



**INTEGRATED EMPLOYMENT STANDING COMMITTEE
MINUTES**

July 26, 2013

10:00 a.m. – 11:15 a.m.

Arizona Developmental Disabilities Planning Council
1740 West Adams Street, Suite 410, Phoenix, Arizona 85007

A standing committee meeting of the Arizona Developmental Disabilities Planning Council (ADDPC) was convened on July 26, 2013 at the ADDPC, 1740 West Adams, Suite 410, Phoenix, Arizona 85007. Notice having been duly given. Present and absent were the following members of the ADDPC.

Members Present

John Black, Chairperson, Phone
Leslie Cohen, Phone
Dave Cutty, Phone
Charles Ryan, Phone
Melissa Van Hook, Phone

Guests/Staff Present & Teleconference	Members Absent
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Peter Conder, Southwest Autism Research
& Resource Center
Dara Johnson, AZ Health Care Cost Containment System
Linda Tasco, AZ Department of Economic Security
Larry Clausen, Executive Director, ADDPC
Marcella Crane, Contracts Manager, ADDPC – Phone
Lani St. Cyr, ADDPC
Michael Leyva, Contract/Grants Coordinator, ADDPC

Matt McMahon

A. Call to Order:

John Black welcomed everyone to the Arizona Developmental Disabilities Planning Council Integrated Employment Standing Committee Meeting. Meeting was called to order at 10:05 a.m.

B. Review of Integrated Employment Standing Committee Meeting Minutes

The Minutes from the April 2, 2013 Committee Meeting were reviewed.

- Motion was made by Dave Cutty to approve the April 2, 2013 Integrated Employment Standing Committee Meeting minutes.
- The motion was seconded by Charles Ryan.
- The motion carried.

C. State Employment Leadership Network (SELN)

Linda Tasco provided information on SELN accomplishment and employment initiatives completed during the past year and the request for 3rd funding of \$35,000.

Among the highlights of the past year: Linda coordinated 3 SELN Committee Meetings including initial participation of the Arizona Project Team; participated in monthly SELN Conference Call Meetings; held leadership position in the Arizona Community of Practice on Transition (AzCoPT); introduced a joint RSA/VR and DD Foster Care Initiative; and MOU was signed February 2013 after many years of planning to establish a system of coordinated planning and service provision to ensure the smooth and successful transition of DDD eligible persons in the foster care system to meaningful and sustained employment, education and community living.

- A motion was made by Leslie Cohen to approve 3rd year funding in the amount of \$35,000 for SELN.
- The motion was seconded by Melissa Van Hook.
- The motion carried.
- Standing Committee will make recommendation to Executive Committee for 3rd year SELN funding.

Melissa Van Hook hopes Council will recommend funding and continuation of SELN's efforts to support young individuals who receive training; program such as these should be a top priority for the Council.

D. Chamber of Commerce Membership

Michael Leyva shared information on the opportunities to reach the small business community especially potential employers through chamber membership. Based on their proactive business outreach the Gilbert and the Greater Phoenix Chambers of Commerce were considered. Membership includes the opportunity to market the Council through businesses on the internet, through social media, public affairs meetings, professional development, networking and raising awareness of DD issues. Annual membership is \$465 for the Gilbert Chamber and \$465 for the Greater Phoenix Chamber.

Discussion centered on identifying programs each chamber may offer, specifically for the DD community. Are there efforts to reach the DD community through employment opportunities, advocacy, or educational seminars? Are governmental or not-for-profit discounts offered? Is a chamber sensitive to the DD community? Committee Members directed Council staff to contact Chamber CEOs with a set of scripted questions that address the issues discussed. Council staff will share collected information with John Black.

- Motion to provide Committee Chair John Black with the authority to decide which Chamber membership should be selected with an approved amount capped at \$500 was made by Dave Cutty.
- Motion was seconded by Melissa Van Hook.
- Motion carried.
- Standing Committee will make recommendation to Executive Committee for selected Chamber of Commerce membership.

E. Employment First

Michael Leyva provided an update on Employment First activities.

- Serena Lowe, Senior Policy Advisor for Office of Disability Employment Policy (ODEP) conducted an Employment First webinar for Arizona's Employment First advisory group on June 27, 2013;
- Council has made request to join ODEP's Employment First State Leadership Mentoring Program Community of Practice;
- Currently reviewing best practices of states who have recently established Employment First;
- Council will follow up with Employment First contacts in Washington and Oregon;
- Council will convene meeting with Arizona's Employment First advisory group;
- Advisory group will collaboratively develop Employment First strategic plan.

F. Self Employment Leads to Freedom Project

Peter Conder provided an update on Self Employment Leads to Freedom (SELF) Grant to the Southwest Autism Research & Resource Center (SARRC) to conduct training and support to individuals with autism spectrum disorders (ASD) to assist them increasing their earning potential and eventually becoming self-supporting members of the community.

- 10 week training and education course;
 - ✓ Weekly 3-hour individual sessions focused on improving technical skills;
 - ✓ Group sessions geared towards learning about baking and confectionary business and developing signature techniques;
 - ✓ Workshops comprised of education necessary to develop solid business and marketing plans;
 - ✓ New Program name - *Rising Entrepreneurs* creates awareness & marketing opportunities.

To Date:

- 7 individuals have completed training;
- 4 individuals are enrolled in current course;
- 5 individuals are on wait list for Course 4;
- Program is now open to individuals 16 years and older;
- 3 individuals have obtained Food Handler Card;

- 2 currently studying for the Food Handler Card;
- Home visits are conducted by SARRC staff to monitor activities.

G. Untapped Arizona

Dara Johnson provided an update on Untapped Arizona activities.

- Recruitment of Executive Director is in process;
- AHCCCS secured a contract with consulting firm Partners in Brainstorms;
- Contracted vendor Partners in Brainstorms will help coordinate selection process for the Executive Director;
- Website has been enhanced to incorporate new tools and resources for businesses;
- Instituted business practices regarding the use of AZ Job Connection portal and the Business Service Representative's services;
- Once Executive Director is on board, Partners in Brainstorms will assist with recruitment and recommendation of representatives of the business and economic development community to serve on the Board of Directors.

H. Work Incentive Information Network (WIIN)

Dara Johnson provided an update on Work Incentive Information Network activities.

- AHCCCS subcontracted with Arizona Bridge to Independent Living to create and administer program;
- Provided training and technical assistance on the use and incorporation of the Arizona Disability Benefits 101 (DB101) online tool;
- Collecting data including employment outcomes, customer satisfaction, cost savings to organizations and public benefit programs;
- Developing a sustainable network of service professionals and community partners.

I. PROMISE Initiative

Dara Johnson provided information on the PROMISE Initiative which was created to foster improved health, education, and post-secondary outcomes for children ages 14-16 who receive Supplemental Security Income (SSI), as well as their families.

The underlying premise of the PROMISE Initiative is that improved coordination between services can improve outcomes for youth on SSI and their families. PROMISE's goals include improving the life outcomes of youth on SSI and decreasing their reliance on the program, as well as reducing the federal government's cost.

Arizona will be a member of a multi-state consortium and the Governor's Office for Children, Youth and Families will be the lead agency to submit and coordinate the grant.

J. Call to the Public

John Black called for a Call to the Public.

- No public members were present.

K. Adjourn

John Black called for a motion to adjourn the Meeting.

- A motion was made by Leslie Cohen to adjourn the meeting.
- The motion was seconded by Dave Cutty.
- The motion carried and the meeting was adjourned at 11:14 a.m.