

IOWA DD Council

Preparation, Participation, Power

Attendees:

Council Members

Kristen Aller	Thomas Mayes
Alecia Balduf	Kelley Rice
Roxanne Cogil	Rob Roozeboom
Kristine Dreckman	Mark Schneider
Al Fagerlund	Judy Warth
Brady Werger	Rob Fisher
Kitty Hedderich	Jean Willard
Jane Hudson	Jen Jacob
Brian Wines	
Brian Majeski	

Staff

Lindsay Leonetti
Brooke Lovelace

Members Absent

Jason Goulden, Russel Wood
Elyn Holton-Dean, Drew Manatt

Guests:

Josh Ellis, Wil Hedderich,
John McCalley, Lisa Yunek
Linn Nibblink
Maggie Ferguson
Marsha Fisher

Call to order:

Council Chair Dreckman called the Iowa Developmental Disabilities Council (DD Council) meeting to order on November 14, 2019 at 10:30 a.m. A quorum was present after introductions.

Agenda Item/Approval of minutes and agenda.

Discussion: Hudson made a motion to approve the November 19, 2019 meeting minutes, Mayes seconded. Motion passed. Aller made a motion to approve the agenda for the January 9, 2020 meeting. Balduf seconded. Motion Passed.

Agenda item/Executive Committee Report:

Discussion: Dreckman presented items that were discussed at the Executive Committee meeting on January 9, 2020.

- Financial handouts were distributed and discussed briefly. Hudson asked for clarification on “match paid” on the contract spreadsheet. Lovelace explained that the DD Council’s contractors are responsible for providing a non-federal match of 25% of the total budget of the project.
- The Executive Committee recommended the funding of two possible projects with Division of Child and Community Health.
 - Storytelling Projects and Workshops project – budget is \$5,000. This is 2-day storytelling workshop designed to help families of children and youth with special health care needs to listen and share their stories. Their stories can then be shared with family members

as they do their own advocating. The DD Council will have access to share the stories as well. This project fits within our leadership priority of a work plan.

- Parent and Caregiver Transition Retreat – budget is \$1,500. This is a free event designed for Iowa parents, legal guardians and caregivers of transition-aged youth (12-21 years) old with special health care needs. Goal is to help these people network and share their story.
- Both projects would be a total of \$6,500. All seconded the projects be funded. Motion passed.
- Lovelace will be sending out surveys in order to gather information for the 2022 DD Council State Plan. A draft survey will be sent to the Council for their feedback. A final version of the survey will be sent out to all council members and through the DD Council network. It will be available both electronically and hard copy.
- Lovelace received some guidance from the National Association of Developmental Disability Councils (NACDD) that the Council's may want to do a needs assessment to assist in the formulation of the state plan. The NACDD suggested to have a facilitator conduct a needs assessment to help figure out what the priorities of the Council should be, and find out ways that the Council can be more productive, and to also go over our strengths and weaknesses. This will take place in the May meeting and Lovelace will begin researching for a facilitator. All suggested that we contact Grantwood AEA.
- Rik Shannon's last day was December 31, 2019. Lovelace has been working with the Department of Administrative Services to create a job description and she anticipates the position will be posted in the next week. Lovelace will forward the vacancy posting on to the Council so they may forward to those in their network.
- The Council received an invitation to visit the Governor's office. More information about will come in the March meeting to coordinate this visit. The visit will be on May 14, 2020 after the Council meeting.

Agenda Item / Legislative Priorities

- Lovelace went over each priority. The priorities have changed minimally since the 2019 legislative session as the priorities were not addressed in 2019. Hudson asked how we can get these adopted. Hudson suggested collaborative efforts with the Council members and the agencies that are represented on the council. Dreckman suggested that we have people with disabilities take advantage of the advocacy training that we offer so that people with abilities be able to advocate themselves more effectively.
- Cogil recommended including health care services in priority two. Fisher made a motion to have the Council approve priorities as written with Cogil's addition. Werger seconded.
- There was much discussion about the events and allegations that have been in the news recently about Glenwood Recourse Center. The Council has a lot of concerns, and some

members felt that The Council should take a stand and possibly initiate a press release with the Council's position on this issue. Warth motioned to have DD Staff put together a press release that would include our legislative priorities and our position on community services. Werger seconded.

Agenda Item / Council Member Presentations

State Agency representatives were asked to share information about what their agency does to support people with disabilities and offer suggestions to the Council as to what the Council should consider in the five year state plan.

- Council member Kelley Rice shared what Iowa Vocational Rehabilitation Services (IVRS) does and the history of IVRS. They focus on service delivery that assists individuals to prepare for, obtain, retain, and advance in employment. IVRS administrator David Mitchell talked about how the DD Council and IVRS partner together to carry out each other's missions. Mitchell suggested that the Council continue to hold projects accountable for increasing employment and access to services by asking the question "how are we doing".
- Council member Jane Hudson talked about Disability Rights Iowa (DRI). Disability Rights Iowa aims to defend and promote the human and legal rights of Iowans who have disabilities and mental illness. Hudson went over DRI's current areas of focus: mistreatment of residents at the Eldora State Boys academy, working with communities that are experiencing a language barrier at Des Moines Public Schools, and also looking at the high suicide rates that are in Iowa jails and prisons. Hudson suggested that the DD Council can help DRI by sharing their experiences to make sure that whistleblowers are given a voice and the right information and resources to be able to help people with developmental disabilities.
- Council member Jean Willard from Child Health Specialties clinic presented information on Title V program. It was started in order to help all mothers and children to be healthy. They have programs and provide support to mothers and children all over the state. They have nurse practitioners who can help with medications as well as family members who have lived experience who can provide family support.
Suggestions on how the Council can work with Title V more effectively:
 - Advocacy for long term services and supports and anywhere the agencies have mutual alignment.
 - Networking for training and events. Iowa Family Leadership Training Institute group is now recruiting to help with this.
 - Joint sponsorship of activities.
- Council member Thomas Mayes presented information about the Department of Education. This agency does not provide direct services, but makes sure that the organizations who get the money follow regulations. Direct services are provided by school districts, area education agencies, and nonpublic schools. Mayes shared information on the following projects.
 - Database of statewide data system for IEPs. It will be more teacher-friendly and family-friendly, including a parent portal.
 - Statewide graduation decision-making tools for children with disabilities. This is to

ensure that all children with disabilities get access to challenging content in all four content areas.

- Every Student Succeeds Act. This federal law places greater emphasis on student growth and the conditions for learning in a school, rather than solely focusing on whether students meet a proficiency “cut point.”
- Specially Designed Instruction (SDI) framework. This will help educators to guide decision-making to support learners with disabilities, to self-assess their own skills in providing SDI, to guide coaching conversations around critical features of SDI and to inform ongoing professional learning focused on SDI.”
- How can the DD Council help?
 - Comment on proposed rules, proposed state plans, etc.
 - Suggest topics for guidance documents, or guidance documents
 - Attend Special Education Advisory Panel(SEAP) meetings (or apply to be a SEAP member).
 - Make the Department aware of success stories! Is there a school district, AEA, community college that is doing a great job? They would love to hear about it, so please share.

Agenda Item / Community Ambassador Program

- Josh Pruettt and Council member Brady Werger shared their personal story about transitioning from a facility and into the community and how they are advocates for themselves and others with disabilities. This project is funded by the DD Council.

Agenda Item / ID Action

- Alicea Castillo from Iowans with Disabilities in Action shared the survey results from the Annual Iowans with Disabilities in Action Survey. An email was sent to Council members in regard to helping celebrate the 50th anniversary of the Developmental Disabilities Act by sharing personal stories from those who have developmental disabilities. The stories will be shared on social media. Castillo will resend the email out and Council members are encouraged to share with others.

Agenda Item / Council Member Updates

- Balduf shared that she has been a part of a Medicaid Project about how Medicaid is important for people with DD like her and also important for the community. More information will be shared with the Council when the project is finished.
- Wines shared that the Money Follows the Person program has been extended for 6 months. The hope is to extend the program for 4-5 years or make it a permanent program. Wines encouraged the Council to contact legislators about a permanent fixtue for this.
- Werger – asked about how he can stay employed and keep his benefits in place. Hudson and Rice will put him in touch with a benefits planner who can help him.

- Jacob asked about the possibility of DD Council to send legislators a card when we send out our legislative priorities; send something more personal so we can make an impression on the legislators as they are considering our legislative priorities.
- Hudson suggested a future presentation on benefits planning be scheduled for the Council meeting.

Agenda Item / Public Comment

- Lisa Yunek attended Advocating for Change day in 2019 and spoke to her Iowa Representative Linda Upmeyer about the Iowa Able Accounts. Linda Upmeyer just introduced a bill about Able Accounts and Yunek said that shows the success of talking to your legislators.

Roozeboom motion to adjourn. Aller seconded. Meeting adjourned at 2:17