



Florida Developmental Disabilities Council, Inc.
Quarterly Business Meeting
Florida Hotel & Conference Center
May 5, 2017
Council Meeting Minutes

Members Present:	Members Absent:	Staff Present:
Susan Kabot, Chair Pat Archer Amanda Baker Dick Bradley Conney Dahn Eddie Hall Laurie Harlow Kevin Johnson Chantelle Jones-Carter Jack Kosik Kathy Leigh Alesia McKinlay TJ Moon Bernadette Moran Maryellen McDonald Cassandra Pasley Elizabeth Perkins Maggie Reilly Frank Shalett Jean Sherman Phil Stevens (via conference call) Louis Towson Monica Verra-Tirado	Rixys Alfonso Denise Arnold Ronni Bianco Tricia Riccardi Victoria Zepp <div style="background-color: #cccccc; padding: 2px;">Others Present:</div> Catherine Avery Roberta Dykes Katty Hall Joaquin Femoselle	Valerie Breen Tracy Coomer Sheila Gritz-Swift Holly Hohmeister Vanda Jenkins Rick Lockenbach Ann Smith

The Council chair called the meeting to order at 9:03 a.m. with self-introductions of our staff and council members.

Review of the Minutes

The Council chair asked the members to review the minutes from the January 13, 2017 council meeting. The minutes were amended to show Maggie Reilly as being present.

MOTION: It was moved (Dick Bradley) and seconded (Kevin Johnson) to approve the January 13, 2017, meeting minutes. Motion carried.

Finance Committee Report:

Dick Bradley reported on the discussions and actions of the Finance Committee.

Action Items:

- The Committee approved the administrative budget as presented. **NOTE:** The Finance Committee recommended that future administrative budgets include a column for actuals.
- The Committee approved the budget to actual as presented.
- The Committee approved the State Plan budget as presented. **NOTE:** Within this approval, the Finance Committee authorized the purchase of carpet for the Council office outright through excess 2016 funds.

MOTION: It was moved (Amanda Baker) and seconded (Maggie Reilly) to approve the Finance Committee report. Motion carried.

Executive Committee Report:

Sue Kabot reported on the discussions and actions of the Executive Committee.

Action Items:

The committee, after a discussion of concerns and options related to background screening for staff, contractors, volunteers and Council members, The Executive Committee approved the following:

- New and existing staff members will be required to complete Level II Background Screening through the Volunteer & Employee Criminal History System (VECHS).
- All Council providers, and their employees assigned to work on Council projects, will be required to complete Level II Background Screening through Florida's Volunteer & Employee Criminal History System or provide documentation of existing screening meeting the above criterion, current within five years.
- The committee agreed to table the conversation related to volunteers and revisit in the future.
- The committee agreed by consensus not to require background screening for Council members.

Informational Items:

- An update was provided on the Council attorney's positions on public notice requirements, members voting via email or phone, and RFP scoring to better reflect providers' history of work with the Council.
- The following suggestions were made: 1) redevelop restructuring the current consultant cap, and 2) provide training on board governance for board development. Both will need to be brought back to the Executive Committee for consideration.

MOTION: It was moved (Monica Verra-Tirado) and seconded (Kathy Leigh) to approve the Executive Committee report. Motion carried.

State Plan Committee Report:

Jean Sherman reported on the discussions and actions of the State Plan Committee.

Action Items:

- The Committee approved the following Implementing Activities Funding Proposals totaling \$291,000.
 - Approved – \$125,000 from the Employment Goal Subcommittee for the Employ Me 1st Initiative project.
 - Approved – \$31,000 from the Self Advocacy Leadership Goal Subcommittee for the Partners in Policymaking Coordinator.
 - Approved – \$135,000 from the Elementary through Post-Secondary Transition Goal Subcommittee for the Career and Technical Center Model – VERTICAL Training Program Initiative

MOTION: It was moved (Pat Archer) and seconded (Kathy Leigh) to approve the State Plan Committee report. Motion carried.

Chair Report:

Sue Kabot outlined the activities that have transpired since she became chair. Valerie Breen has been hired as the Executive Director of the Florida Developmental Disabilities Council. The Council is reorganizing, with a revised structure and other changes, consistent with changes approved by the Council. The Council is embarking on implementation of the 2017-21 State Plan that was approved by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services Administration on Intellectual and Development Disabilities (AIDD) last year. Staff is working to develop new contracts under that plan. Sue elaborated on two Council events she attended: Partners in Policymaking graduation and Developmental Disabilities Awareness Day at the Capitol. She encouraged Council members input to support positive change for the Council, including input into the Council's legislative agenda. She stated that she believes that the recent Congressional vote to repeal Obamacare demonstrated the fragility of the existing system for persons with intellectual and developmental disabilities and that there is a need to be proactive as advocates on behalf of these persons.

Executive Director Report:

Valerie Breen presented on outcomes achieved in her first 35 days as Executive Director. She stated that 1.) Renovations of the office space have started and will be completed, hopefully, by the end of June; 2.) The "Fatal Flaws" process that determines whether a Request for Proposal (RFP) is accepted for review was shortened by a month; 3.) An all staff meeting was held covering expectations under the new leadership; and 4.) Valerie met by phone or in person with 25 of the 29 council members. She ended her presentation with her personal story.

State and Sister Agency Reports:

Children's Medical Services/Early Steps – Cassandra Pasley

Ms. Pasley stated that CMS is currently participating in a national project with The Agency for Health Care Administration (AHCA). They are updating their Individual Support Plan to a more readable document. CMS has issued an RFP for all Early Steps programs to complete. CMS is also involved in a Multi-Agency Improvement Plan and has requested seven (7) new positions for the agency.

Elder Affairs – Catherine Avery

Ms. Avery reported that the department is half way through their three (3) year grant of an Alzheimer's Project. There is a pilot project in Alachua and Broward County, Florida. This pilot is a part of the

Alzheimer's Disease and Supportive Services Program (ADSP). Additionally, she informed us that there is legislation regarding the Office of Public Guardian Program that will address the issue of guardians who breach their responsibilities.

Vocational Rehabilitation – Alesia McKinlay

Ms. McKinlay informed the Council that the Division of Vocational Rehabilitation's (VR's) federal funders (Rehabilitation Services Administration) visited the divisions of VR and Blind Services the week of April 24th to monitor the programs. For VR, they reviewed thirty (30) cases, interviewed staff, and obtained written financial, policy, and procedural information. The final report will not be available until sometime in August, and technical assistance will be offered, if needed.

In the legislative session, there has been discussion that VR will lose nine (9) positions, but they are hopeful that this won't happen. Ms. McKinlay also shared that there is legislative activity focused on The Able Trust during this session. The Able Trust annually receives state funding through three (3) or four (4) statutory provisions, e.g., from civil penalties, motorcycle plates, VR, and something else she can't remember. Some of these funds are passed through to other entities. The legislature wants The Able Trust to use their assets to a larger extent to fund their traditional grant, research, and youth service programs, and intends to redirect the state funding streams to VR, to the Florida Association of Centers for Independent Living (FACIL)(current recipient of pass-through funds), and some other entities currently receiving the pass-through funds. FACIL uses these funds to administer the James Patrick Memorial Program, which provides personal care attendants to individuals with disabilities who are working. High School High Tech is a wonderful program administered by The Able Trust, funded in part through VR, and though the funding mix may change as a result of the session, there is an intent to continue (and grow) the program. It has been very successful in helping students with disabilities to graduate from high school and pursue jobs or post-secondary opportunities.

University of Miami Mailman Center – Jean Sherman

Ms. Sherman informed the Council that The Mailman Center is fortunate to have 10 million dollars in various research programs which include the Zika Virus and DD projects. The TASH Foundation has provided \$450,000 in a grant award which will provide training to stakeholders, community members and families. They will focus on areas such as Little Havana and other low income areas where there are students. There will be a Train the Trainer navigator which will assist individuals who need to learn and be directed to appropriate services.

There is a new initiative that will involve siblings of individuals with developmental disabilities. The LEND program will be involved in these same communities. There will be training for mid professionals in low income communities. High School students will be impacted

Dr. Jeff Brosco's appointment as new Deputy Secretary in the Florida Department of Health is pending. After he has been officially appointed, he will still be involved in the newborn screening and nutrition for young children.

Disability Rights Florida – Maryellen McDonald

Ms. McDonald reported that Dana Farmer and Tony DePalma made visits to the Congressional and Senate Delegation. She also informed us that Disability Rights has developed an Input Survey which will go out electronically on May 8, 2017. This will assist with their Strategic Long Range Plan. Family

Café is right around and Disability Rights Florida will be among those agencies being represented and presenting.

Agency for Health Care Administration- Chantelle Jones-Carter

Ms. Carter-Jones reported that Shevaun Harris has been appointed Deputy Secretary for Medicaid. She also informed us that an Invitation To Negotiate (ITN) will be available this summer. The DD/IDD Individual Budget will address intense behavioral needs. HCBS Rule-residential setting is still waiting for rule implementation. Extra time has been allotted for implementation.

Department of Education/Bureau of Exceptional Education Student Services– Monica Verra-Tirado

Ms. Verra-Tirado informed the Council that there has been an increase in expectation for ESE students. Last year graduation rate was 63%, the highest it has ever been which has decreased the drop-out rate.

BEESS has developed a mechanism known as the Early Warning System that detects problems prior to graduation.

Florida Center for Inclusive Communities– Elizabeth Perkins

Ms. Perkins informed the Council that the budgets have been tightened. In March, FCIC provided an online virtual conference, "Working Together to Improve Student Behaviors". Over twenty (20) sessions were presented.

In April, a one day virtual conference on Employment was presented with over 100 attendees plus "watch parties" participated.

The Tampa mayor, Bob Buckhorn, proclaimed Tampa as "Autism Friendly" by providing quiet spaces in the city and training for city employees. FCIC continues with the Waitlist Campaign: www.ddwaitlist

Old/New Business

- Maryellen McDonald, on behalf of Margaret Hooper, briefed the council on outcomes to date from the on-going legislative session. She also detailed the capitol update and briefly discussed the budget.
- Sue Kabot informed the council that Tricia Riccardi and Kathy Leigh were nominated to receive the 2017 NACDD Champions of Equal Opportunity "CEO" Award. The Executive Committee felt that these individuals personify the ideals of self-determination, inclusion, and integration through legislative advocacy, public awareness/engagement, and organizational leadership worthy of consideration for this prestigious award. As a result of the nomination, they will be inducted into the Leadership Circle for Self-Advocates during the 2017 NACDD Conference.
- Pat Archer informed the Council that he would be graduating with an Associate in Arts degree from Palm Beach Community College and continuing on to Florida Atlantic University; He would also be celebrating his 20 year anniversary at Publix on May 12th.
- Jean Sherman informed the Council that the Florida Lifespan Respite Summit would be held on June 15th.
- Jack Kosik shared information on the grand opening of Noah's Landing.
- Amanda Baker shared with the Council that she would be presenting at Family Café on behalf of FL SAND.
- Sue Kabot also shared that 2018 Council meeting dates are forthcoming; January Council meeting date has been confirmed for Jan 25th -26th.

Public Comment

None

Adjourn

It was moved (Jack Kosik) and seconded (Pat Archer) to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 12:55 p.m.



Florida Developmental Disabilities Council, Inc.
State Plan Committee Meeting Highlights
May 4, 2017
10:30 a.m. – 12:11 p.m.

I. Approval of minutes from January 12, 2017 Meeting

The minutes from the January 12, 2017 meeting were approved.

II. Projects for Review & Consideration

The State Plan Committee approved three (3) projects for a total of \$291,000.

Implementing Activities Funding Proposals approved were:

A. Employment Goal Subcommittee

1) Employ Me 1st

Brief Description: The purpose of this initiative is to provide support to Florida's Employment First efforts, including implementation of the Interagency Collaborative Agreement; dissemination of information to the grassroots group; enhancement and maintenance of the Employment First Florida website; and support to previously established and new local level collaborative teams.

The requested and approved amount was \$125,000

B. Self-Advocacy Leadership

2) Partners in Policymaking

Brief Description: The purpose of this initiative is to provide for a coordinator for the Partners in Policymaking program, who is responsible for all aspects of the planning and execution of the 2017 class and preliminary planning for the 2018 class as well as the development and implementation of activities focusing on the Florida graduates of the program.

The requested and approved amount was \$31,000.

C. Elementary through Post-Secondary Transition Goal Subcommittee

3) Career and Technical Center Model – VERTICAL Training Program

Brief Description: The purpose of this initiative is to continue to build the program initiated in year one and continued in year two within Robert Morgan Technical College and begin securing long-term sustainability. During year three, the project will expand services to include additional students

with intellectual and developmental disabilities; update Career Workforce Education (CWE) materials as needed; provide inclusive education training to instructors/staff; identify and implement student support services needed; evaluate project activities; and develop a final report and recommendations for next steps.

The requested and approved amount was \$135,000. NOTE: The stipulation by the goal subcommittee for \$28,000 to be earmarked for student scholarships was removed, allowing for the budget to be approved as originally proposed.

III. Report on 2017 State Plan Updates

A brief update was provided on the 2017 State Plan. No State Plan Amendments were identified by Goal Subcommittees, so it is not anticipated that the Council will need to submit any amendments in August 2017. State Plan Updates to be submitted to AIDD with the PPR in December 2017, include extending the Broad Systems Change Goal and Objectives to allow for completion of the following initiatives in 2018:

- Project SEARCH
- Transition Services Delivery Model
- UDL Regional Training
- Route to Self-Determination

The only additional State Plan Update will be adding a subtitle to the Workforce Goal to read: Workforce (Direct Service Providers' Compensation and Training) Goal.

IV. Significant Project Issues (if applicable)

No significant project issues were presented