

Florida Developmental Disabilities Council, Inc.
Full Council Meeting Minutes
September 22, 2022

Thursday, September 22, 2022

Members Present: Kevin Johnson, Chair, Conney Dahn, Sarah Goldman, Elly Hagen, Laurie Harlow, Dennis Hart, Yolanda Herrera, Jack Kosik, Lisa Miller, TJ Moon, Jan Pearce, Elizabeth Perkins, Tom Rice, Frank Shalett, Jean Sherman and Peter Sleasman

Members Absent: Dick Bradley, Eddie Hall, Kali Wilson and Victoria Zepp

Staff Present: Valerie Breen, Susan DeBeaugrine, Sheila Gritz-Swift, Margaret Hooper, Vanda Jenkins, Sue Kabot, Lisa Taylor and Kristin Vandagriff

Others Present: Jessica Brattain, Andrea Gary, Kira Houge, Catherine McGrath, , Sheila Mohler and Paul Shalett

The committee meetings began on Thursday, September 22nd from 9:00 am – 2:15 pm. The full council meeting also started on Thursday, September 22nd from 2:30 pm – 5:00 pm and continued through Friday, September 23rd from 9:30 am – 12:30 pm.

- I. Roll call was taken by Jenkins and quorum was established. Johnson called the meeting to order at 2:35 pm.
- II. Approval of the Minutes

Action Taken: Kosik made a motion to accept the May 19, 2022 minutes. Herrera seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

III. Chair/Vice-Chair Report

Johnson included in his presentation the rebranding of Bishop Grady Villas to Magnify. He displayed the new website and gave a verbal overview of the facility.

In the absence of Eddie Hall, our Council Vice-Chair, Johnson gave the vice-chair report and showed a video on “Removing the Barriers.”

IV. Executive Director Report

Breen began her report by sharing the accomplishments of the FDDC. She continued her presentation with slides from her vacation in Paris where she explained and expounded on the outcomes of her being hospitalized. And as a result, she shared her experience and observed some interesting facts relating to those with developmental disabilities and the services they receive in other countries.

V. Workforce Collaborative Training presentation

McComas presented on Workforce Collaborative Training Initiative: Improving Direct Support Professionals’ Skills and Retention. FDDC staff, Gritz-Swift & Kabot was also a part of this presentation.

VI. Public Comment

The meeting was adjourned at 5:15 pm.

Friday, September 23, 2022

Members Present: Kevin Johnson, Chair, Sarah Goldman, Elly Hagen, Laurie Harlow, Dennis Hart, Yolanda Herrera, Lisa Miller, TJ Moon, Jan Pearce, Elizabeth Perkins, Tom Rice, Frank Shalett, Jean Sherman and Peter Sleasman

Members Absent: Dick Bradley, Eddie Hall, Kali Wilson and Victoria Zepp

Staff Present: Valerie Breen, Susan DeBeaugrine, Sheila Gritz-Swift, Margaret Hooper, Vanda Jenkins, Sue Kabot, Lisa Taylor and Kristin Vandagriff

Others Present: Jessica Brattain, Andrea Gary, Kira Houge, Catherine McGrath, Rachel Harlow, Sheila Mohler and Paul Shalett

The Council meeting continued, roll call was taken, and quorum established.

I. Roll call was taken by Jenkins and quorum was established. Johnson called the meeting to order at 9:30 am.

II. State and Sister Agency Reports

Reports were provided by Barbara Palmer & Tom Rice, Agency for Persons with Disabilities, Catherine McGrath, Agency for Healthcare Administration, Kira Houge, Department of Elder Affairs, Jan Pearce, Vocational Rehabilitation, Jessica Brattain, Department of Education, Bureau of Exceptional Student Services, Andrea Gary, Department of Health, Children's Medical Services, Jean Sherman, Mailman Center, Elizabeth Perkins, Florida Center for Inclusive Communities and Peter Sleasman, Disabilities Rights Florida,.

III. Public Policy Committee Report

Refer to attached Public Policy Committee Summary Report presented by committee Chair, Sarah Goldman.

IV. State Plan Committee Report

Refer to attached State Plan Committee Summary Report presented by committee Chair, Jean Sherman.

V. Finance Committee Report

Refer to attached Finance Committee Summary Report presented by committee Chair, Dennis Hart.

VI. Executive Committee Report

Refer to attached Executive Committee Summary Report presented by committee Chair, Kevin Johnson.

VII. Public Comment

The meeting was adjourned at 12:55 pm.

FLORIDA DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES COUNCIL, INC.

Public Policy Committee Report

September 22, 2022

The Public Policy Committee met yesterday, and we discussed and approved the Council's Legislative Platform which includes the following,

Invest in home and community-based services to include individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities into their community

This year the Public Policy and Advocacy Committee approved prioritizing talking with lawmakers about the value of investing in Florida's Home and Community Based Services (HCBS) Medicaid waiver for individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities (I/DD). There are many aspects of the iBudget waiver that need to be supported so a broad-based request to invest in the Waiver seemed the best way to frame our platform this year. The need for strengthening the Support Coordination system and Behavioral Services appear to be emerging. The draft position is on page 3 of your materials and includes the following recommendations some of which have been modified by the Committee. **1.** The Council supports estimating increases in utilization that accurately reflect the yearly additional needs of individuals on the iBudget waiver. Recommendation **2.** was changed to say a significant reduction of individuals should come off the waitlist each year instead of 10%. Also, a careful analysis of who is on the waitlist is recommended. **3.** The Council supports creating a robust case management and support coordination workforce to address the needs of individuals with I/DD. **4.** The Council supports addressing the behavioral needs of individuals with I/DD. The narrative paragraph will be edited to include behavioral services for all with I/DD who need them and an investment in Behavioral Focused group homes and Behavioral Intensive groups homes.

Supported Decision Making (SDM)

The Council has advocated for Supported Decision-Making legislation for the last two years. Proposed language was suggested for statute 393 last year to make SDM an alternative to Guardian Advocacy and this passed out of one committee. The Public Policy and Advocacy Committee voted to continue to work on this issue.

Arc Waitlist Campaign

Arc of Florida is about to launch a Campaign to explain the iBudget Waitlist called Be Prepared, Be Counted and Be Heard. The Campaign includes information and advocacy concerning education about what services Florida has for individuals with I/DD, the benefits of being on the Waitlist and the importance of being heard. The Public Policy and Advocacy Committee approved Margaret's work on this campaign on behalf of the Council.

Foster Children with Disabilities

The Public Policy and Advocacy Committee heard from advocates, Amanda Johnson and Vanessa who work with the foster care system. They told stories about children with I/DD who have intense behavioral challenges and the need more services and behavioral supports from APD. The Committee voted to approve the draft position.

Dental Services for individuals with I/DD

The Committee voted to support increased funding for dental services for individuals on the iBudget Waitlist and for more availability of dental services for those on the iBudget Waiver.

Developmental Disabilities Awareness Day is scheduled for March 14, 2023!

FLORIDA DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES COUNCIL, INC.

State Plan Committee Report

September 22, 2022

I. Approval of minutes from May 19, 2022 Meeting

The minutes from the May 19, 2022 meeting were approved as presented.

II. Approval of minutes from July 27, 2022 Meeting

The minutes from the July 27, 2022 meeting were approved as presented.

III. Update on IFPs/Sole Source Status

Valerie Breen provided a brief update on the status of IFPs/Sole Source contracts and agreements.

IV. Approval of Program Budget with modifications

The 5-year state plan budget approved in 2021 was shared. Adjustments were made for 2023 to increase our overall goal for Self-Advocacy to \$2,720,074. The narrative on page 15 of the State Plan Committee materials behind Tab 2 explains the difference for 2023 which impacts the overall goal for this Priority.

V. Task Force Updates

Each Task Force Chair or Co-chair provided an update on their task force membership and current projects, including project providers, funding award, project term, purpose, and status. The status reports provided rich information on the positive outcomes that are being achieved through projects that are in place.

FLORIDA DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES COUNCIL, INC.

Finance Committee Report

September 22, 2022

Action Items:

1. Approved minutes from the 5/19/22 Finance Committee meeting.
2. Approved an increase of \$110,069 for the 2023 Administration budget. The increases are primarily related to computer, travel, and payroll. Funds are available within our Programmatic Reserve Budget to accommodate the request.

Review/Discussion:

1. Reviewed the Administrative Expenditures Budget to Actual Report for 10/01/21 through 6/30/22. Line items were highlighted with details and the overall administrative spending is in line with the budget with anticipated unspent funds.
2. Reviewed Administrative Budget Projections 10/01/21 – 9/30/22. We are estimating approximately \$258,000 will be unspent. These funds will be transferred to Program Reserve.
3. Reviewed Program Reserve. Program Reserve is initially funded at an amount equal to 1.5% of our grant award. Program Reserve is also made up of unspent funds from Administration, Advocacy & Communication, contracts, and projects. Our current policy allows for these funds to be used, with approval, to enhance contract amounts, or other funding needs, or address emerging needs. We are estimating the balance of Program Reserve to be \$442,000 at 9/30/22.

FLORIDA DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES COUNCIL, INC.

Executive Committee Report

September 22, 2022

The meeting was called to order at 1:00 p.m.

The Finance and Executive Committee members unanimously adopted the FDDC 2023 budget.

The Executive Committee members were recognized for their work on modifying the Council application process.

The performance review process for the Executive Director was reviewed with committee members and a doodle poll will be sent for early November to schedule the performance review.

There was no public comment.

The meeting was closed to all attendees except the Executive Committee members for personnel discussion.

The members heard a presentation from Connie Chiara, CEO of Corporate Benefits Partners, who was asked to evaluate and identify options for staff ancillary benefits (i.e., short-term, long-term, dental and life insurance). Ms. Chiara provided information on comparative benefits from other carriers. The committee agreed to hire Ms. Chiara to work with staff regarding benefits.

The members heard a presentation from Penny Morey, President of RemarkAbleHR, the Council's human resource consultant. Ms. Morey provided a comprehensive presentation on the current market related to compensation. The committee agreed to adopt the 2023 merit matrix as presented to be used for employee performance compensation.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:10 p.m.