930, and has received reallocation of FY2021 funds from Puerto Rico in the amount of \$34,412, bringing the Council's total funding for FY 2021 to \$1,535,342.

For FY 2021 funding the Council has fully obligated the award amount and has met the September 2022 obligation deadline, but the work must be completed within the same timeframe. We have until September 30, 2023, to liquidate FY21 funds.

The Council has received the first allotment for FY 2022 in the amount of \$261,466. The FY 2022 award amount is estimated at \$1,500,930. This is level funding to FY 2021 excluding the Puerto Rico reallocation. The obligation and project period is through September 30, 2023, with the liquidation of funds through September 30, 2024.

**Council Funded Projects:**

The Southwest Institute for Families- Self-Advocacy Coalition project has been granted an additional 3-month no-cost extension through March 31, 2022.

**ADDPC Covid-19 Award Update:**

The Council has received an additional award in the amount of \$84,288 for COVID-19 specific projects. These funds are being tracked and reported separately. The funds must be obligated, and work completed by September 30, 2022. To date, the Council has spent \$16,605 and has encumbered \$61,955, which leaves an available balance of \$5,728.

**Arizona Developmental Disabilities Planning Council Budget Recommendation:**

This sheet shows the projects that are in the Council's Workplans and the anticipated funding year they will be paid from. The Impact Analytica project is highlighted and budgeted for, but the name is different and will be updated for the next meeting.

The Council anticipates having surplus FY22 and FY23 funds. Ideally, FY22 funds will be fully obligated by September 30, 2022, so work can be completed in the second year.

There was further discussion about the potential need to revert FY 21 funds due to the fact there is no contract extension. Due to the performance period change and the contract extensions granted, it may be difficult to have the work completed by the September 2022 deadline. Other Councils are also having difficulties with this.

#### **D. Data Hub Renewal; Proposal \$20,000:**

Several years ago, the Council awarded funds to Improvement Assurance for the creation of Indicator Project, now known as the Data Hub, to provide anyone looking for AZ disability data a free community resource for detailed disability statistics through 12 interactive data dashboards, around six areas: Demographics, Education, Housing, Transportation, Employment, and Income. Dr. Alex Kurz from ASU developed this on tableau web format, and it is live on the ADDPC website.

This proposal from Dr. Kurz is to support the Data Hub by doing the following: 1. Extracting and merging census data (to be released in March 2022) with existing datasets and updating all six dashboards; 2. Version 2.0 will be released that will entail story-point assignments with a maximum of 30 story points and releasing the 2.0 version update with all necessary documentation updates; and 3. Dr. Kurz will provide presentations to interested parties and disability stakeholders of the Data Hub.

Marcy stated that staff had a call with Dr. Kurz on the Data Hub and was able to clarify for the Council that trainings will be a part of this contract and Dr. Kurz is eager to conduct them for stakeholders as well to our Council executive director colleagues. Also, the Data Hub is only found on the ADDPC website and is maintained by Dr. Kurz.

A motion was made by Monica Cooper to accept the proposal by Dr. Alex Kurz for \$20,000. The motion was seconded by Vanessa Feliz. The motion carried.

#### **E. Covid-19 Expanding Public Health Workforce:**

Marcy Crane stated that ACL released a FAQ, minutes from a conference call they had with NACDD and Executive Directors in early January and a formal letter for state DD Councils to use to inform ACL if they will either accept or decline the additional funding. These dollars are meant for state DD Council's to use to hire directly or through a contract, a public health expert, social support professionals, community health workers or others that can respond to the Covid-19 pandemic. The amount available is approximately \$80,000 through September 30, 2024. The Council needs to decide if they want to pursue this funding by February 11, 2022. Councils are required to track and report separately from our current grant. Mary Slaughter stated she is very interested in how these funds can be used especially that her committee is addressing the aging population with disabilities and how aging and disability networks can work together on this issue. She highly recommended that the Council submit the letter in the affirmative and made a motion for the ADDPC to accept the funding. The motion was seconded by Monica Cooper. The motion carried.

#### **F. Committee Roundtable Report Out:**

##### **1. Executive Director Transition Committee:**

Melissa Van Hook shared the ad-hoc committee that was formed to review potential applications and conduct interviews for Erica's replacement moved quickly. As been previously discussed, Erica's last official date was January 17, thus it was critical to move quickly on her replacement. The Council has the

authority to hire the Executive Director, and we're appreciative of any guidance provided by DES/HR and our AG liaison. Also, the position and salary were updated so that the best candidate will be selected.

Twenty-nine individuals applied for this position, 14 were weeded out by DES/HR as not meeting the qualifications, 5 applicants were selected by the ad-hoc committee for an interview and ultimately 4 accepted interviews. They were all conducted recently, and the ad-hoc committee came to consensus that one applicant met all the qualifications and had the experience and expertise of the disability community and the work of the Council. It's recommended that Jon Meyers be the next Executive Director, and the Executive Committee fully supported this decision. If approved by the full Council, Jon will begin sometime in March so that he can transition out of his role as Executive Director of The Arc of AZ. Also, Melissa stated that she will be working with and kept abreast of his hiring status by DES/HR.

Prior to Erica leaving, she pulled as much information together in a binder and in a shared file. She also stated that staff will work with Jon to assimilate him as quickly as possible.

A motion was made to approve the hire of Jon Meyers as the next Executive Director of the ADDPC by Kathy Levandowsky. The motion was seconded by Gabriela Orozco. The motion carried. Melissa thanked the ad-hoc committee members for their time in this search.

2. System Access & Navigation:

Mary Slaughter stated the committee is a roundtable where public members attend and participate in the meeting. Their first meeting was held on November 8, 2021, and their next meeting is scheduled for January 24 at 11AM. Steve Freeman staffs the committee with our intern Raylah Pillar. The committee will develop 3 fact sheets in plain language for families on three life stages: Childhood, Young Adulthood and Senior/Aging.

3. Meaningful Careers:

Melissa Van Hook: First, I want to acknowledge and thank Scott Lindbloom for serving on the Council for six+ years. He was an active member of the employment committee and was always enthusiastic and supportive of our activities and projects. Scott, we are certainly going to miss you and we're very appreciative of your employment advocacy and efforts. A big thank you from all of us!

Meaningful Careers has a very ambitious work plan with two solicitations in the works, the first solicitation will be to conduct research on Arizona's VR program, to see how its helping people with I/DD obtain their employment goals, and to identify the key strengths and barriers in achieving successful outcomes for the VR program; the second solicitation will be to support provider transformation activities from center-based to competitive employment, this will be done through technical assistance and training.

Meaningful Careers will be partnering with Employment First and the DD Network to launch a series of six-monthly webinars in March to educate and inform stakeholders of Employment First, transition professionals, self-advocates and families, job coaching staff and employment support professionals with an array of content experts to provide the context and necessary components for a statewide system that provides and sustains integrated employment for all Arizonans living with a developmental disability, regardless of complexity or needed level of support. Look for an announcement soon for the list of topics and presenters.

There are many other activities and projects included in the Meaning Career's Federal Fiscal Year 2022 work plan that I did not mention. I want to acknowledge the Council is really making progress partnering with agencies, universities, and organizations. There is a true sense of commitment, a willingness to want to work together and partner, and identify strategies and solutions. I want to thank the AZ Department of Education (especially Exceptional Student Services and Career & Technical Education), AZ Center for Disability Law, AZ Health Care Cost Containment System, Vocational Rehabilitation, Office of Apprenticeship, Sonoran UCEDD, Institute for Human Development, Employment First, Arizona APSE Chapter, AZ ABLE, and DDD. If I left anyone out, I apologize. But seriously, thank you all for working and partnering with us.

4. Behavioral Health & I/DD:

Jason Snead shared that the Behavioral Health and IDD Roundtable has had several meetings since starting in November. There are representatives from DDD, AHCCCS, the Autism Society of Greater Phoenix and many other disability organizations across the state whose primary focus is behavioral health. One of the things the group was able to do was create a brief around behavioral health focusing on the crisis response system in Arizona, which is attached with materials for this meeting. The group plans to do a press conference on January 25, 2022, at from 10:30 AM to 11:30 AM with the assistance of the Arizona Center for Disability Law. The group plans to have monthly meetings. If you are interested in joining this group, please contact Jason Snead.

5. RFI Update:

Marcy Crane thanked Council members Ben, Kin, Vquette and Kelly for their assistance in reviewing all the Request for Ideas that were submitted in December 2021. Their input was very helpful in screening out what ideas can be formulated to full proposals and be added to the Council's workplan. As of now, staff will finalize the list in an excel sheet and present the list at the next Council meeting. Just keep in mind that these ideas will need to be formulated to full proposals later to back fill any funding that needs to be obligated. More information will be provided to the Council in March.

**G. Announcements:**

Chairperson Melissa Van Hook asked if any Council member had any announcements. None were reported.

**H. Call to the Public:**

There were no public members.

**I. Adjourn:**

Chairperson Melissa Van Hook called for a motion to adjourn. Monica Cooper made the motion to adjourn, seconded by Vquette Saari. The meeting adjourned at 10:36 AM.

Dated this 25 day of January 2022  
Arizona Developmental Disabilities Planning Council