

FINAL

NC COUNCIL ON DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES

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Quarterly Council Meeting Minutes Hilton Garden Inn, Cary & ZoomGov

February 3, 2023

MEMBERS PRESENT: Dawn Allen, Katherine Boeck, Rep. Terry Brown, Jr., Carol Ann Conway, Rhonda Cox, Bryan Dooley, Jonathan D'Angelo, Myron Gavin, Joshua Gettinger, Rep. Zack Hawkins, Brendon Hildreth, Gary Junker, Aldea LaParr, Danielle Matula (for Kelly Kimple), Charlrean Mapson, Kay McMillian, Sarah Richardson (for Karey Perez), Anna Ward (for Joseph Piven), Cheryl Powell, Rebecca Putnam, Ryan Rotundo, Marjorie Serralles-Russell, Nessie Siler, Donna Spears, Dale Stephenson, Sandra Terrell, Kathie Trotter, Amy Eaton (for Carla West)

MEMBERS ABSENT: Senator Sydney Batch, Dave Richard, Sherry Thomas

STAFF PRESENT: Pam Hunter Dempsey, Cora Gibson, Chris Hendricks, David Ingram, LaQuadia Smith, Melissa Swartz, Talley Wells, Tamira White, Shar'ron Williams, Philip Woodward, Letha Young

CONTRACTORS/GUESTS PRESENT: Mary Beth Brown, Caryn Cook, Aleecia Dickerson, Jamila Little, Michelle Merritt, David Owen, Devika Rao, Jessie Smatters, Anne Whaley

WELCOME AND ATTENDANCE

Bryan Dooley, NCCDD-Chair, welcomed the members. Bryan asked any Council member with a potential conflict of interest regarding items on the agenda to identify the specific conflict for documentation in the minutes and recuse, as necessary. He thanked the members for their participation on Thursday.

Donna Spears conducted the roll call.

APPROVAL OF COUNCIL MINUTES

Donna Spears asked for approval of the November Council meeting minutes. A copy of the minutes had previously been made available to Council members.

MOTION 1: Aldea LaParr made a motion to approve the November 2022 minutes. Virginia Knowlton Marcus. Cheryl Powell seconded the motion. The motion was approved by unanimous vote.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Talley Wells, Executive Director of NCCDD, provided an update on the following Council activities since the August 2022 Council meeting:

Talley shared information about the two (2) Meet the Need NC Events held for over 100 people in Boone, NC and Greenville, NC in September. Meet the Need NC launched an initiative and informative website and Meet the Need NC sent all General Assembly (NCGA) members a survey investigating the NCGA's understanding of the Direct Support Professional (DSP) crisis as well as the unmet needs of individuals living with I/DD in NC .

Talley shared information about the Tailored Plan launch's delay until April 2023 and updated on the new initiation date on care management and 1915i - which will begin December 1, 2022. The Policy Education Committee had a presentation and met with Tailored Plan/Medicaid leadership and Cindy Ehlers from Trillium

about Tailored Plan launch. The Council's Policy Education Committee and Policy Analyst created and provided public comments to DHHS 1915i proposal.

Talley talked briefly about Council Chair Bryan Dooley, Pam Hunter Dempsey and others from NCCDD met with Secretary Kinsley and DHHS leadership about DSP crisis. Talley also mentioned the conversation that NCCDD had with members of the NCGA and NC DHHS during the Council's Annual Awards event on Wednesday and also during the Thursday portion of NCCDD's Quarterly Council Meeting. The Council funded \$25,000 to support an initiative, along with two provider groups, to do DSP rate study to determine funding needs and actual costs involved in increasing DSP rates across North Carolina.

Talley provided information on current and upcoming Requests for Applications (RFAs), mentioning that Roommate Matching Initiative RFA applications were reviewed and discussed during the Community Living Committee meeting on Thursday and also outlining some of the information on the I/DD Employment Champion Financial Asset Development RFA discussed within the Financial Asset Development Committee meeting. Talley talked about the draft Policy Education Agenda created through the Public Policy Education Committee. Talley then also shared that since August, the Council staff conducted presentations for the Kentucky Legislature, First in Families Conference, and North Carolina Council of the Blind.

Finally, Talley outlined the Council's upcoming plans and events, as follows: The Statewide Reentry Collaborative Presentation is on November 8, 2022 through NCCDD's Justice Release, Reentry, and Reintegration Initiative; The Competitive Integrated Employment Information Session is on November 7, 2022; the release of the Employment Champion RFA, the release of Unmet Need Film in late 2022 or early 2023; the Long Session of the General Assembly will initiate in early 2022; Upcoming Meet the Need Lunch and Learns; submitting NCCDD's Annual Program and Performance Report to Administration for Community Living (ACL); and NCCDD's involvement in i2i Conference presentations, including presentations by Meet the Need NC, Cheryl Powell, and Bryan Dooley.

FINANCIAL REPORT

Bryan Dooley gave a brief report on the financial status of the Council. A copy of the report had previously been made available in advance of the Council Meeting. Shar'ron Williams additionally reviewed the information with Council members on Thursday, giving a brief report and *Question and Answer* session in each committee meeting.

LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

Rep. Zack Hawkins gave brief update on Rep. Hawkins' interest in discussing Medicaid expansion, and that ongoing conversations are occurring through Hospitals, the Governor, and members of the House and Senate working to determine how it might look in North Carolina. Rep. Hawkins also discussed the need to reduce the Innovations Waiver Registry of Unmet Needs (i.e., waiting list). He also talked about the need to better educate, increase pay rates, and improve overall support to Director Support Professionals in North Carolina. Rep. Hawkins concluded with mentioning an interest in supporting improved education of the I/DD Caucus and bringing its members up to speed on all of these topics that are important to North Carolina, once the Legislature is in session in 2023, including the work of NCCDD's Justice Release, Reentry, and Reintegration initiative and working to make sure that NCGA members are as aware and interested in I/DD issues as they were in 2022.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Talley shared that this was Dave Owen's last Council meeting as a Direct Support Professional. Talley thanked Dave for his impact on the Council and for all he has accomplished while working with Bryan Dooley in attending numerous Council meetings and Council activities.

Maureen Glaser, Program Manager with Charitable Adult Rides & Services (CARS), shared information about the On-the-Go Transportation Solutions as CARS. These services focus on the rider and customized solutions for different non-profit and government organizations across the United States (US). On the Go partners across the US (e.g., Lyft and Uber) and provide impactful solutions - removing barriers to transportation. On the Go focuses, in particular, on the vulnerable and underserved population, such as people with developmental disabilities and older adults, with a dedicated call-center so no application interface is required and also the provision to all riders of a curtesy call when drivers are enroute to pick-up an individual. Maureen Glaser forwarded information to NCCDD Systems Change Manager Philip Woodward, in case individuals are interested in obtaining Maureen's additional information.

Ryan Rotundo also shared information on the Department of Labor's website's outlining of the organizations and areas in North Carolina that utilize the Fair Labor Standards Act's Section 14(c) certificates, permitting these organizations to pay people living with disabilities less than minimum wages - and invited individuals to consider these policies and practices within North Carolina while also offering to share this information as requested.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Bryan Dooley requested the presentation of committee reports. Please refer to the committee minutes for a detailed description of each committee's work.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

The Executive Committee members met August 22, 2022, September 8, 2022, and October 17, 2022. Copies of the minutes were made available to Council members and Bryan Dooley asked members to review the minutes. Ryan Rotundo also announced as a reminder that the minutes are also posted on the NCCDD website.

MOTION 1: Anna Ward made a motion to approve the Executive Committee's recommendation for the 2022-2023 NCCDD to maintain the current standing committee chairs; Tony Hall for Financial Asset Development, Charlean Mapson for Community Living, Aldea LaParr for Advocacy Development, and Marjorie Serralles-Russell for the Public Policy Education Committee. Jamila Little seconded the motion. The motion was approved by unanimous vote.

MOTION 2: Donna Spears made a motion to approve the November 2023 Council Meeting dates to transition to November 7, 8, and 9 instead of November 8, 9, and 10 due to November 10 being a State Holiday. In addition, the Executive Committee will invite Council Members to discuss Council By-Laws, including discussions on future Quarterly Council Meetings, in their November 2022, December 2022, and January 2023 Executive Committee Meetings. Kay McMillian seconded the motion. The motion was approved by unanimous vote.

FINANCIAL ASSET DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

Committee Chair Tony Hall presented the Financial Asset Development Committee report. He thanked all committee members and staff and gave a brief update on the discussions from the Thursday meeting, including the initiative updates that were presented to the committee. The following motion was presented on the floor for Council consideration:

MOTION 1: Donna Spears made a motion for NCCDD to revise the Self-Advocate and Family Employment Campaign Draft RFA in the amount of \$120,000 with required 25% minimum non-federal matching funds (i.e., \$40,000), approved during the May 2022 Council Meeting for creation, into a Draft RFA effort entitled I/DD Services Champion RFA.

Therefore, NCCDD staff is directed to have authority to release the Draft RFA regarding the initiative entitled *I/DD Services Champion* in an amount up to \$80,000 per year with required minimum 25% non-federal matching funds (\$26,666), for up to one year, starting within the time period of no sooner than February 1, 2023 and ending within the time period of no later than September 30, 2024. In addition, Council staff will have authority to extend the due date for applications, if necessary.

Staff will consider all suggestions made by Council members when making any revisions before the release of the RFA.

This Draft RFA is approved with the following contingencies:

- NCCDD will update the deliverables outlining I/DD and Family employment opportunities to include a narrower focus on I/DD Care Extenders, Family Navigators, and Peer Mentors supporting individuals living with I/DD.

Nessie Siler seconded the motion. The motion was approved by unanimous vote.

MOTION 2: Carol Conway made a motion to direct NCCDD staff to draft a Request for Applications (RFA) on the Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs) Initiative focusing on Inclusive Postsecondary Education for [individuals living with I/DD] [with ultimate]consideration at the February 2023 meeting. Virginia Knowlton Marcus seconded the motion. The motion was approved by unanimous vote.

COMMUNITY LIVING COMMITTEE

Ryan Rotundo, NCCDD Vice-Chair presented the Community Living Committee report. He thanked all committee members and staff and gave a brief update on the discussions from the Thursday meeting, including initiative updates that were presented to the committee. The following motions were presented on the floor for Council consideration:

Motion 1: Nessie Siler made a motion for the NCCDD to approve the recommendation of the RFA Review Committee to provide funding to Partners4Housing for Year 1 (of 3) of the initiative entitled ***Roommate-Matching Service*** in the amount of up to \$120,000 with a required minimum of 25% non-federal matching funds (up to \$40,000) with Year 1 (of 3) starting no sooner than January 1, 2023 and ending no later than October 30, 2024 and including the following contingencies:

1. Make the ongoing application/service user-friendly where a person with I/DD can understand the application and how to use the system with ease.
2. Address diversity, including serving Hispanic/Latino individuals and families, and including those who speak Spanish.
3. Provide more detail on the evaluation plan, including selecting Performance Measures to report to the NCCDD quarterly.
4. Provide a more detailed sustainability plan.
5. It will be important to have a local partner/subcontractor to ensure the local success of this initiative. Therefore, the applicant should outline its plan and budget for a partnership/subcontract agreement in the pilot county where this service will launch.
6. Ensure that the applicant's workforce has enough current North Carolina knowledge or a local partner with sufficient North Carolina knowledge.

The Executive Committee will have the authority to approve or deny the proposed contractor's response to these contingencies at an upcoming Executive Committee meeting. Peggy Terhune seconded the motion. Carol Conway abstained from the motion due to her affiliation with the Arc of NC. The motion was approved by unanimous vote.

ADVOCACY DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

Committee Chair Aldea LaParr presented the Advocacy Development Committee report. She thanked all committee members and staff and gave a brief update on the discussions from the Thursday meeting, including initiative updates that were presented to the committee.

PUBLIC POLICY EDUCATION COMMITTEE

Committee Chair Marjorie Serralles-Russell presented the Public Policy Education Committee report. She thanked all committee members and staff and gave a brief update on the discussions from the Thursday meeting.

NEW BUSINESS

Chair Bryan Dooley invited members to make nominations from the floor for the one Vice-Chair position being vacated by Cheryl Powell. He explained that members nominated have the option to accept or decline the nomination and if accepted, make a speech to the members. Bryan thanked Cheryl for her service as Vice-Chair and for their time served on the Executive Committee. There was one accepted nomination for Vice-Chair.

MOTION: Peggy Terhune made a motion after nomination, acclamation, and unanimous consent, to approve Nessie Siler as Vice-Chair (2-year term, January 1, 2023 until December 31, 2024). Donna Spears seconded the motion. Motion was approved by unanimous vote.

DD NETWORK PARTNER UPDATES

Anna Ward of the Carolina Institute for Developmental Disabilities (CIDD) gave a brief update of the CIDD's activities. Anna shared a written report that was sent to all Council members.

Virginia Knowlton Marcus, Chief Executive Officer of Disability Rights North Carolina (DRNC), thanked NCCDD for collaboration on Project Access and mentioned that DRNC is utilizing the Ambassadors in DRNC's Voting Rights work. Virginia then reminded and invited all to engage in their right to vote. Virginia shared a written report that was sent to all Council members.

OLD BUSINESS

No old business.

ADJOURN

MOTION: Bryan Dooley, Chair asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting. Donna Spears made a motion to adjourn the November 2022 Council meeting. Ryan Rotundo seconded the motion. The motion was approved by unanimous vote.