



FULL COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

Friday, March 19, 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

Bianca Demara

Monica Cooper

Matthew Isiogu

Janna Murrell

Michael Coen

Mary Slaughter

Wendy Parent-Johnson

Kelly Roberts

Steve Freeman

Scott Lindbloom

Vanessa Felix

Meghan Cox

Council Members Absent

J.J. Rico, Vice Chair

Angelina James

Kristen Mackey

Traci Gruenberger

Ray Morris

Kathy Levandowsky

James Rivera

Council Staff

Erica McFadden, Executive Director

Marcella Crane

Michael Leyva

Sarah Ruf

Lani St. Cyr

Jason Snead

Member of the Public

Sherri Wince, Division of Developmental Disabilities (DDD)

Kara Karlson, Developmental Disabilities Advisory Council (DDAC)

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 10:03 AM. Roll call and participant introductions were completed.

B. Minutes from January 29, 2021 Meeting:

Chairperson Melissa Van Hook asked members if they had a chance to review the minutes and if there were any changes. No changes were requested. Melissa asked for a motion to accept the minutes as is. Motion was made by Monica Cooper Seconded by Michael Coen. The motion carried.

C. Fiscal/Contract Update:

Lani St. Cyr gave an overview of the ADDPC Financial Update. The Council has fully obligated FY 2019 funds by the original September 2020 deadline, but must ensure all work is completed and the remaining \$280,924 is spent by September 30, 2021.

For FY 2020 the Council has already obligated the funding by the September 2021 deadline, but the work must also be completed by September 30, 2021. There is approximately \$1,033,904 remaining to be spent and the liquidation period is through September 2022. The Arizona Council is working with other Councils to request an extension of the period of performance for FY 2020, so that work can be completed in the liquidation period.

The Council has received the full allotment for FY2021, in the amount of \$1,500,930. There is approximately \$713,250 to obligate by September 2022. The Council has already identified projects for these funds and has contingency projects to cover contracts that extend beyond the project period and to cover any awards that are not fully spent.

Next, the Council Funded Projects sheet showed there were no new projects or adjustments to contracts since the last Full Council Meeting in January. We anticipate one contract extension and technically the Arizona Center for Disability Law (ACDL) special education project has not gone through the procurement process so the contract start on March 1st might be a little bit later than anticipated.

Finally, the Budget Recommendation document showed items to be funded based on the workplan recommendations. The two Request for Information (RFI) proposals to be discussed and voted on were on the document and the amount for translation services has been added to reflect what is in the 2021 Workplan. There is a \$26,470 shortfall showing for FY 2021, but it is anticipated that full award amounts will not be spent and adjustments in funding will be made for projects that extend beyond the project periods. No action was taken on this item.

D. NAU/IHD- RFI Proposal:

Lani St. Cyr gave an overview of the Technology-Enabled Employment Project submitted by Northern Arizona University/Institute for Human Development (NAU/IHD) in the amount of \$48,843 for year one. The intent of the project is to partner with Daivergent, a technology platform that provides human intelligence to support companies developing AI products and provides personalized online training for technology job skills, social skills, and peer support. They plan on targeting 12 adults (ages 18-30) with I/DD in Northern Arizona with an emphasis on underserved populations, such as Native Americans and Hispanics. They will also create a Community Advisory Board (CAB) within the first 3 months to assist with project planning, developing evaluation tools, and recruitment processes. The main outcome will be that the 12 participants will have access for up to 9 months with Daivergent and be able to obtain technology-based work upon completion of the program.

A summary report will provide the outcome data around skills learned, work opportunities explored, and job attainment as well as case studies for each of the participants, which will be available to disseminate at conferences and through other avenues. This project is meant to be complementary service to VR. They will also be working to develop collaboration with companies offering technology-based jobs and may open doors for more rural residents to gain employment in more urban areas or through remote job opportunities. Diavergent will provide an additional one year of job exploration and placement support including: interview practice guides, video-based instruction, resume formatting and editing support, as well as online discussion forums to participants who may not find employment by the end of the program. It was approved by Grants and Executive.

Chairperson Melissa Van Hook called for a motion to approve the Technology-Enabled Employment Project submitted by NAU/IHD program in the amount of \$48,843. Motion was made by Steve Freeman, seconded by Mary Slaughter, Kelly Roberts abstained from voting. The motion carried.

E. Sonoran UCEDD RFI New Proposal; Online Healthcare Learning Modules:

Lani St. Cyr gave an overview of Sonoran UCEDD's Online Learning Modules for Healthcare Professionals working with Individuals with I/DD project. They are requesting \$50,000 with a 25% match, 16,667. This project will focus on Primary Care Providers, with a focus on family physicians and nurse practitioners who provide preventative health care counseling and are likely to work with individuals with I/DD. They would like to reach a minimum of 1,500 statewide providers but have a goal of 15,000 physicians and nurse providers. In the first nine months they will develop and refine four Continuing Medical Education (CME) modules by incorporating best practices for working with individuals with I/DD and will address: health inequities and marginalization; consent and capacity; supported decision-making in the clinical context; and evaluating person/patient-centered approaches to patient care.

The University of Arizona Biocommunications will record the video vignettes using actors and storyboards. Once completed the videos will be integrated into the CME learning management system and assessments and evaluations will be up. The goal is to conduct the evaluation of the four modules with 100 Continuing Medical Education participants and deliver the Continuing Medical Education to 450 providers during the first two years. There will also be additional resources so learners can seek out additional information.

They will create a marketing and dissemination plan targeted at family physicians, nurse practitioners, and primary care systems including the Indian Health Services. A Steering Committee will meet four times and will be responsible to review content and learning objectives as well as oversee all project activities from the planning to the implementation and evaluation activities. As part of the evaluation data will be collected in two phases.

The formative evaluation will inform the development and implementation of the CME modules and the Steering Committee. The outcome evaluation will measure the program's effectiveness and impact.

Julie Amin and Heather Williamson gave some additional information on work they had previously been doing in this space and how they discovered a need from providers on how to address healthcare needs more effectively to individuals with disabilities, which was mirrored through the self-advocate survey conducted by the Council.

Melissa Van Hook commented that this project is very timely given the COVID-19 pandemic.

Chairperson Melissa Van Hook called for a motion to approve the Sonoran UCEDD's Online Learning Modules for Healthcare Professionals working with Individuals with I/DD in the amount of \$50,000. Motion was made by Monica Cooper; seconded by Steve Freeman. Wendy Parent-Johnson abstained from voting. The motion carried.

F. Sonoran UCEDD- Transition in Action Clinic:

Marcy Crane gives the overview of the Sonoran UCEDD Transition in Action project is requesting year 2 funding in the amount of \$120k to support the expansion of the project, now known as Transition AHEAD Roundtable (TAR). The project is to address the transition needs and supports of youth ages 14-22 so that they can be leaders in their own lives. TAR is youth driven with support from family members and professionals in a collaborative multi-disciplinary effort to develop a plan that is specific to each youth. In year one, they focused on 6 youth, and the project was modeled from one in place in South Dakota, however in AZ it took time to ensure that all youth and team members were able to schedule meetings online during the pandemic. The result of a specific driven approach is that each youth identifies areas they need support from, and it provides for a workable plan with action steps to follow. All the work is done through roundtables, which are meetings with the multi-disciplinary teams. As this was a pilot project to implement in year 1, the Sonoran UCEDD has put in place the project to successfully expand the project in year 2 to target 20 youth and expand the target areas and types of disabilities.

If approved for funding in Year 2, the Sonoran UCEDD will target areas of the state, to include Native American tribes, suburban areas outside of Tucson, rural small towns, and urban areas of Phoenix. The focus of the youth will be between the ages of 14-22 and those youth that have a hearing impairment, in the foster care system, Hispanic and Native American youth. New changes that are also proposed include: using a train-the-trainer model so that it the program can be sustainable, implementing a tele-health model for more accessibility, and to establish two site liaisons in two communities that can help the TAR team with additional coordination services.

Year 2 funding is for one year at \$120,000. All reports and fiscal invoicing have been current. Melissa Van Hook asked why the amount of money asked was doubled from the amount of money asked in the first year of the project? It was explained because they are doubling the amount kids and expanding the program to different areas is the reason for the increase. The number of increased participants is 22. Melissa also asked about access to Internet with regards to Native American communities and the difficulties associated with that? Wendy parent Johnson commented that the technological difficulties had to do with areas in Tucson and Phoenix due to the restrictions on use of school computers. Also having the site liaison is important because that person will be able to deal with equipment issues. Lastly, Melissa asked if there was a data available regarding outcomes? Wendy said that she would have to check on that.

Mary Slaughter asked if this program could be used in transition into eldercare? Wendy said she thought that exploring transition eldercare could be a great idea using this type of project.

Melissa asked for a motion to approve this renewal proposal in the amount of 120,000. A motion was made by Monica Cooper and seconded by Mary Slaughter. Wendy Parent-Johnson abstained. The motion carried.

G. 2022-2026 Goal Review:

Chairperson Melissa Van Hook provided an overview of the new proposed goals for review and discussion. An ad-hoc committee has been working with staff and Meghan Velasquez, the Council's consultant, to formulate a strategic plan that is based on community feedback to develop the council's five-year plan. Comments were provided by the Executive Committee around the wording of some of the goals, so Erica McFadden suggested that the Executive Committee and the Full Council come together and look at the strategic plan altogether. She suggested April 9 for an additional meeting regarding the five-year strategic plan. This would give ample time for any corrections that would need to be made.

Melissa asked who would be available to attend a meeting on April 9 from 10 AM to 12 PM? Many councilmembers are available on that day. The staff will send out an invite.

H. COVID Vaccine Update:

Melissa Van Hook provided an update on the latest collaborative effort to ensure people with I/DD and their caregivers are prioritized for a Covid-19 vaccine. Collaborative efforts include letters to each county health department and a meeting with Governor's Office. Regarding the letter, the AZ DD Network (ADDN) and other disability groups have successfully advocated for 3 counties (Coconino, Pima and Yuma) to change their rules for vaccine eligibility. The phone call with the Governor's Office included ADDPC, ADDN and other disability groups and was a separate attempt to bring to their attention the need to expand eligibility to people with I/DD and their caregivers, especially those enrolled in ALTCS. Data was shared about how people with I/DD are at high risk for contracting the virus and having negative outcomes from it. Everyone discussed their viewpoints. In the end, the Governor's Office would not commit to opening the eligibility requirements as they did not want to be perceived as playing favoritism. Dr. Cara Christ will develop vaccine information for the deaf and hard of hearing community.

Sarah Ruf suggested that maybe Arizona Health Care Cost Containment System (AHCCCS) would be able to provide some assistance and Erica McFadden was wondering if Matthew Isiogu could provide some insight on that. Matthew said that he had not been directly involved with any of the vaccine discussions, but he will brief the Director Snyder and will follow-up.

Janna Murrell asked who was the point of contact for each county? Sarah answered saying that they are trying to contact the head health officials in each county. Erica mentioned reverse transportation for vaccines or provided vaccine to people's home in Delaware. Erica will keep the Council informed as information becomes available.

I. 2021 Work Plan Change: Under the Goal of Integrated Employment, staff is recommending removing \$25K for Town Hall on Promoting Youth Career Exploration activity. As listed in the current state plan, it reads as, “

The Executive reviewed the change in the 2021 Work Plan to remove a \$25,000 proposed project activity under the Employment Goal, Objective 1. This specifically related to the activity of the Council to, "host a Summit/Town Hall with stakeholders, etc. to promote career exploration activities among young adults with I/DD." The funds will be obligated to existing approved Council projects. Melissa stated she would work with staff to schedule an integrated employment meeting to discuss other activity options.

Erica mentioned maybe collaborating groups together as well as the employment study the Council did a couple years ago, did any recommendations get implemented. Melissa mentioned the overall statistics are getting worse not better with regards to disability employment.

Wendy Parent-Johnson mentioned transitions to more competitive employment by individuals as well as transition from school to employment.

Melissa Van Hook Chairperson call for a motion to remove the \$25,000 from the workplan. Mary Slaughter made the motion to remove the funds also she would like to be included on the ad hoc committee regarding employment. Monica Cooper seconded the motion. Motion carried.

J Announcements.:

No announcements

K. Call to the Public:

Kara Karlson said thank you to the Council for all the work they do and the DDAC would be happy to support the Council in any way they can.

L. Adjournment:

Melissa Van Hook Chairperson call for a motion to adjourn the meeting. Steve Freeman makes a motion, seconded by Monica Cooper. Motion carried.

Dated this 29th day of March 2021
Arizona Developmental Disabilities Planning Council