



Florida Developmental Disabilities Council, Inc.

State Plan Committee

Executive Summary

October 6, 2017

9:00 a.m. – 10:30 a.m.

Summary:

The State Plan Committee met via Go to Meeting Webinar on October 6, 2017. Members in attendance were Jean Sherman, who served as Acting Chair, Amanda Baker, Conney Dahn, Bernadette Moran, Phil Stevens, Eddie Hall, Denise Arnold, Kevin Johnson, Jan Pearce, Pat Archer and Maggie Reilly. The main purpose of the committee meeting, besides moving general business items, was to approve the Implementing Activities Funding Proposal for Advocacy and Communications, approve the 2018 Legislative Priorities and to hear a report out on the outcomes for year one of FDDC's five year strategic plan.

1. Approval of minutes from May 4, 2017 Meeting

The minutes from the May 4, 2017 meeting were approved with the stipulation that the spelling of Phil's name be changed from Stephens to Stevens.

II. Approval of Implementing Activities Funding Proposal for All Systems Change Goals

The State Plan Committee approved this funding proposal for a total of **\$142,650**: The amount supported Advocacy and Communication Efforts for Transportation, Employment, Housing, Elementary through Postsecondary Transition, Workforce, and Self-Advocacy Systems Change Goals for FY 2018.

The proposal addressed the routine set of Communication and Public Policy activities that are generic across all State Plan Systems Change goals. The activities form the base of the Council's Public Policy and Communication functions to provide outreach and information to stakeholders, form partnerships around public policy issues, and educate policy makers. The costs for these activities will be spread evenly across each of the noted systems change goals.

III. Overview of Year 1 of State Plan Goals and Progress

An overview of the progress made on Year 1 of the State Plan was provided to the members by Sheila Gritz-Swift, Deputy Director of Programs. Her Power Point presentation will be made available online through the website.

IV. 2018 Proposed Legislative Priorities

The State Plan Committee approved the following Legislative Priorities for 2018:

- 1. Pay Fair for Care-** a campaign message and legislative advocacy to address the recruitment and retention of direct care workers, direct care worker shortage, and the need for increased wages. Partners in this messaging campaign are the Florida Association of Rehabilitation Facilities and the ARC of Florida.
- 2. Strengthening the iBudget Developmental Disabilities Home and Community-Based Services (DD HCBS) Waiver-** this initiative will focus on the critical need to include funding to meet the federal Department of Labor wage requirements in the base budget of the Agency for Persons with Disabilities and fund the growth of the iBudget program so that the Florida legislature

can continue their support of a long-term commitment to transition individuals off the iBudget waitlist.

- 3. Guidelines for the Prevention and Reduction of Restraint in the Public-School System**-this initiative will focus on a state policy where physical restraint in the school system shall only be used as a last resort when there is a demonstrable and imminent physical danger to students or others and seclusion, mechanical restraints and prone restraint is banned entirely.
- 4. Recommendations from the Transportation Task Force**- once the Transportation Task Force issues its recommendations in December 2017 to the legislature, stakeholders will urge the Florida Legislature to provide resources and explore alternative approaches for transportation for individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities.
- 5. Working People with Disabilities Program**- This initiative will address new legislation that proposes a program that will allow individuals with disabilities to make more than \$25,000 per year without losing costly services and therapies that allow these individuals to work and contribute to the workforce.
- 6. Secondary Issue Supported by the Council...Early Steps Funding**
The Council will continue to support increased funding for the Early Steps Program for an increasing population of children with developmental delays and/or children identified as at risk.