



September 21-22, 2023
Council Meeting

Florida Hotel & Conference
Center Orlando

1500 Sand Lake Rd, Orlando, FL 32809

OUR MISSION

“To advocate and promote meaningful participation in all aspects of life for Floridians with developmental disabilities”.

For more information or questions, contact
Kristen Conlin, kristenc@fddc.org or 850-488-4180

FLORIDA DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES COUNCIL, INC.

MEMORANDUM

TO: Council Members
FROM: Valerie Breen, Executive Director
RE: Highlights to pay attention to in your Council book
DATE: September 5, 2023
Cc: FDDC staff

Greetings Council Members!

Chair Johnson and I look forward to seeing you at the September Council meeting!

Please pay special attention to the following items in preparation for the Council meeting:

- Public Policy section- read through the draft 2024 legislative platform and prepare to discuss.
- Finance section- study the administrative budget and be prepared to ask questions.
- State Plan section- read the notes from our various task forces to learn about activity that has gone on since the last Council meeting and be prepared to approve the 2024 programmatic budget.
- Executive section- we will provide the change in FDDC policies under separate cover. The Finance and Executive committee members will jointly adopt the full 2024 FDDC budget so study both budgets presented and prepare to ask any questions.
- Full Council section-1st Day
 - We will be conducting elections for new officers. Please review the bios in the yellow section of the Council book and be prepared to vote.
 - Voting members on the Council must be Governor appointed, a designee from a Governor appointee, or an alternate from a Governor appointee designee.
 - Ballots for each position will be distributed at the meeting and will require signature.
- Full Council section- 2nd Day
 - Mathematica will be presenting the exciting work they have been doing on case management and quality measures. Please clear your calendars to attend.

1

**Public Policy
Committee**

2

**State Plan
Committee**

3

**Finance
Committee**

4

**Executive
Committee**

5

Full Council

FLORIDA DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES COUNCIL, INC.

AGENDA AT A GLANCE

Committees & Council Meeting Schedule

Thursday 09/21/2023 and Friday 09/22/2023

Florida Hotel and Conference Center
1500 Sand Lake Road
Orlando, Florida 32809
(407) 859-1500

OUR MISSION

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COMMITTEE MEETING SCHEDULE

Thursday September 21st

9:00 a.m.-10:15 a.m.	State Plan Committee	Jean Sherman, Chair
10:15 a.m.-11:00 a.m.	Finance Committee	Dennis Hart, Chair
11:00 a.m.-12:30 p.m.	Finance/Executive Committee	Kevin Johnson, Chair
11:30 a.m.-1:00 p.m.	Working lunch available for all committee participants	

1st DAY FULL COUNCIL MEETING SCHEDULE

1:30 p.m.	Call to Order/Roll Call	Kevin Johnson, Chair
1:45 p.m.-1:50 p.m.	Approval of May Minutes**	Kevin Johnson, Chair
1:50 p.m.-2:15 p.m.	Chair/Vice Chair Report	Kevin Johnson, Chair Eddie Hall, Vice Chair
2:15 p.m.-2:45 p.m.	Executive Director Report	Valerie Breen, Ex. Dir.
2:45 p.m.-3:00 p.m.	Break	
3:00 p.m.-4:15 p.m.	2024 Legislative Platform	Sarah Goldman, Chair Margaret Hooper, Dir.
	2024 Developmental Disabilities Awareness Day	Valerie Breen, Ex. Dir.
4:15 p.m.-4:45 p.m.	Elections	Valerie Breen, Ex. Dir.
4:45 p.m.-5:00 p.m.	Public Comment	Kevin Johnson, Chair
5:00 p.m.	Meeting Adjourned	Dinner on your own

2nd DAY FULL COUNCIL MEETING SCHEDULE

Friday September 22nd

9:00 a.m.	Call to Order/Roll Call	<i>Kevin Johnson, Chair</i>
9:10 a.m.-10:45 a.m.	Presentation on Case Management & Quality Measures	<i>Sue Kabot, Chief of Programs Mathematica Presenters</i>
10:45 a.m.-11:00 am.	Break/Check Out	<i>Kevin Johnson, Chair</i>
11:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m.	State & Sister Agency Reports <i>Agency for Persons with Disabilities Agency for Health Care Administration Department of Elder Affairs Department of Education- Vocational Rehabilitation Department of Education- BEESS Department of Health, Childrens Medical Services University of Miami- Mailman Center University of South Florida- Florida Center for Inclusive Communities Disability Rights Florida</i>	<i>Kevin Johnson, Chair</i>
12:00 p.m.-1:00 p.m.	Working Lunch	
12:00 p.m.-1:00 p.m.	Committee Reports/Discussion <i>State Plan Committee ** Finance Committee ** Public Policy Committee** Executive Committee **</i>	<i>Jean Sherman, Chair Dennis Hart, Chair Sarah Goldman, Chair Kevin Johnson, Chair</i>
1:00 pm.	2024 Council Meeting- Tallahassee	
1:00 p.m.	Public Comment/Adjourn	<i>Kevin Johnson, Chair</i>

2024 Legislative Platform

Sustain and Expand Home-and Community-Based Services for Individuals with Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities

Issue

People with intellectual and developmental disabilities(I/DD) and their families want access to life in the community. They want to live as independently as possible, no matter the level of support necessary to make that happen. But when they try to find the services and providers they need, too often they cannot find the support through their regular health care provider. Traditional Medicaid and other insurance providers only meet acute medical care needs that do not provide the ongoing personal support, therapies, and nursing care regularly needed.

Medicaid home- and community-based services (HCBS) provide support to people who need assistance with everyday activities, like bathing, dressing, making meals, and so many more. The problem is there isn't enough funding in many state's Medicaid waiver programs to support everyone who needs it. In Florida, this means that over 23,000 individuals who have been preauthorized for services have not received them and others, who are in crisis and need services immediately, are having trouble finding providers.

The alternative is more costly segregated institutional care that limits people and their choices. It often forces them to live away from their family and friends without access to the care needed to live in their own homes and communities.

Recommendations

The Council is especially focused on advocating for the following components of a strong Home-and Community-Based Services system.

The Council recommendations are as follows:

- 1) **Include the iBudget waiver in the Social Service Estimating Conference.** Estimating increases in utilization that reflect the additional needs of individuals currently on the iBudget waiver is a crucial way to predict and contain costs. The actual primary reasons for increased service needs are crisis situations, aging caregivers, aging waiver recipients, and an individual's graduation from high school.
- 2) **No one waits for services from the iBudget waiver.** Florida should provide a system with the goal of increasing the capacity to provide services to individuals with I/DD who need assistance. Six-hundred individuals waiting for I/DD services in Miami-Dade County will volunteer for a pilot program that combines services from the Long-Term Care Waiver

and the iBudget Waiver. The chosen provider will also include traditional medical care in the service package. The Council will be monitoring the pilot for quality services, person-centered care, and informative outcome measures.

3) **Require a well-trained support coordination workforce that uses the best techniques identified by case management experts to address the needs of individuals with I/DD.**

The State needs to encourage employment of people to provide support coordination services that are essential to create and implement a person-centered service plan. Incentives can include rates commensurate with experience and training, along with streamlined reporting systems and reduced burdensome regulations. This will increase the availability of support coordinators and improve workforce stability.

4) **Address the behavioral needs of individuals with I/DD.**

a) Individuals with I/DD who have a co-occurring mental illness or behavioral problems are having extraordinary challenges finding behavioral services even when they are in crisis situations. Involuntary commitments through the Baker Act and voluntary hospitalizations are on the rise because families and providers are unable to care for those in crisis at home. One solution is a successful intervention by a mobile response team that includes a behavior analyst trained to help those with I/DD. The mobile response team's primary role is to assess, deescalate and stabilize the individual in their current residential setting, if possible. The team can determine if a psychiatric inpatient admission is needed as a last resort.

b) Active recruitment of providers and priority funding for Intensive Behavioral (IB) and Behavior-Focused (BF) group homes are recommended. Specialized training and recruitment of experienced behavior therapists who should receive a larger rate differential will also increase the management of people in their own homes, less restrictive community settings, and specialized behavioral settings. This will prevent placement in institutional settings.

Florida Developmental Disabilities Council, Inc.

STATE PLAN COMMITTEE MEETING

Thursday September 21, 2023

9:00 a.m. – 10:15 a.m.

OUR MISSION

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9:00 a.m.-9:10 a.m.	Call to Order Welcome & Roll Call	<i>Jean Sherman, Chair</i>
9:10 a.m.-9:15 a.m.	Approval of Minutes** (A) Minutes from 05/18/23	<i>Jean Sherman, Chair</i>
9:15 a.m.-10:05 a.m.	Task Force Updates	<i>Jean Sherman, Chair</i>

Minutes

Access to Services

(B) Approved 01/05/23 Minutes

(C) Draft 08/24/23 Minutes

Home- and Community-Based Services (HCBS)

(D) Approved 04/20/23 Minutes

(E) Draft 08/08/23 Minutes

Aging Caregivers

(F) Approved 04/26/23 Minutes

(G) Draft 07/20/23 Minutes

Self-Advocacy Leadership

(H) Approved 04/05/23 Minutes

(I) Draft 08/09/23 Minutes

Broad Systems Change/Emerging Needs

(J) Approved 4/27/23 Minutes

(K) Draft 08/17/23 Minutes

Task Force Collaborative Presentation

(L) September 2023 State Plan Project Updates

- Access to Services
- Home- and Community-Based Services
- Aging Caregivers
- Self-Advocacy Leadership
- Broad Systems Change/Emerging Needs
- Supporting Initiatives

Jamie Mayersohn

Sue Kabot

Jan Pearce

Kristin Vandagriff

Jan Pearce

Sue Kabot

10:05 a.m.-10:15 a.m.	Public Comment/Meeting Adjourned	<i>Jean Sherman, Chair</i>
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**** Items that require vote**



**State Plan Committee
Meeting Minutes
Thursday, May 18, 2023
Florida Hotel & Conference Center, Orlando, Florida**

Members Present: Jean Sherman, Ed.D., RN; Conney Dahn; Sarah Goldman; Elly Hagen; Eddie Hall; Yolanda Herrera; Lisa Miller; Kali Wilson; Dennis Hart, M.D.

Members Absent: Jack Kosik

Council Members Present: Frank Shalett, Peter Sleasman, Maracy Hajdukiewicz, Beth Boone, TJ Moon, Kevin Johnson, Laurie Harlow

Staff Present: Sheila Gritz-Swift; Lisa Taylor; Margaret Hooper; Jamie Mayersohn; Sue Kabot, Ed.D.; Kristin Vandagriff; Jan Pearce

Guests: Valerie Whitaker, Sheila Mohler

Meeting was called to order by Dr. Jean Sherman at 9:06 a.m.

Quorum was established.

I. Approval of January 26, 2023 Minutes

Action Taken: Hagen made a motion to accept the January 26, 2023 minutes. Dahn seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

II. Update on IFPs/Sole Source Status

Dr. Sue Kabot provided a brief update on the status of IFPs/Sole Source contracts and agreements. The PIP Curriculum Project had been released through a bid. The Autistic Self Advocacy Network (ASAN) was the lowest and most responsive bidder. Their contract was executed on May 1, and their work will entail developing an alternative format for PIP via a multi-year project.

A new contract with the University of Illinois, Chicago, was executed on May 16. Information on this research project was previously shared at the January meeting. The research will identify factors to allow families of aging individuals with I/DD to thrive. The mixed methods research study will provide information on lived experiences, including what works.

Dr. Kabot noted that the Council will not have any new projects for a while as we have already allocated our money well and committed available funds.

III. Task Force Updates

Each Director, Programs and Contracts, briefed the State Plan Committee members on the projects that fall under their Task Forces and highlighted one or two of those projects by providing more detailed information on their current status. A decision was made at the end of the updates to share the presentation on Strive to Thrive with the full Council on Friday.

IV. Approval of Program Budget with modifications

Dr. Sherman discussed the updated budget process and the need to review and vote on this critical component.

The program budget provided was based on input from the Council at the January meeting, and subsequent work and input from the task forces, staff, and providers. We now have developed a more detailed, logical sequence of activities and associated funding for the remainder of this 5-Year State Plan.

Gritz-Swift walked State Plan Committee members through the “State Plan 2022 – 2026 Five Year Breakdown Budget Narrative” document dated 5/18/2023 and attached to the minutes, indicating that the budget would be approved as a whole. It was noted that Eddie Hall would need to abstain from voting on the budget as he is a member of Florida SAND.

Action Taken: Miller made a motion to approve the program budget with modifications. Wilson seconded. Hall E. abstained. Motion passed.

V. Public Comment/Meeting Adjourned

The meeting was adjourned at 11:00 a.m.

Florida Developmental Disabilities Council, Inc.

Access to Services Task Force

Minutes

January 5, 2023

Present: Elly Hagen, Laurie Harlow, Peter Sleasman, Elizabeth Perkins, Tom Rice, Jean Sherman.

Absent: Lisa Miller (co-chair),

Staff: Jamie Mayersohn

Guest: Jeanne Farr, CEO of the National Association for the Dually Diagnosed

The meeting was called to order at 3:02 pm.

I. Approval of Minutes

Action Taken: Perkins made a motion to accept the October 6, 2022 minutes. Hagen seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

II. Update on Projects

Mayersohn shared that the Improving Postsecondary Outcomes: Targeted Diversity project has been completed and that Dr. Terri Daley will be presenting at the full Council meeting later this month.

Mayersohn also shared that upon completion of year 4 of the Postsecondary Models project there was a recommendation for an additional year of work to create a Youth Postsecondary Education Ambassadors Curriculum, which was approved by the State Plan and Executive Committees. Work on this new initiative will begin on January 9, 2023 with the goal creating and piloting a Youth Postsecondary Education Ambassador Curriculum that will add a dimension to previous work by emphasizing and significantly elevating the role of current and former students with intellectual and developmental disabilities (I/DD) in expanding postsecondary program options throughout the state of Florida.

Activities will include developing and piloting an advocacy and leadership curriculum to train young adults with I/DD ages 18-26 who are currently enrolled or recently completed postsecondary programs to serve as Inclusive Postsecondary Education Ambassadors. Trained Ambassadors will promote the value and importance of college for students like themselves primarily to postsecondary institutions and secondary educators.

Mayersohn then introduced Jeanne Farr, CEO of the National Association for the Dually Diagnosed (NADD) to present an update on the Access to Services Research Project.

Farr discussed the unique, family-centric approach that the project is taking and provided an update on the status of Phase 1 (survey) which will be submitted for IRB approval on January 9, 2023. The role of the Steering Committee was shared, including their, adopted, recommendation that a multi-lingual

component be added. Task Force members were encouraged to share suggestions for additional distribution partners (current list to be distributed by Mayersohn).

III. Public Input

Chair invited public input.

The Meeting adjourned at 3:30 PM.

Florida Developmental Disabilities Council, Inc.

Access to Services Task Force

Minutes

August 24, 2023

Present: Laurie Harlow, Jean Sherman

Absent: Lisa Miller, Elly Hagen, Peter Sleasman

Staff: Jamie Mayersohn

The meeting was called to order at 3:02 pm.

I. Approval of Minutes

Action Taken: Sherman made a motion to accept the January 5, 2023 minutes. Harlow seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

II. Update on Projects

Mayersohn shared an update on the Postsecondary Models: Youth Postsecondary Education Ambassadors Curriculum and the recently completed Black ASD Project. There was then a discussion of the ASK project. Sherman suggested that the provider contact organizations that are still holding in-person meetings/events to see if the Focus Groups could be tied into them (e.g., Autism Speaks and UCP) to address the issue of recruiting participants. Harlow discussed the importance of agency buy-in and participation from the outset. Given the issues coordinating through the Family Care Councils, it would be helpful to have local agency leadership's support.

III. Public Input

Chair invited public input.

The meeting adjourned at 3:40 pm.



**Home- and Community-Based Services
Task Force Meeting, April 20, 3:00 pm to 4:30 pm
Agenda**

3:00 pm Call to Order *Kali Wilson, Chair*

Roll Call and Introductions *Kali Wilson, Chair*

Kali Wilson, Chair
Andrea Gary
Elly Hagen
Dennis Hart, Co-Chair
Kevin Johnson
Frank Shalett
Sue Kabot, Staff

The meeting was called to order at 3:08 pm. Kali Wilson, Andrea Gary, and Kevin Johnson were in attendance for quorum. Dennis Hart joined later. Elly Hagen and Frank Shalett were absent. Sue Kabot, from FDDC staff, was present.

3:05 pm Approval of December 13, 2022 Minutes

Kali made a motion to approve the December 13, 2022 minutes and Kevin seconded the motion. All present approved them.

3:10 pm Project Update: NADD Dually Diagnosed Study *Sue Kabot, Staff*

Project Update: Paramedicine Project

Project Update: Public Health Workforce Project

Project Update: Easy Read and Plain Text

2022 Annual Report

**Social Validity Scales for Access to Services, First Responder Training,
Dual Diagnosis Training, Best Practices in Case Management, and
Measuring Service Quality**

The Dually Diagnosed Training project is well underway. They have provided a draft curriculum for the training pilot with a mention of the pre- and posttest measures that still need to be flushed out. They have submitted an annotated list of available training in dual diagnosis and a draft report of the policies and procedures regarding training on this topic in Florida.

The Paramedicine Pilot and the Public Health Workforce projects are working together to increase the number of individuals with I/DD and their caregivers to access the Paramedicine services. Valerie Whitaker has been retained as a consultant to educate the medical and I/DD communities about the services available through Paramedicine. She is being funded through a grant from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention to increase public health services to our population. She is just beginning her community work, but is partnering with our marketing and PR firm to increase exposure.

Several publications have been translated into Easy Read and Plain Text by Dale DiLeo. The FDDC 2022 Annual Report was available at DD Awareness Day and will be distributed at the May Council meeting. Social Validity scales for several of our projects were completed and are being distributed after the second advisory group for Goal 1, Goal 2, and Goal 3 projects.

3:25 pm Project Update: UF Addressing the Behavior Therapist Shortage *Sue Kabot, Staff*

***Project Update: Mathematica Quality Case Management**

Project Update: Mathematica Measuring Service Quality

Discuss visit to ARC Broward programs

***Project Update: FAU CARD First Responder Training**

The behavior therapist project is well underway as they have completed their third quarter. They have completed interviews/focus groups with Registered Behavior Technicians, Board Certified Behavior Analysts, and representatives from university training programs. They have also surveyed RBTs and BCBAs with good involvement by the BCBAs but a smaller than hoped for number of RBTs responding. The caregiver survey is being rewritten to apply to people of all ages, being served in a variety of settings.

One interesting finding to date is that RBTs don't feel they are getting appropriate supervision in managing challenging behavior and BCBAs don't think they have received enough training in their academic and experiential placements in challenging behavior. The UF/UM researchers are hoping to provide training in a variety of formats in the area of challenging behavior and work with academic programs to ensure appropriate clinical experiences for their students. A significant amount of conversation occurred regarding this project by the Task Force. This covered the fact that many BCBAs in Florida are being educated through on-line academic programs. The amount of supervision being provided and the inability to bill insurance for BCBAs and RBTs for the same hours at the level needed also impacted service quality. The issue of individuals whose behavior is so difficult that they require a BCBA to provide service instead of an RBT is also a barrier to quality care for the most difficult individuals with I/DD. The pay rate and not being paid for travel time or when people cancel appointments also impact the stability of the RBT workforce. Medicaid reimbursement rates were also discussed as a barrier to attracting and maintaining individuals in the workforce.

Mathematica, Inc. has completed stellar work for the Council through the Quality Case Management and Measuring Service Quality projects. The Case Management project is almost ready to begin pilot testing of the four tools they have drafted: one for self-advocates, one for caregivers, one for case managers to self-evaluate, and one for supervisors of case managers. Their environmental scan has been completed.

The Measuring Service Quality project is being revised for the remainder of this year and for the next two years to eliminate the target of having measurement results being posted on a public site so that consumers would be able to look at scores by other consumers. Instead, instruments for caregivers, individuals with I/DD, and agency personnel would have instruments to guide their observations when searching for appropriate services and for instituting quality improvement goals. Their work to date continues to serve as a foundation for the next steps. The stakeholder workgroup also had a full-day visit to ARC Broward where they visited residential programs, vocational programs, and day training programs. After those observations, the workgroup discussed what needed to be included in the service measures.

Florida Atlantic University has done a great job creating two sets of training materials for law enforcement personnel and emergency medical technicians. The package includes the PowerPoint presentations, pre- and posttests, an after-training survey, participant handbook, and trainer materials. As a bonus, they have also created an asynchronous training that is on a Canvas site.

3:50 pm Researching Provider Solutions

Sue Kabot, Staff

This is the project that has had the latest start for our Task Force. They are well on their way to collecting data through a survey and through interviews. The survey has been distributed to the workgroup for feedback. The interview protocol is about ready for distribution for feedback. The literature for the environmental scan has been collected and the person responsible for that is working on reviewing the applicable articles.

3:55 pm Best Practices in Case Management and Measuring Service Quality will be presenting to the full Council at our September meeting to begin the discussion between state agencies about how to adopt these tools.

4:00 pm Planning for Years 3 and 4 of the State Plan for the projects under this Task Force

Kali Wilson, Chair

The FDDC Program Staff is working on planning for Years 3 and 4 of the State Plan. All information regarding the future project work and the budget needed will need to be uploaded to the federal agency in August. The plan outlines will be shared with the Council during the May meeting.

4:15 pm Public Input

Kali Wilson, Chair

There were no members of the public present.

4:20 pm Schedule next meeting and Adjournment

Kali Wilson, Chair

The next meeting will be scheduled for August and the meeting was adjourned by Kali.



**Home- and Community-Based Services
Task Force Meeting, August 8, 2023, 3:00 pm to 4:30 pm
Minutes**

3:00 pm **Call to Order** *Sue Kabot, Staff*

Roll Call and Introductions *Sue Kabot, Staff*

Present Were: Andrea Gary and Kevin Johnson; Sue Kabot, Staff

*Absent Were: Kali Wilson, Chair; Elly Hagen; Dennis Hart, Co-Chair;
and Frank Shalett (joined after the meeting had ended)*

3:05 pm **Approval of April 20, 2023 Minutes**

Andrea made the motion to approve, and Kevin seconded the motion.

3:10 pm **Project Update: NADD Dually Diagnosed Training** *Sue Kabot, Staff*

NADD will be holding their virtual training August 15, 16, and 17 from 8:30 to 12:30. 368 people have registered for the training. The face-to-face trainings will be held in Broward County August 29-30 and in Orange County August 30-31. Twenty people are registered in Broward and 12 in Orange Counties. Registration is still open.

Project Update: Paramedicine Project

The Paramedicine Project is scheduled to end September 30. A final report is due to NACDD by December 31, 2023. Paramedics will stop seeing patients August 31, 2023.

Project Update: Public Health Workforce Project

Although the Paramedicine Project is ending September 30, 2023, the FDDC still has funds to expend, and this is allowable until September 30, 2023. Valerie Whitaker will continue to work in the community to provide social support and information about available resources to individuals and families. The projected depletion of the funds is February 2024.

Project Update: Easy Read and Plain Text

During this period, three items were translated into Plain Text for the Advocacy Summit to be held this month. They included the pretest, posttest, and satisfaction survey.

Project Update: UF Addressing the Behavior Therapist Shortage

The UF-UM project is ending with a final report due in September. They are continuing to analyze the data from the family survey and interviews with the directors of academic programs in behavior analysis. Data from RBTs, BCBAs, and academic programs are all in agreement that the preparation in challenging behavior is lacking and that supervision skills to provide support with challenging behavior is also lacking. Next year's project will focus on

training in challenging behavior and developing an internship/practicum at specific clinical sites to build these skills.

Project Update: Mathematica Quality Case Management

The six-part product to identify competencies for case managers, provide four tools (individuals with I/DD, family members, case managers, and case manager supervisors), and competency tool cross walk has been developed and will be beta tested next contract year. We have combined this project and Measuring Service Quality into one contract amendment for the ease of the provider. The tools will be presented to the full Council at the September meeting.

Project Update: Mathematica Measuring Service Quality

The MSQ project is slightly behind schedule, but they will catch up by the end of the year. They are currently developing the actual items for the instrument and an implementation plan will be developed. A shift in the design of the project has caused the delay. This instrument will be for use by individuals with I/DD, family members, and agencies providing programs to evaluate quality and suitability of program for an individual client. Originally, the thought was to have a dash- board that would report info on a program for public consumption, but that idea was eliminated.

Project Update: FAU CARD First Responder Training

Pilot training is underway for the First Responder Training—both the law enforcement and emergency medical responder versions. This 2-hour training is being offered virtually at the current time; however, there is also an asynchronous version available.

Project Update: Researching Provider Solutions

The environmental scan has been completed. The survey has been closed and results are being analyzed. Mathematica is continuing to recruit participants for their focus groups. They are having an especially hard time recruiting individuals with I/DD and their families.

Announcement: Best Practices in Case Management and Measuring Service Quality will be presenting their projects to the full Council at our September meeting to begin the discussion between state agencies about how to adopt these tools. They are also scheduling small group meetings Thursday morning while committee meetings are being held to gather more feedback.

3:30 pm	Public Input	<i>Sue Kabot, Staff</i>
3:35 pm	Schedule next meeting and Adjournment	<i>Sue Kabot, Staff</i>
	<i>Next meeting will be held in December, before the winter holidays</i>	

Aging Caregivers Task Force & Project of National Significance State Alliance Team Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, April 26th, 2023

Task Force Members Present: Yolanda Herrrera, Jean Sherman, Tom Rice, Kira Houge, Damian Gregory, Déan Gregory-Stewart, Jack Kosik, Mary Jo McKay, and Beth Boone.

Staff Present: Jan Pearce and Sue Kabot

Guests: Dr. Tamar Heller and Dr. Katie Arnold

Absent: Darrell Drummond and Ann Dalton

1. The Chair called the meeting to order at 3:06.

She welcomed the members present and introduced Dr. Heller and Dr. Arnold from the University of Illinois Chicago.

2. The minutes from the January 11, 2023, meeting were presented and approved.

3. Presentation on Project: Strive to Thrive: Supporting Families Across the Aging and DD Networks Research Project by Dr. Arnold and Dr. Heller

They shared that the project's purpose was “to understand, from the perspective of families of people with IDD living at home in Florida, what can help advance the person with IDD and the whole family to **thrive** currently and in the future.” Their first year of work will focus on an Environmental scan, creating assessment tools, and beginning to pilot test the surveys and focus group protocols.

4. Update on the AGEDD Project

Jan Pearce shared an update on the state plan-funded Aging Generations’ Expectations in Developmental Disabilities (AGEDD) Project. The provider has successfully engaged the DD and Aging Networks in Community Partnership Meetings.

There have been over 20 meetings this quarter. Several of the groups have initiated cross-training and are discussing mutual projects. There has also been a Providers’ Meeting with a second planned in May.

The State and Federal Group has not met this quarter. There was a turnover of the state agency heads. The provider will set up individual meetings with the leaders.

Valerie, Jan, and Margaret Lynn Duggar met with David Jones at ACL and updated him on our work with our aging projects. He was pleased with our progress.

5. Project of National Significance

The second-year work plan was submitted and approved. Jan met with Andrew Morris from NACDD. He is very pleased with the work Florida is doing with the grant.

A Community of Practice meeting will be held in conjunction with the National NACDD conference held in July in Orlando.

Valerie asked Jean, Yolanda, Damien, and Déan to represent our project. Jan will also attend.

6. The next meeting -TBD

7. Public Comment

The chair asked for public comment, but receiving none, the meeting was adjourned at 4:45 pm.

Aging Caregivers Task Force & Project of National Significance State Alliance Team Meeting Minutes

Thursday, July 20, 2023

Task Force Members Present: Yolanda Herrera, Jean Sherman, Kira Houge, Damian Gregory, Déan Gregory-Stewart, Jack Kosik, Mary Jo McKay, and Beth Boone

Task Force Members Absent: Ann Dalton, Beth Boone, Jack Kosik, and Darrell Drummond

Staff Present: Jan Pearce

Guests: Dr. Katie Arnold, Sumithra Murphy, Hope Sparks, and Margaret Lynn Duggar

1. The Chair called the meeting to order at 3:05.

She welcomed the members and guests.

2. Minutes

Mary Jo McKay made the motion to approve the minutes with corrections. Yolanda Herrera seconded the motion. The minutes were approved unanimously.

3. Presentation on Project: Strive to Thrive: Supporting Families Across the Aging and DD Networks Research Project by Dr. Arnold, Sumithra Murphy, and Hope Sparks

The team reviewed and updated the Year One Project Tasks.

- Conduct environmental scan and review literature to find gaps related to aging families of people with IDD. (i.e., review results of Florida's 2021 online survey of aging caregiver, examine assessment instruments to see what we could pull from, look at research with the general population and how to adapt tools for our population)
- Create assessment tools including:
 - Survey for aging family caregivers
 - Focus group protocols for both adults with IDD and family caregivers
 - Interview protocol for adults with IDD that cannot participate in the focus groups
- Begin to pilot test the surveys and focus group protocols (this may go into Year 2) -- We will use the findings from the pilot tests to refine and finalize the data collection instruments.

Dr. Katie Arnold and Dr. Sumithra Murphy, requested input from the members. They asked: Is there anything else you would want us to include in the environmental scan? What additional themes or content areas do you think are important to be included in the survey and focus groups?

Input Received from Task Force Members:

- Jean S: Future planning should be specified. Many families don't realize it's a need. Mental health and well-being are also tied to future planning. It's an unmet need in the literature, but it might not be deemed that by families.
- Damian G: Geography/topography is something to consider. Thriving in a liberal community like Miami is very different from a suburban community like Tallahassee.
- Katie A: Maybe we can examine this further such as what are certain areas of Florida learning from others.
- Jean S: Resources vary greatly by area too. Rural are probably dependent on churches and neighbors.
- Déan G: There are no guarantees how long we'll be here. Future planning is important.
- Yolanda H: Is financial planning included in future planning? Other specific aspects like long term care and access to Medicaid are something to consider.
- Margaret Lynn: There is a knowledge gap on the aging side about DD services, and vice versa. An "intentional statement" about this lack of a bridge should be included in the environmental scan.
- Yolanda H: Lack of education surrounding Medicaid vs. Medicare and how the services differ.
- Kira H: Caregivers are not always family members. Family members are not always the caregivers for specific services.
- Mary M: Difficulties in access are a big hurdle.
- Damian G: Lots of time is spent gathering data, but there is a worry about how this data will be disseminated and used or applied.

4. The Project of National Significance

The SAT team reviewed and approved the updated work plan. Jan Pearce reported that she had met with Andrew Morris from ACL and that they remain pleased with our work and had no suggestions for improvement. Jean, Yolanda, and Jan will be attending the Project of National Significance Community of Practice in Orlando next week.

5. Presentation on the AGEDD Project

Margaret Lynn Duggar presented an update on the project. Margaret Lynn shared that the Community Partnership Meetings have gone well. There have been seventeen meetings held between April and August of 2023. Nassau, Santa Rosa, Hillsborough, Leon, and Osceola joined the Partnership Meetings.

A Provider Advisory group meeting was held in May 2023 and another meeting is scheduled for later in August.

Efforts will continue to initiate State-Level Meetings with Directors or Secretaries of the targeted agencies.

6. Next Meeting

The next meeting will be held on Oct. 19 at 3:00 pm.

7. Public Comment

The chair asked for public comment, but receiving none, the meeting was adjourned at 4:40 pm.

DRAFT

Florida Developmental Disabilities Council, Inc.

**Self-Advocacy Leadership Task Force
Minutes
04/05/2023**

Present: Eddie Hall, Chair; Sarah Goldman, Co-Chair; Laurie Harlow; and Jack Kosik

Staff: Kristin Vandagriff

Guests: Margaret Hooper (FDDC,) Christina St. Clair (OMS), Kelli Munn (OMS), Jason Hahr (Fellow), Samantha Lebron (Fellow)

The meeting was called to order by Chair Hall at 3:01pm.

Task Force Chair, Eddie Hall, welcomed task force members and guests and instructed staff to conduct roll call. He also reminded attendees that the meeting was being recorded. The November 16, 2022, task force meeting minutes were approved with Jack Kosik making the motion, and Sarah Goldman making the second, and all members answering in the affirmative.

I. PowerPoint Presentation on Project Progress Updates

Kristin Vandagriff, the Director of Programs and Contracts who provides staffing to this task force, gave a brief project update regarding the Partners in Policymaking Program. Information was shared about the final sessions for the PIP class of 2022-2023, including denoting the high-level national presenters which provided trainings this past year. The PIP mock testimony event was discussed with links being shared for each group's recorded mock testimonies. The PIP 2022-2023 class graduation was also mentioned, with it being reported that 23 participants completed the program, comprised of 4 self-advocates and 19 family members. An update was provided regarding the PIP Regional Graduate Coalitions which were formed from the Advocacy Summit, denoting a June 11-12 in-person event to support the six regions in further implementing their regional housing and transportation plans. Additionally, PIP's DD Day efforts were shared as were recruitment efforts for recruiting the PIP 2023-2024 class. Christina St. Clair with OMS shared an overview of the Fellows Leadership Program, describing the work the Fellows do to support FL SAND. COVID calls which are now topical self-advocacy monthly calls, managing the communication hub, and supporting the board through training and mentoring were all mentioned. Ms. St. Clair also discussed that there are three Fellows who are serving as second year mentor Fellows, and four new Fellows for this current contract year. She did also denote that one of those new Fellows has had to step down and they will be recruiting to fill that vacant Fellows role. Ms. St. Clair also discussed the DD Awareness video which the Fellows developed to support self-advocates in understanding how they can meet with their legislator. Task Force members were asked if they had any recruitment ideas. Reaching out to the Florida Centers for Students with Unique Abilities was mentioned. Two Fellows, Jason Hahr and Samantha Lebron, shared about their experience taking part in this program. They denoted DD Day being an impactful experience as well as appreciating learning how to present and plan for a conference. They both mentioned how thankful they are to be part of this program. The 2023 Florida Self-Advocacy Conference was described, denoting that it will occur August 18-20, 2023 at the Rosen Plaza Hotel in Orlando. The theme will be REUNITED: Lifting our Voices Together. This conference will serve as a core opportunity for the Fellows to train self-advocates in this contract year. Lastly, Kelli Munn (OMS), reported on the work completed to date on the Breaking Barriers Training Academy online training platform. She also demonstrated several slides from the first lesson to show the flow and interactive options for this Route to Self-Determination: Train the Trainer module.

II. Questions, Discussion, and Next Meeting

Task force members did not feel that any resource members were currently needed at this time. Task force members did not note any issues that needed to be brought before the State Plan Committee. Task force members noted that they next wanted to meet on either August 2nd or August 9th from 3-4:30pm. This meeting will occur via Zoom. Members denoted wanting this meeting agenda to cover general project updates for all projects within the self-advocacy and leadership goal.

III. Public Input

There were no comments from the public.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:00pm.

Florida Developmental Disabilities Council, Inc.

Self-Advocacy Leadership Task Force

Minutes

08/09/2023

Present: Eddie Hall, Chair; Sarah Goldman, Co-Chair; Laurie Harlow; Thomas Moon, and Jack Kosik.

Staff: Kristin Vandagriff

Guests: Monica Moya (FDDC staff)

The meeting was called to order by Chair Hall at 3:01pm.

Task Force Chair, Eddie Hall, welcomed task force members and guests and instructed staff to conduct roll call. He also reminded attendees that the meeting was being recorded. The April 5, 2023, task force meeting minutes were approved with Thomas Moon making the motion, and Jack Kosik making the second, and all members answering in the affirmative.

I. PowerPoint Presentation on Project Progress Updates

Kristin Vandagriff, the Director of Programs and Contracts who provides staffing to this task force, gave a brief project update regarding the Partners in Policymaking Program. Information was shared regarding 2022-2023 PIP graduate knowledge pre- and post- survey data, noting strong increases in knowledge and advocacy engagement resulting from PIP training. High program satisfaction was noted in addition to most graduates now being active on boards and coalitions (18 of 23). The selection process for the PIP 2023-2024 class was discussed. It was noted that 84 applications were received, and 25 participants were chosen for this class. This includes 5 self-advocates and 20 family members. This training class will run from September 2023-February 2024. PIP's Family Café outreach was discussed, noting well-attended presentations, exhibitor table resources, and an informal alumni gathering. An update was provided regarding the PIP Regional Graduate Coalition which was formed from the 2022 Advocacy Summit. Information about the June 11-12, 2023, in-person event held to support the six regions in further implementing their regional housing and transportation plans was provided, including sharing event photos and event agenda content.

An update was provided by Kristin Vandagriff regarding the PIP Curriculum project. It was reported that the Autistic Self-Advocacy Network, which is the contractor for this project, has been able to develop a curriculum outline, develop a curriculum reviewer agreement, as well as selecting advisory committee members and curriculum reviewers.

An overview of the Fellows Leadership Program progress to date was also provided by Kristin Vandagriff. It was reported that 6 Fellows attended Family Café providing exhibitor table coverage for FL SAND, sharing self-advocacy resources, as well as the Fellows presenting on self-advocacy for a well-attended event breakout session. Additionally, the 2023 Florida Self-Advocacy Conference content was described in this meeting, denoting that it will occur August 18-20, 2023, at the Rosen Plaza Hotel in Orlando. It was reported that Route to Self-Determination content will be a core session, with six self-advocate led breakout sessions. The keynote will feature Floridian, Matthew Walzer, the advocate who inspired the Nike Fly Ease accessible shoe.

Kristin Vandagriff also provided an update on the FDDC Advocacy and Leadership Opportunities guide which launched Summer 2023 in both English and Spanish. It was noted that 100 printed guides were provided to PIP graduates, and hundreds of rack cards were disseminated at Family Café directing people to the online resource.

II. Questions, Discussion, and Next Meeting

Some project questions were asked and comments provided by task force members following the presentation. Sarah Goldman asked if the 25 participants selected out of 84 applications were due to the budget available. It was noted that this was correct. It was denoted that those who are not accepted into the program are given resources related to PIP and other advocacy opportunities they might pursue in addition to applying for PIP again in the future. Jack Kosik mentioned that PIP has been growing momentum, especially in serving its graduates, and suggested future exploration into offering PIP more frequently or increasing funding to serve more Floridian self-advocates and family members. Laurie Harlow shared a desire to serve more people through PIP and noted that the MN PIP online material is very well done and might be something to consider in the future. Kristin Vandagriff shared that the PIP curriculum project will ultimately result in more people with I/DD being served through PIP and that many PIP alumni are being served through PIP each year in an ongoing way in addition to the regular class trained each year. It was noted that the FDDC's programmatic budget is currently very tightly allocated in this current 5-year plan. It was also noted that today's input would be shared with FDDC staff which could be considered as future 5-year plan development takes place.

Thomas Moon asked to mention something related to housing and noted that many self-advocates are experiencing challenges in moving out and renting due to requirements of needing to have an income 3x as much as the rental monthly cost. Jack Kosik shared that a possible consideration may be looking at a set aside amount for people with I/DD within housing 5-year plans related to housing choice vouchers. It was noted that this input will be shared with Margaret Hooper in case valuable for the Public Policy Committee. Task force members did not note any needed resource members or project issues that needed to be brought before the State Plan Committee.

Task force members noted that they next wanted to meet on December 13 from 3-4:30pm. This meeting will occur via Zoom. Members denoted wanting this meeting agenda to cover general project updates for all projects within the self-advocacy and leadership goal, with specific highlights to be provided on PIP Regional Graduate Coalition progress and the outcomes of the Florida Self-Advocacy Conference.

III. Public Input

There were no comments from the public.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:48pm.

Broad System Change Task Force/Emerging Issues Task Force Minutes

Thursday, April 27, 2023

Members Present: Conney Dahn, Jennifer Duggar, Yolanda Herrera, and Johana Valdiviseo

Members Absent: Lisa Miller and Victoria Zepp

Staff Present: Jan Pearce

Guests: Mirna Diaz, Vocational Rehabilitation

1. The Chair, Conney Dahn, called the meeting to order at 2:06. The Chair welcomed the members to the meeting. Mirna Diaz was introduced. She will be replacing Johana Valdiviseo as Brent McNeal's alternate.
2. The task force members approved the February 22, 2023 minutes.
Yolanda Herrera motioned to accept the January 11, 2023, minutes as submitted.
Conney Dahn seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

3. Update on State Plan Projects

Jan Pearce provided an update on the following projects:

Adult Project SEARCH Model

There are currently 30 interns in the program. They have begun their second rotations. The host business, HCA Pasadena Hospital, highlighted Project SEARCH in a recent news story. The task force members viewed a video clip from Channel 9, Bay News in Tampa. Members asked about the sustainability of the project. Efforts continue to identify additional funds to make the project sustainable. The Division of Vocational Rehabilitation is committed to funding eligible individuals, but that funding does not cover all the related costs.

Project SEARCH Technical Assistance

Cincinnati staff completed fidelity reviews with each site in April. They will share the results with the Council when they complete them. They have continued providing training as needed.

Project SEARCH Research Project

The Cincinnati Researcher interviewed current host staff, past interns, and their families. His draft research paper is due in June, and the final product is expected in September.

4. Supporting Projects

Employment First

Vocational Rehabilitation (VR) has agreed to take the lead role for the coming year. The Florida Association of People Supporting Employment First (APSE) and the Florida Center for Inclusive Communities (FCIC) have agreed to lead the Grass Roots Group Webinars.

5. Update on FDDC Budget Process for Years 3-5 of the State Plan

Staff reviewed all projects and budgetary allocations for Years 3-5 of the State Plan. The Team will present the information to the State Plan Committee for approval. The plans will then move on to the Council for final approval via the State Plan Committee report.

6. Next Meeting - TBD

7. Public Comment & Adjournment

The Chair asked for any public comments, but receiving none, the meeting was adjourned at 2:50 pm.

Broad System Change Task Force/Emerging Issues Task Force Minutes

August 17, 2023

Members Present: Conney Dahn, Jennifer Duggar, Yolanda Herrera, and Mirna Diaz

Members Absent: Lisa Miller and Victoria Zepp

Staff Present: Jan Pearce

1. **The Chair, Conney Dahn, called the meeting to order at 2:06.**
The Chair welcomed the members to the meeting.
2. **The task force members approved the minutes from April 27, 2023.**
Yolanda Herrera made the motion. Jennifer Duggar seconded. The motion passed unanimously.
3. **Update on Projects**
Jan Pearce provided an update on the following projects:

Adult Project SEARCH Model

Jan Pearce reported that are 24 interns scheduled to graduate in September 2024. Task Force Members are invited to attend and will be provided with dates and locations.

She also updated the Task Force on the sustainability issues for the four sites. The teams have worked very hard to identify a sustainable funding source but have yet to be successful. VR remains committed to the project, and APD is working on some possible assistance. Currently, MacDonald Training Center plans to proceed with its project. ARC of Martin County has lost its host site but is considering moving forward if they can locate a new host site. ARC of Putnam and Goodwill Industries-Suncoast are not planning to continue their sites due to a lack of funding to cover the operational costs. Efforts continue to provide additional funding.

All contracts reviewed by this Task Force end on September 30, 2023. FDDC will not be able to provide any additional funding.

Project SEARCH Technical Assistance

The National Project SEARCH team visited each host site and completed Fidelity Reviews. It is an interactive process that involves interns, families, providers, and host business employees. At the end of the process, goals for improvement are developed specific to each site.

Project SEARCH Research Project

Dr. Dennis Cleary, the National Researcher, also visited each site. He conducted focus groups that included interns, families, host business employees, and provider staff. He provided an initial draft Research Paper at the end of June. The final product is due at the end of September. The final product is expected in September.

Employment First

The FDDC remains involved in the Employment First efforts in Florida. Other agencies are stepping in to help coordinate this project in Florida. Vocational Rehabilitation (VR) has agreed to take the lead role for the coming year. The Florida Association of People Supporting Employment First (APSE) and the Florida Center for Inclusive Communities (FCIC) have agreed to lead the Grassroots Group Webinars.

The Planning Ahead Guide

The staff and various Council members have spent a lot of time and effort looking at how the proposed Version 5 of our document could be finalized and launched. After careful consideration, Version 4 will remain on the website and available to families. We are learning more about what would be most beneficial for individuals and families. Valerie thanked everyone who worked on the document. The work will be integrated into the next phase.

4. Next Meeting

October 26, 2:00 pm.

5. Public Comment & Adjournment

The Chair asked for any public comments, but receiving none, the meeting was adjourned at 2:54 pm.

State Plan Projects

Fiscal Year 2023 (October 1, 2022 – September 30, 2023)

BLACK: First Tri-Annual Update (October – January)

BLUE: Second Tri-Annual Update (January – May)

RED: Third Tri-Annual Update (May – September)

Goal	Provider	Funding Period	Funding Allocation	Project Description	Tri-Annual Update (if applicable)
Goal 1: Access to Services					
Research for a Statewide Access to Services Information System	The National Association for the Dually Diagnosed (NADD)	September 2022 – September 2023	\$374,974	The goal of this project, in its first year of funding, is to conduct significant research in order to identify community resources used by family members of persons with intellectual and developmental disabilities (I/DD), the ways they identify and share information, assist each other with information, refer people to useful resources, and utilize existing web-based platforms.	<p>October 2022 – January 2023 This project is now fully staffed, and two Steering Committee meetings have been held. NADD has completed the research design and submitted it for IRB approval, which is anticipated in mid-late January. They have also added a multi-lingual component (i.e., Spanish and Creole/French).</p> <p>January 2023 – May 2023 Institutional Review Board (IRB) approval was received for the first phase of the project. A survey was developed, translated into Creole and Spanish, and distributed. Two Steering Committee meetings were held and an informal town hall meeting with caregivers was held as a part of DD Day 2023. Focus group questions were submitted to staff for review.</p>

					<p>June 2023-August 2023 The comprehensive report of the survey findings was submitted along with the preliminary report on Focus Group findings. Additional structured interviews and multi-language Focus Groups have been scheduled.</p>
Goal 2: Home- and Community-Based Delivery Systems					
Best Practices in Case Management	Mathematica, Inc.	September 2022 – September 2023	\$199,839	<p>This project, in its first year of funding, seeks to establish and fully implement a best practice, quality case management competency tool for individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities (I/DD) that will enable them to remain in their homes and communities across the lifespan. This will be done by bringing together representatives from multiple agencies that provide case management services to individuals with I/DD to work together in the</p>	<p>October 2022 – January 2023 Mathematica has its second workgroup meeting scheduled for February 7. They will be presenting their environmental scan to the group for feedback at that meeting.</p> <p>January 2023 – May 2023 Mathematica recently submitted their second deliverable. It included the environmental scan report, and the case management tools for individuals with I/DD, caregivers, case managers, and supervisors of case managers. They are soliciting feedback from the workgroup before pilot testing the tool.</p> <p>June 2023–September 2023 The first year of this project is reaching its conclusion with all tasks completed. A suite of four tools has been created that is ready for pilot</p>

Researching Provider Solutions	Mathematica, Inc.	January 2023 – March 2023	\$248,761	<p>development of a tool to evaluate case management services received to ensure a more uniform quality of case management across agencies and service systems in Florida.</p>	<p>testing in Year 2. These include a tool for individuals with I/DD, caregivers, case managers, and supervisors of case managers. These tools are based on an extensive environmental scan as well as feedback from the advisory workgroup. An implementation plan is being developed beginning at this September Council meeting. Mathematica will be presenting to the full Council as well as meeting with smaller groups of Council members to get suggestions on next steps to accomplish the adoption of this instrument.</p>
				<p>This research study, in its first year of funding, will explore the issue of locating, funding, training, and retaining individuals to provide services and supports to individuals with I/DD and their families when there is no Medicaid Home- and Community-Based Waiver funding. It is expected this project will lead to solutions to the difficulty that individuals with I/DD and their families/caregivers have</p>	<p>October 2022 – January 2023 This project is just getting off the ground and a workgroup is being established with a February target for the first meeting.</p> <p>January 2023 – May 2023 The survey that will be administered to caregivers and individuals with I/DD has been reviewed by workgroup members. It has been translated into Plain Text and is about to be translated into Spanish. The interview protocol has been shared with the workgroup for feedback. The environmental scan is underway.</p>

				<p>in accessing direct support workers to provide personal care, companion, and respite services. Research will be conducted to determine how significant the problem is in Florida and perform an environmental scan to learn how other states and service delivery systems address this need. A mixed-methods research project that uses surveys and either structured interviews or focus groups will be implemented to investigate the ways people on Consumer Directed Care + or without waiver funding fulfill their needs for services and support.</p>	<p>The first deliverable is due at the end of April.</p> <p>June 2023–September 2023 This project will have completed its environmental scan of the peer-reviewed literature as well as gray literature and submitted the final copy. The survey that was distributed has closed and data analysis is complete. Focus groups are being conducted for those that have funding and those that do not, as well as those with services and those without. A Spanish focus group is also planned. This information will be used to create a series of recommendations for how families and individuals with I/DD solve the problem of finding and retaining supports.</p>
Measuring Service Quality	Mathematica, Inc.	October 2022 – September 2023	\$217,857	<p>This project, in its first year of funding, will develop a tool(s) that can be used by both family members and individuals with intellectual and developmental</p>	<p>October 2022 – January 2023 This project is well on its way with a second stakeholder workgroup planned for February that will be held at ARC Broward. The goal is to visit employment, residential, and adult day training programs to serve as a common base for the</p>

				<p>development of a measure for family members and people with IDD to use to determine the match between a service/program and an individual with IDD.</p> <p>January 2023 – May 2023 This project has been revised to simplify the feasibility study and delineate the implementation support needed for individuals with I/DD and their families. The environmental scan has been submitted in draft form and a spreadsheet of annotated reviews of identified, available measures was also completed. The workgroup spent a day at ARC Broward visiting their residential, adult day training, and vocational training/support programs and then met to discuss elements of the quality measures.</p> <p>June 2023-September 2023 The Measuring Service Quality project has completed an environmental scan of peer-reviewed literature and other measures that are available to evaluate services. They have drafted a set of core competencies that can be used across adult day training, supported employment, and residential programs. They are</p>
				<p>disabilities who have significant behavioral challenges, to assist them in evaluating whether services and supports will meet their needs and help them achieve a high quality of life. The targeted settings for use include employment, adult day training, and residential. The tool(s) should be developed in a manner to also be used as a quality improvement measure by service providers to evaluate their services and supports over time.</p>

					<p>in the process of developing items that fall under each of the core competencies. Input from the advisory committee has been essential in the development of these items, holding three advisory meetings to begin this creation. An implementation plan will be developed after attendance at the September Council meeting, where they will meet with Council members to obtain information about the implementation process.</p>
Addressing the Behavior Therapist Shortage	University of Florida (UF) Board of Trustees	April 2022 – September 2023	\$195,425	<p>In its first year of funding, the goal of this project is to explore the current status of behavior analysis services in Florida. Through a research study and use of a collaborative task force in an advisory capacity, the UF Health Center for Autism and Neurodevelopment (UF CAN), working in conjunction with the University of Miami-Nova Southeastern University Center for Autism and Related Disorders (CARD), will conduct a research</p>	<p>October 2022 – January 2023 The Behavior Therapist Shortage project is about to hold its second workgroup meeting on February 2. The environmental scan is being written and focus groups have been held with Registered Behavior Technicians.</p> <p>January 2023 – May 2023 The University of Florida/University of Miami investigators have submitted their third deliverable. They are making progress in terms of their qualitative research with Registered Behavior Technicians (RBTs) and Board Certified Behavior Analysts (BCBAs), although it has been more difficult to get the RBTs to participate. They have also begun meeting with the university training</p>

				<p>study to include a review of legislation, statutes, policies, and practices. Additionally, numbers of certified practitioners at the four levels of certification applied in Florida will be gathered, and barriers to increasing the numbers of personnel will be studied. The project will culminate in recommendations to increase the number of behavior analysts across all levels, certified by the Behavior Analysis Certification Board or other appropriate credentialing body.</p>	<p>programs in applied behavior analysis. Their survey for caregivers is being revised as the draft submitted was skewed to parents of young children, participating in early intensive behavior intervention programs that are paid by Medicaid or private insurance. They submitted their environmental scan in draft form and are continuing to collect data from a variety of sources.</p> <p>June 2023-September 2023 The UF-UM team has collected a large amount of information from multiple sources to assist in developing a plan to address the shortage of behavior therapists at all levels. As the project has moved along, it became apparent that it was not just RBTs and BCBAs that were the issue, but the behavior support people in schools and adult agencies that are also inadequately trained to address challenging behavior. Information obtained from RBTs and BCBAs, as well as faculty leading academic training programs for BCBAs, all agreed that there was not enough emphasis on older individuals and those with challenging behaviors in the practicum placements for students</p>
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Dual Diagnosis Training	The National Association for the Dually Diagnosed (NADD)	September 2022 – September 2023	\$149,951	<p>Based on the findings from the Year 1 Dual Diagnosis Study, in Year 2 the Dual Diagnosis Training project will develop and provide training for school districts and community agencies and family members. Topics will include: recognizing and effectively communicating and interacting with individuals with I/DD who have co-occurring mental health diagnoses and/or challenging behaviors, including autism, to include strategies for communicating verbally and through augmentative and alternative communication methods; the use of de-escalation strategies; behavior management techniques; and safe physical management</p>	<p>in the academic programs. Family members also provided information that reached the same conclusion.</p> <p>October 2022 – January 2023 The Dual Diagnosis Training project's workgroup met once and is scheduled to meet January 19. They sent out a survey requesting information about policies and training for schools, agencies, and families and received 117/260 surveys back. They are in the process of reviewing the survey results. The training is being developed and a video will be created introducing people to dual diagnosis as a "thank you" for participating. This will be done at no cost to the Council.</p> <p>January 2023 – May 2023 NADD submitted a draft report of their survey and interview results. They have decided to keep their survey window open until the end of April to gather a wider sample of respondents. Their workgroup is very active and committed to this topic with wide representation from state agencies. An outline of the training was also submitted, and they are working on a face-to-face and virtual training. We are discussing the possibility of an</p>
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				considering physical limitations. This training project will result in the development and implementation of effective strategies and/or practices that will assist in averting unnecessary interventions for individuals who are dually diagnosed with I/DD and co-occurring mental health diagnoses and/or challenging behaviors, including autism, and will assist the Council in addressing the targeted disparities in services and outcomes for this underserved population.	<p>asynchronous version that can be housed on a Canvas, or other on-line site.</p> <p>June 2023–September 2023 Dual diagnosis training has been completed. A virtual training resulted in over 200 registrants. Two face-to-face trainings (one in Orange County and one in Broward County) were offered in August. Six 2-hour modules were developed that can be offered either as a series or individually. Feedback from the trainings offered will be used to finalize the content.</p>
Training First Responders	Florida Atlantic University Board of Trustees	October 2022 – September 2023	\$149,990	<p>This project, in its first year of funding, seeks to develop and provide training to law enforcement personnel, first responders, and emergency medical and mental health personnel who will encounter, interact, and intervene with individuals with intellectual and</p>	<p>October 2022 – January 2023 The Training First Responders project's workgroup has met once and is scheduled to meet February 2. There is so much work to do that they have scheduled two additional meetings in February to integrate all of the information they have collected.</p>

				<p>developmental disabilities who have co-occurring mental health diagnoses and/or challenging behaviors on recognizing and effectively communicating and interacting with them, to include strategies for communicating verbally and through augmentative and alternative communication methods, the use of de-escalation strategies, behavior management techniques, and safe physical management considering physical limitations.</p>	<p>January 2023 – May 2023 FAU has submitted a relatively complete training package for Law Enforcement Professionals, and for Emergency Medical Technicians. Each of these has a pretest/posttest, survey, participant handbook, trainer handbook, and PowerPoint. They will be providing the training virtually, face-to-face, and have already developed Canvas Modules to deliver in an asynchronous format.</p> <p>June 2023–September 2023 The First Responder Training project met its target of providing trainings across the state. Virtual trainings were offered in July and August and were all well attended, some being closed out to registrants. This 2-hour training (one version for law enforcement and one version for emergency medical personnel) is also available as an asynchronous on-line training. A version for fire fighters is also in development. Feedback from training participants will be used to finalize the training content and process.</p>
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Goal 3: Aging Caregivers					
Aging Generations' Expectations in Developmental Disabilities (AGEDD)	Margaret Lynn Duggar & Associates, Inc.	October 2022 – September 2023	\$150,000	<p>Caring for a person at home impacts the entire family. Aging caregivers, an aging population of adults with I/DD, and a significant shortfall of long-term care funding, both individually and collectively, is of imminent concern for individuals with I/DD and family caregivers. This initiative will continue to build a sustainable partnership between the developmental disability and aging networks to create a system of care that is both sensitive to and available for caregivers and individuals with I/DD who are growing older. This project, in its third year of work, will focus on the initial 11 recommendations that emerged from the Aging Generations' Expectations in Developmental</p>	<p>October 2022 – January 2023 The AGEDD Provider Advisory Group met in October 2022 and approved Planning Area 2- Training from the AGEDD 5-year strategic plan as a priority. Twenty Community Partnership meetings have been held. Community Partnerships have been established in the following counties: Bay, Broward, Indian River, Duval, Miami/Dade, and Osceola. Seven new community partnerships will be completed during the current contract year. Both aging and DD providers are gaining knowledge about each other's programs and establishing collaborative working relationships. Research and analysis of training and curriculum has begun.</p> <p>January 2023 – May 2023 Partnership meetings continued throughout the quarter. Nine community partnership meetings were held this quarter. Six new partners either joined existing groups or new groups were started. New counties included Escambia/Santa Rosa, Leon, Nassau, and Sarasota/DeSoto. The Provider</p>

				<p>Disabilities (AGEDD) report and the subsequent development of an AGEDD 5-year draft strategic plan for Florida. This plan was based on input from nearly 100 stakeholders, nearly 30 community provider partnership dialogues, input from the Council's Aging Caregivers Task Force, AGEDD Provider Advisory Group, and studies of national models on aging and developmental disability.</p>	<p>Advisory Group met in March 2023. They also have a meeting scheduled for May 2023. The partnership meetings are in various stages of development. The results are encouraging. There has been an increase in the partners' ability to identify the key partners/resources in their local community. Several community partners are discussing joint ventures such as transportation and housing initiatives. Work continued on the Strategic Planning AREA 2-Training. Resources were shared and the provider developed some general objectives that would be helpful in developing a curriculum and training program. The Program Director is currently reviewing those suggested objectives.</p> <p>May-September 2023 The primary focus during this quarter has been the continuation and expansion of community partnerships of the I/DD and Aging Networks. The Provider Advisory Committee met in May, with another meeting scheduled in August. This group will be reviewing and making recommendations to update the Strategic Plan. The provider hosted 17 Community</p>
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					<p>Partnership Meetings during this quarter, with more meetings planned in August and September. The provider will continue to work on scheduling a State-Level Coalition team meeting. This activity has been delayed due to agency leadership changes. This work will continue into the next contract year.</p>
Goal 4: Self-Advocacy Leadership					
Florida SAND Fellows Leadership Program	Organizational Management Solutions, Inc.	September 2022 – September 2023	\$317,006	<p>The goal of this project, in its seventh year of funding, is to fully expand leadership training for self-advocates by continuing and building on the Florida SAND Fellows Training Program to train four new Fellows a year and use existing Fellows as peer mentors for the year that follows their training. Fellows will be engaged in developing job skills of maintaining the self-advocacy organization, managing communications for the network, and offering</p>	<p>October 2022 – January 2023</p> <p>There are four new Fellows in this contract year, with three of last year's Fellows returning in a mentor capacity, for a total of seven self-advocate Fellows receiving new leadership training. Fellows receive weekly training, as well as additional topical training as needed. The Fellows are continuing to support the Florida Self-Advocate Central communication hub (e.g., social media, newsletter/listserv, blog, and two websites) as well as facilitating monthly self-advocacy meetings. The Fellows are preparing to host a Florida Self-Advocacy Conference August 18-20, 2023, in Orlando. This conference will serve as a major means for the Fellows providing self-advocacy training to</p>

				<p>technical assistance and peer mentoring to new Fellows as needed. As each cohort of Fellows becomes trained, leadership training will be provided by the Fellows and will include fine-tuned content that the existing Fellows have created (e.g., Breaking Barriers Training Academy), and also training for other self-advocates in the Route to Self-Determination curriculum.</p>	<p>Floridians with intellectual and developmental disabilities. Additionally, the Fellows and the contractor are finishing the online training platform module, Route to Self-Determination Train-the-Trainer, to grow the organization's capacity to train self-advocates across the state in self-determination. The Fellows continue to provide robust support to the FL SAND self-advocacy organization through board meeting planning and support as well as ongoing board member training and mentoring. This project is continuing to have pre- and post-leadership skills assessments annually completed on each Fellow as well as an annual evaluation of the Fellows' group impact on the organizational management of FL SAND. Last year's program evaluation data reported strong growth of both the Fellows' leadership skills as well as their support of FL SAND. This program also now has baseline FL SAND self-advocacy organization membership data and will continue to measure this area annually.</p>
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				<p>January 2023 – May 2023</p> <p>Three mentor Fellows from last year are still providing mentorship to three new Fellows. The contractor is recruiting to fill the fourth new Fellow slot for this year as the previously selected Fellow has accepted a different position and recently stepped down. The contractor has continued to train all Fellows weekly on their role which includes continued support of the Florida Self-Advocate Central communication hub (e.g., social media, newsletter/listserv, blog, and two websites) as well as facilitating monthly self-advocacy meetings. The Fellows are still preparing for the Florida Self-Advocacy Conference, August 18-20, 2023, in Orlando. This event will be hosted by the Fellows and will serve as a primary means of the Fellows providing self-advocacy training to Floridians with I/DD in this contract year. They are working on developing the agenda and the speaker line up, as well as registering participants. The Fellows and the contractor are adding final voiceovers to the online training platform module, Route to Self-Determination Train-the-Trainer. Once completed, this training will</p>
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				<p>support the organization's capacity to train self-advocates across the state in self-determination. The Fellows continue to support the FL SAND self-advocacy organization through board meeting training and technical assistance as well as ongoing board member training and mentoring. This project is continuing to have pre- and post-leadership skills assessments annually completed on each Fellow as well as an annual evaluation of the Fellows' group impact on the organizational management of FL SAND. Last year's program evaluation data reported strong growth of both the Fellows' leadership skills as well as their support of FL SAND. This program also now has baseline FL SAND self-advocacy organization membership data. Over the summer the Fellows will be collecting comparative organization and group member information. This contract year will also include the Fellows providing support to FL SAND regarding its newly awarded SAGE grant which will include two trainings regarding waivers for self-advocates.</p>
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				<p>June 2023 – September 2023</p> <p>Seven Fellows are currently taking part in this leadership program: three mentor Fellows and four new Fellows. Fellows continue to receive ongoing training weekly by FDDC's provider. Fellows also continue to support the statewide self-advocacy organization, FL SAND, through management of the Florida Self-Advocate Central communication hub (e.g., social media, newsletter/listserv, blog, and two websites) as well as facilitating monthly self-advocacy calls. Support of FL SAND board meetings remained a function of the Fellows work and included support of an in-person board meeting held in June 2023. The Fellows supported FL SAND at Family Café, covering an exhibitor table as well as presenting a well-attended session on self-advocacy. As hosts, the Fellows continue to prepare for the Florida Self-Advocacy Conference, August 18-20, 2023, in Orlando. The theme is Reunited: Lifting Our Voices Together. This event will serve as a primary means of the Fellows providing self-advocacy training to Floridians with I/DD in this contract year. An agenda has been set and includes six self-advocate presented</p>
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				breakout sessions, a keynote presentation by Matthew Walzer (inspiration behind Nike's FlyEase accessible sneaker), as well as a plenary Route to Self-Determination session. The Fellows and the provider are finalizing the online training platform module, Route to Self-Determination Train-the-Trainer. Once completed, this training will support the organization's capacity to train self-advocates across the state in self-determination. Implementation of this training will be a core focus of the next contract year. The Fellows continue to support FL SAND's leadership through mentoring. This project is evaluated through both pre- and post- leadership skills assessments as well as an annual evaluation of the Fellows' group impact on the organizational management of FL SAND. Both types of evaluation have been conducted for this contract year and are in the process of being analyzed for annual federal reporting. Data related to FL SAND as an organization, as well as its membership, was collected and will be compared to baseline data. The Fellows provided training and technical assistance to FL SAND
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Partners in Policymaking Coordinator	Stacey Hoagland	August 2022 – August 2023	\$50,000	<p>The goal of this project, in its sixth year of funding with the current Coordinator, is to plan and execute all aspects of the Council's Partners in Policymaking program. Partners in Policymaking is a national model designed to educate individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities and family members on self-determination, disability systems, and how to share information to educate policymakers.</p>	<p>which resulted in FL SAND being able to pursue and be awarded a SABE grant which will include the provision of two trainings regarding waivers for self-advocates in the upcoming contract year.</p> <p>October 2022 – January 2023 The PIP program is back to serving participants in-person. This program is currently in the process of completing session 5 of 6 for the 2022-2023 PIP class. This class has 4 self-advocate participants and 21 family member participants. Knowledge pre-test assessments have been completed, with post-tests set for administration after session 6 when this training class concludes in February 2023. To view a video made regarding the 2022-2023 PIP class, please visit: https://fb.watch/ghYxsEQ592/. Data is being collected per session on the participant's satisfaction with the presenters and overall session materials. 2022-2023 PIP class graduates will be attending DD Day 2023 as well as a limited number of graduates from the past two class years due to their instruction being virtual and not having received an opportunity to attend DD Day in-person previously. The PIP coordinator continues to</p>
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				<p>hold quarterly PIP graduate trainings to support graduates in growing their leadership and advocacy skills as well as providing ongoing technical assistance. The 6 regional coalitions developed through the Advocacy Summit will be assumed through PIP as part of its graduate engagement efforts. Note that the 2023-2024 PIP class application period will begin March 1, 2023. A new PIP brochure was developed and will be utilized for recruitment efforts. Last year's data demonstrated exceedingly strong program results. Pre- and post-knowledge assessments saw growth across areas of both knowledge and engagement. All 23 graduating PIP 2021-22 participants noted that they: have increased advocacy skills and abilities; are better able to say what they want to say/say what is important to them; are now participating in advocacy activities; are serving on a cross-disability coalition, policy board, advisory board or other leadership position that makes decisions; and noted being highly satisfied with this project with session satisfaction ratings ranging from 4.78-5.0 on 5.0 scale. It is also important to note that last year, PIP served 15 self-</p>
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					<p>advocate graduates and 90 family member graduates for a total of 105 PIP graduates receiving new training or technical assistance.</p> <p>January 2023 – May 2023 The PIP class of 2022-2023 graduated 4 self-advocate participants and 19 family member participants this past February. Final data on knowledge growth and performance measure outcomes will be available in the next few months. Twenty (20) 2022-2023 PIP class graduates, and ten (10) past virtual class graduates attended DD Day 2023 and met with their legislators. Quarterly PIP graduate trainings have continued to be held to support graduates in growing their leadership and advocacy skills. The PIP Coordinator also continues to provide ongoing technical assistance to graduates. The 6 regional coalitions developed through the Advocacy Summit have been assumed through PIP as part of its graduate engagement efforts. A June 11-12 in-person event in Orlando has been planned to support regional coalitions in advancing their housing and transportation regional plans. Final graduate support numbers and</p>
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				<p>outcomes will be available at the end of summer. The 2023-2024 PIP class application period began March 1, 2023, and will conclude at the end of June. Many applications have already been received.</p> <p>June 2023 – September 2023 Applications were closed for the 2023-2024 PIP class on June 30, with 84 applications being received for this class. The selection committee met in July and selected 25 participants for this upcoming 2023-2024 class. This includes 5 self-advocates and 20 family members. This year's class continues to be highly diverse regarding region, gender, race/ethnicity, and other demographic points. The 2023-2024 PIP class begins in September 2023 and runs through February 2024. Presenters will generally remain the same as the past year and this class will again be offered in-person in Orlando. The venue for the class moved to the Florida Mall Hotel. The PIP coordinator continues to provide training and technical assistance to PIP Alumni through quarterly training Zoom opportunities. The 6 regional coalitions developed through the</p>
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					<p>Advocacy Summit, which were assumed under PIP as part of its graduate engagement efforts, held a June 11-12 in-person event in Orlando. This event provided two half days of content to support regional coalitions in advancing their housing and transportation regional plans. Data from this event is being analyzed for annual federal reporting. Over 50 attendees were able to craft plans with their region on three core next steps to advance plan efforts, hearing from state and national leaders in the housing, transportation, and systems change fields. The PIP Coordinator has continued to support regions following the in-person event, joining virtual meetings, and providing follow-up resources. A very well-attended PIP presentation was given by the PIP coordinator at Family Café and the FDDC Family Café presentation, including some information on PIP. In addition, PIP resources were prominently featured at the FDDC Family Café exhibitor table. An informal gathering for PIP Alumni was also held with over 35 Alumni attending.</p>
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Partners in Policymaking Curriculum Project	Autistic Self Advocacy Network (ASAN): Pending verification of mandatory terms and conditions and successful contract negotiation	May 2022 – September 2023	\$224,716.16	<p>The goal of this project, in its first year of funding, will be to develop a Partners in Policymaking (PIP) curriculum and associated activity materials for a target audience of people with cognitive disabilities, requiring supports based on moderate-to-severe functional levels, at a Grade 2 to 3 reading level or below. The curriculum and associated activity materials will be developed to run in conjunction with and parallel to the current existing Florida Partners in Policymaking program with the goal of supporting more participants with intellectual and developmental disabilities (I/DD), and specifically cognitive disabilities, to be integrated into this program.</p>	<p>January 2023 – May 2023 In February 2023, the Council issued a bid to secure a provider to deliver the scope of work planned for this project. The Autistic Self Advocacy Network (ASAN) was selected as the “Lowest and Most Responsive Bidder Meeting the Minimum Requirements” for the Partners in Policymaking Curriculum Project. Currently, the award is dependent upon verification of mandatory terms and conditions and successful contract negotiations. Council staff met with ASAN staff on April 13, and we anticipate having an executed contract in May.</p> <p>June 2023 – September 2023 A contract with ASAN was executed in May 2023. Resources for review have been provided to ASAN. An advisory committee has been selected and includes: the PIP coordinator, Council member, 2 individuals with I/DD, 2 family members, 2 special educators, and 1 speech language pathologist. The first advisory committee meeting was held in June 2023. A curriculum reviewer agreement was developed, and seven training reviewers selected. A curriculum outline for session 1-6 has been</p>
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					<p>developed, with advisory committee input received. ASAN is currently completing drafts of the Sessions 1-2 translated curriculum. From September 2023 – February 2024, ASAN staff will virtually attend PIP 2023-2024 class sessions as passive observers to view how program components flow together.</p>
Goal 5: Broad Systems Change/Emerging Needs					
<p>Black* ASD Identification Research Expansion Project</p> <p><i>*"Black" – of or relating to any of various population groups including, but not limited to, African-American, Caribbean, Haitian, Nigerian, Kenyan.</i></p>	<p>Florida Atlantic University Board of Trustees</p>	<p>April 2021 – August 2023</p>	<p>\$405,733.34</p>	<p>The goal of this project, in its first year of funding and amended to continue and expand work through August 2023, is to attain critical information from a diverse group of counties (i.e., rural, urban, and suburban) that will assist key stakeholders and decision makers to understand the issues and effectively plan strategies that lead to earlier identification and eligibility determinations to assure that appropriate</p>	<p>October 2022 – January 2023 This project has continued to submit proposals and receive acceptance to conferences; continued recruitment of participants and proactively addressed concerns about reaching family targets; continued a Facebook group for Palm Beach, Broward, and Treasure Coast families and began Facebook groups for new geographic areas with regular postings; and distributed the manuscript completed in their first phase of work, which was published as the <i>Black-African American ASD Identification Research Expansion Project in the Behavior and Social Issues Association for Behavior</i></p>

Collier Area Transportation Voucher Replication Project	Collier County Board of Commissioners, Collier Area Transit	November 2020 – June 2023	\$300,000	<p>interventions and services are in place for Black-African American children identified with Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD).</p>	<p><i>Analysis International (ABAI) Journal</i> in 2022.</p> <p>January 2023 – May 2023 FAU-CARD has continued all activities including, but not limited to, recruiting participants in additional counties, conducting interviews and focus groups, maintaining Facebook groups, and presenting at numerous professional conferences.</p> <p>June 2023-August 2023 Final report and article submitted.</p>
				<p>The goal of this project, in its first year of funding and amended to enhance funding and the capacity to operate through June 2023, is to increase access to the community and satisfaction with transportation services for two or more life activities (e.g., employment, postsecondary education or training, recreation, leisure activities, shopping) for individuals with intellectual and</p>	<p>October 2022 – January 2023 After numerous issues in getting transportation services started due to multiple requests for proposals to secure a provider, followed by Hurricane Ian, service delivery began in mid-December for a soft launch with 44 trips completed that month. They are off to a strong start for January with their marketing postcards having been sent out and word of mouth beginning to grow awareness of this new transportation option. They are currently using the call center for registering rides but hope to be able to add the online portal and app soon (both had some fixes that</p>

				<p>developmental disabilities building upon the Council's previously funded and long-term successful HARTPlus Customer Choice Program in Hillsborough County.</p> <p>were needed following pilot testing).</p> <p>A website page has been created for the project, known as CAT Connect Select, and can be accessed via the following link: CAT Connect Select Collier Area Transit (ridecat.com)</p> <p>The website describes the new CAT Connect Select services providing On-Demand services that include:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) pick-up within 30 minutes; 2) extended service hours from 6 am to 10 pm/7 days a week; 3) \$4 for drop-offs within an 8-mile radius of pick up; 4) trips farther than 8 miles priced per mile. <p>January 2023 – May 2023</p> <p>After several unavoidable delays for the contractor related to this project, they launched transportation services in December 2022 with 44 rides provided through a soft launch. January 2023 saw growth in ridership of 173 trips, and then further growth in February 2023 with 277 trips. Further growth is anticipated through spring and into early summer; however, it should</p>
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Florida Project SEARCH Adult Model	Florida Association of Rehabilitation Facilities (FARF) d/b/a RESPECT of Florida, Inc.	September 2022 – September 2023	\$888,782.68	<p>The goal of this project, in its second year of funding, is to continue building the new pathway for adults with disabilities historically served in Adult Day Training programs or other less-inclusive settings, to transition into the competitive workforce through ongoing implementation of the Florida Project SEARCH Adult Model. The four Employment Centers (ECs) that operated during the first</p>	<p>be noted that this project will conclude June 30, 2023.</p> <p>June 2023 – September 2023 A total of 1,495 trips were provided from December 2022 – June 2023. Trip purposes included medical/life-sustaining/dialysis, employment, shopping, social/family/friends, exercise, nutrition, religious purpose, training/education/day care, and travel. Contract funding and trip provision ended on June 30, 2023; however, the project team is exploring Transportation Disadvantaged funding.</p>
				<p>October 2022 – January 2023 Four host business sites have been selected for this contract year. Two were existing sites, and two are new. All four host business sites began operation in January 2023. Currently, 35 interns have been selected to participate in the program. This year the sites faced a challenge in attracting older adults and adults from adult day training settings. The sites completed their intern selection by allowing for some expansion to serve adults of various ages who were no longer eligible for a Free and Appropriate Public Education (FAPE) and “sitting” at home. The provider has</p>	<p>October 2022 – January 2023 Four host business sites have been selected for this contract year. Two were existing sites, and two are new. All four host business sites began operation in January 2023. Currently, 35 interns have been selected to participate in the program. This year the sites faced a challenge in attracting older adults and adults from adult day training settings. The sites completed their intern selection by allowing for some expansion to serve adults of various ages who were no longer eligible for a Free and Appropriate Public Education (FAPE) and “sitting” at home. The provider has</p>

				<p>year of the project will continue to operate the program and work toward building stability and sustainability within their own organizations and as a model for potential statewide replication through the guidance and support from RESPECT of Florida and National Project SEARCH.</p> <p>coordinated advisory group meetings and sustainability work group meetings. In addition, each site hosts Steering Committee Meetings with the related partners. An important focus this year is on the sustainability of the program. A sustainability work group has been working with Project SEARCH staff to find viable options. As of this date, no firm plan is in effect. Efforts will continue. The provider continues to provide technical assistance and support as needed to the four sites. They offer 8, 2-hour module trainings that cover the essential elements of Project SEARCH. In addition, they have offered training specific to the needs of individual sites. Representatives from the four adult sites attended the National Project SEARCH Conference. The contract was amended to include additional funds to support travel and indirect costs required to expand the research efforts through September 2023 and allow for in-person research activities at all four Project SEARCH sites. Research efforts are ongoing.</p>
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				<p>January 2023 – May 2023 Florida Adult Project SEARCH Model</p> <p>The project continues with the following sites: Zoo Tampa, HCA Pasadena Hospital, Sandhill Retirement Living, Beck Automotive, and newly added St. Johns Community College. Beck automotive had a devastating flood in their warehouse which was one of the rotations. The local college stepped up and provided new rotation options. This was a terrific opportunity for interns now and perhaps in the future.</p> <p>The primary focus has been on the critical need to find a sustainability option for the project. The provider has worked exceptionally hard to find options for sustainability for this project. Interagency meetings and sustainability workgroups have been held. Other states were contacted to find out how they had braided and blended funds that would provide a model for Florida. Each state surveyed had a different approach. None of which seemed a fit for Florida. Efforts continue. Meetings have been held with the Agency for Persons with Disabilities and Vocational Rehabilitation (VR). VR is prepared to fund adults who</p>
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				<p>wish to participate at the same level they currently do for the youth model. The issue is that the adult model has been found to be a more expensive model due to increased staffing. Results from Year 1 have been very encouraging with a 57% employment rate as of March 2023.</p> <p>May-September 2023 Adult Project SEARCH has 24 interns scheduled to graduate in September. The contract ends on September 30, 2023. Sustainability funding has remained the biggest challenge in being able to sustain current sites or expand the model. ARC of Martin County would like to continue the model, but they must locate a new site before they can commit. Goodwill Industries and ARC of Putnam will not be able to offer the Adult Model due to a lack of funding to cover the operational costs. MacDonald Training Center plans to operate for another year. The Interagency and Sustainability Committees are still seeking funding alternatives.</p>
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<ul style="list-style-type: none"> National Project SEARCH Training and Technical Assistance Project Consulting Agreement 	Children's Hospital Medical Center, Cincinnati	March 2021 – September 2023	\$149,500	<p>This consulting agreement provides for licensing, training, technical assistance, and other necessary support to the Florida Project SEARCH Adult Model's four Employment Centers and host business sites.</p> <p>January-May 2023 National Project SEARCH Training and Technical Assistance Consulting Agreement The consultants have been delivering training on selected topics to the sites and general training on the key elements of the Project SEARCH curriculum. They have also provided technical assistance to the sites as requested. The consultants and the Project SEARCH teams just completed their first Fidelity Review. The detailed reports are not yet available.</p> <p>May-September 2023 The National Project SEARCH team completed their Fidelity Reviews and met with each of the providers to review the results. The review is interactive, with mutually agreed-upon goals selected by the provider and National Staff. Project SEARCH National staff will provide continuing technical assistance. The current focus is on activities that will help with job development for the graduating interns.</p>
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<ul style="list-style-type: none"> National Project SEARCH Research Project Consulting Agreement 	Children's Hospital Medical Center, Cincinnati	April 2021 – September 2023	\$215,003	<p>This consulting agreement provides for an Institutional Review Board (IRB) approved research study on the Florida Project SEARCH Adult model, allowing for comparisons to other models and assessment of multiple levels of systems change outcomes.</p>	<p>January-May 2023 National Project SEARCH Research Project The consultant had a delay in his expected time frame due to waiting for the Institutional Review Board (IRB) to approve the revisions to the research study on the Florida Project SEARCH Adult model. He was able to continue his work by gathering information from other states to use as a comparison. He received the approval in April and has visited each site and conducted interviews with staff, families, host businesses, and interns. He has also had access to the data collected in Year 1. His draft research product is due in June, with the final report due at the end of September 2023.</p> <p>May-September 2023 Dennis Cleary from National Project SEARCH has continued his research and will present his final Research Paper at the end of September. He had meetings at each of the host sites. He interviewed interns, family members, providers, and host business site employees. He shared some of his initial findings in a recent deliverable. Overall, the responses were positive.</p>
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Postsecondary Models: Youth Postsecondary Education Ambassador Curriculum	Institute for Community Inclusion, University of Massachusetts Boston	January 2023 – January 2024	\$125,000	<p>The goal of this project, in its fifth year of funding, is to create and pilot an advocacy and leadership curriculum to train young adults with I/DD ages 18-26 who are currently enrolled or recently completed postsecondary programs to serve as Inclusive Postsecondary Education Ambassadors. Trained Ambassadors will promote the value and importance of college for students like themselves primarily to postsecondary institutions and secondary educators, likely in collaboration with other existing organizations engaged in such work to gain further momentum for expansion, and secondarily considering presentations at family or student venues to spark further interest.</p>	<p>October 2022 – January 2023 A contract was executed in December for work to begin on January 9, 2023.</p> <p>January 2023 – May 2023 Since January, a project website was established; a comprehensive review of existing youth empowerment, self-advocacy, and leadership curricula was conducted; the project abstract was finalized (including a plain language version); a 14-member project Advisory Committee was established; and a draft outline of the <i>Youth Postsecondary Education Ambassador Curriculum</i> has been submitted for staff review.</p> <p>June 2023-August 2023 The pilot training program was conducted with 11 participants from across the state.</p>
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Advocacy and Communications Cross-Cutting Systems Change Goals	Easy Read	Dale DiLeo Consulting	September 2022 – September 2023	\$85,575	<p>This consulting agreement provides for translation of selected Council documents into Easy Read and/or Plain Text formats.</p> <p>October 2022 – January 2023 Since September, the following documents have been created under this project: 1) Easy Read Legislative Platform 2023; 2) Plain Text Legislative Platform 2023; 3) Easy Read Social Validity Survey for the Reducing the Behavior Therapist Shortage project. All other Social Validity Surveys are now in the process of being converted into Easy Read and/or Plain Text.</p> <p>January 2023 – May 2023 Dale DiLeo has translated all the projects' social validity scales into Easy Read format except for Researching Provider Solutions, which was late getting started. He has also provided a Plain Text version of the FDDC 2022 Annual Report. He also translated the survey for Researching Provider Solutions into Plain Text.</p> <p>June 2023–September 2023 There were three items that were translated into Plain Text format</p>	
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					<p>during this time. That was a set of instruments to be used at the Self-Advocacy Conference held in August. They included a pretest, posttest, and a satisfaction survey.</p> <p>October 2022 – January 2023 To date in 2022-23, the project has converted the Council's legislative platform into Spanish.</p> <p>January 2023 – May 2023 The Advocacy and Leadership Guide has been submitted for translation. Plans are underway to send the Planning Ahead guide and Paramedicine project materials for translation in the month of May.</p> <p>June 2023-August 2023 Paramedicine materials translated.</p>
Spanish Translation	Lingua School, Inc. d.b.a. Lingua Language Center	September 2022 – September 2023	\$50,000	This consulting agreement provides for translation of selected Council documents into Spanish or other languages deemed appropriate.	<p>October 2022 – January 2023 Primary work to date in 2022-23 has focused on preparing for DD Awareness Day, including creating and disseminating Save the Date Info Graphics and logistics planning. Ongoing social media posts for sharing relevant news and information have also been continued.</p> <p>January 2023 – May 2023 Extensive work completed for DD Day 2023 included a virtual rally</p>
Communications	RB Oppenheim Associates, Inc.	October 2022 – September 2023	\$100,000	This consulting agreement provides for website maintenance; general public relations outreach and ongoing support; annual event coordination and support of Developmental Disabilities Awareness Day; and Council outreach activities based on the five-year state plan; and	<p>October 2022 – January 2023 Primary work to date in 2022-23 has focused on preparing for DD Awareness Day, including creating and disseminating Save the Date Info Graphics and logistics planning. Ongoing social media posts for sharing relevant news and information have also been continued.</p> <p>January 2023 – May 2023 Extensive work completed for DD Day 2023 included a virtual rally</p>

				<p>statewide surveys, as needed.</p> <p>video, Advocacy Toolkit, platform coordination, and social media promotion. Post-event surveys were designed and distributed. Additional work included Council videos, material production for PIP, along with ongoing social media development.</p> <p>June 2023-August 2023 Focus has been on expansion of social media and enhancements to the FDDC website.</p>
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FINANCE COMMITTEE MEETING
Thursday September 21, 2023
10:15 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.

The Florida Hotel and Conference Center
1500 Sand Lake Road
Orlando, Florida 32809
(407) 859-1500

OUR MISSION

“To advocate and promote meaningful participation in all aspects of life for Floridians with developmental disabilities”.

10:15 a.m.	Call to Order Welcome & Introductions	<i>Dennis Hart, Chair</i>
10:20 a.m. – 10:25 a.m.	Approval of Minutes (A) Minutes for 5/25/2023**	<i>Dennis Hart, Chair</i>
10:25 a.m. – 10:35 a.m.	Review/Discussion of Financials (B) Administrative Budget/Actual 10/1/22 -7/31/23 (Report to be provided at meeting)	<i>Dennis Hart, Chair & Lisa Taylor</i>
10:35 a.m. – 10:55 a.m.	(C) 2024 Administrative Budget with proposed modifications** (D) Capital purchases request**	<i>Valerie Breen & Lisa Taylor</i> <i>Dennis Hart, Chair</i>
10:55 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.	Public Comment	<i>Dennis Hart, Chair</i>
11:00 a.m.	Meeting Adjourned	<i>Dennis Hart, Chair</i>

**** Items that require vote**

**Finance Committee
Meeting Minutes
Thursday, May 18, 2023**

Members Present: Dennis Hart, Finance Chair, Sarah Goldman, Peter Sleasman, and Kali Wilson

Members Absent: Jack Kosik

Other Council Members Present: Kevin Johnson, Chair, Beth Boone, Elly Hagen, Laurie Harlow, Marcy Hajduckiewicz, Frank Shalett, Jean Sherman, and TJ Moon

Guests Present: Valerie Whitaker and Sheila Mohler

Staff Present: Lisa Taylor, Margaret Hooper, Sheila Gritz-Swift, Sue Kabot, Jamie Mayersohn, Jan Pearce, and Kristin Vandagriff

Meeting was called to order by Chair Hart at 11:00 a.m. and quorum was established.

I. Approval of Meeting Minutes

Action Taken: Goldman made a motion to accept the minutes of 1/26/23 as presented. Wilson seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

II. Financials 10/01/22 through 3/31/23 Administration Budget/Actual

Hart presented the budget to actual expenditures for the six-month period ending 11/30/22. This six-month period represents 50% of the budget with actual expenditures at approximately 41%. Hart highlighted multiple line items noting line-item expenditures which are typically paid annually as opposed to monthly. Expenses appear to be in line with what we would expect for this period.

III. Program Reserve Update

Taylor provided an update on the balance and use of the Program Reserve funds. The total estimated program reserve funds at 3/31/23 is \$1,154,978. After 3/31, staff met and developed a plan to redistribute all the program reserve funds among the state plan goals for years 3, 4, and 5 of the state plan based on need and direction from the Council. The FDDC program reserve is currently at zero. FDDC has tightly budgeted and planned all funds.

IV. Update – Grant Award

Our 2022 grant funds were scheduled to expire 9/30/23, however all councils were notified by Administration for Community Living staff that we could apply for a 12-month extension of time to spend the funds. Our request was submitted.

V. Public Comment

Hart asked if there was any public comment. There was none.
Hart adjourned the meeting at 11:26 a.m.

	2023 Approved Budget	Proposed Changes Increase (Decrease)	2024 Proposed Budget
Administrative			
Computer	52,000	7,500	59,500
Dues-NACDD	25,000	(3,000)	22,000
Education/Training	7,000		7,000
Insurance-General	13,857		13,857
Office Supplies & Expense	15,120	(3,000)	12,120
Payroll			
Payroll Processing Fee	2,200	(2,200)	-
Employee Gross	1,178,000	81,662	1,259,662
Payroll Taxes(includes State U/C Taxes)	94,517	6,247	100,764
Workers Compensation Insurance	4,558	(2,000)	2,558
Benefits			
Retirement	72,569	(11,452)	61,117
AFLAC	16,640		16,640
Dental Insurance	5,050	(1,950)	3,100
Health Insurance	102,000	(23,190)	78,810
STD, LTD, Life Insurance	13,000	(4,650)	8,350
Total Benefits	209,259	(29,790)	168,017
Total Payroll	1,488,534	42,467	1,531,001
Professional Fees			
Audit & 990	22,000		22,000
Consultants	77,000	(24,000)	53,000
Total Professional Fees	99,000	(24,000)	75,000
Postage	7,000	(3,500)	3,500
Rent	-		-
Building Rent	138,973	(39,448)	99,525
Equipmental Rental	6,000	250	6,250
Total Rent	144,973	(39,198)	105,775
Telephone	6,900	(1,000)	5,900
Travel - Council Meetings & Other	127,000	(40,000)	87,000
Employee Morale	1,500	(1,000)	500
Total Administrative	1,987,884	(64,731)	1,923,153
Less Program costs			
Net Administrative	1,987,884	(64,731)	1,923,153
Board Development	12,000	(6,000)	6,000
Grand Total	1,999,884	(70,731)	1,929,153
*Approximately 50% (\$962,000) is program cost			

2024 Proposed Changes:

Budget Line Item:	Description	Increase (Decrease)
Increases:		
Computer/IT	Includes increases for software upgrades and rate increases.	\$7,500
Total Payroll	Includes increases proposed for FDDC headquarters and remote staff based on annual salary matrix. Includes decreases in costs for retirement, dental insurance, health insurance, and std, ltd, and life insurance.	42,467
Total Increases		49,967
Decreases:		
Rent	Renegotiated Tallahassee's building lease agreement to relinquish 2,967 square feet. Savings of \$127,806 over the remaining 2.5 years lease.	39,198
Dues	Align with 2023 Spending levels	3,000
Office Supplies & Expense	Align with 2023 Spending levels	3,000
Consultants	Align with 2023 Spending levels	24,000
Postage	Align with 2023 Spending levels	3,500
Telephone	Align with 2023 Spending levels	1,000
Travel – Council Meetings & Other	Align with 2023 Spending levels	40,000
Employee Morale	Align with 2023 Spending levels	1,000
Board Development	Change in estimated costs	6,000
Total Decreases		120,698
Net Change from 2023	Overall Decrease in funding	(70,731)

FLORIDA DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES COUNCIL, INC.

FINANCE/EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING

Thursday September 21, 2023

11:00 a.m.-12:30 p.m.

OUR MISSION

“To advocate and promote meaningful participation in all aspects of life for Floridians with developmental disabilities.”

11:00 a.m.	Meeting Called to Order	<i>Kevin Johnson, Chair</i>
11:35 a.m.	FDDC 2024 Budget Approval ** (A) 2024 Program/Administrative Budget	<i>Kevin Johnson, Chair</i> <i>Dennis Hart, Treasurer</i>
11:45 a.m.	Approval of Minutes ** (B) 05/18/23 minutes (draft) (C) 07/10/23 minutes (approved) (D) 08/22/23 minutes (draft)	<i>Kevin Johnson, Chair</i>
11:45 a.m.-12:15 p.m.	Employee Policies Update	<i>Kevin Johnson, Chair</i> <i>Valerie Breen, Ex.Dir.</i>
12:15 p.m.	Public Input/Meeting adjourned	<i>Kevin Johnson, Chair</i>

Attachment A to be provided under
separate cover.

FLORIDA DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES COUNCIL, INC.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

MINUTES

Thursday, May 18, 2023

Members Present: Kevin Johnson, Eddie Hall, Dr. Dennis Hart, Sarah Goldman, Lisa Miller, Elly Hagen

Members Absent: Jack Kosik

Staff: Dr. Susan Kabot serving as Interim Executive Director

Other Council Members Present: Conney Dahn Yolanda Herrera, Frank Shalett, TJ Moon, Laurie Harlow, Jean Sherman, Peter Sleasman, Kali Wilson

Other Staff Present: Sheila Gritz-Swift, Margaret Hooper), Jamie Mayersohn, Jan Pearce, Lisa Taylor, Kristin Vandagriff

Agency Representatives Present but Not Appointed: Dr. Beth Boone, Mirna Diaz, Marcy Hajdukiewicz, Kim Quinn, Johana Valdivieso

Guests: Sheila Mohler, Valerie Whitaker

The meeting was called to order at 11:36 am by Chair Johnson.

I. Minutes from the March 30, 2023

Action Taken: Hagen made a motion to accept the minutes as presented. Hart seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

II. Level 2 Background Checks

Johnson asked Kabot to present on the changes proposed to the Level 2 Background Screening policy.

Action Taken: Hart made a motion to accept the Background Screening policy dated 04/15/2023 for FDDC personnel. Goldman seconded. The motion passed unanimously. Miller asked for clarification on who covers the cost of the screening. Kabot confirmed FDDC covers the cost for personnel. Kabot presented possible changes to the FDDC background screening protocol for provider contracts. No action was required. Personnel Handbook was not discussed.

The meeting was adjourned by Chair Johnson at 11:50 a.m.

FLORIDA DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES COUNCIL, INC.

CLOSED EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

MINUTES

Monday, July 10, 2023

3:30 p.m.

Via ZOOM

PRESENT: Kevin Johnson, Elly Hagen, Lisa Miller, Jack Kosik, Eddie Hall

ABSENT: Dennis Hart

STAFF: Susan Kabot, Interim Executive Director

The meeting was called to order at 3:30 p.m. by Chair Johnson in a closed executive session.

I. Executive Update

Kabot presented an executive update to the committee covering significant events since the previous executive committee meeting on March 30, 2023. Kabot was excused from the Zoom meeting at the completion of her report.

II. Executive Director Contract

The executive committee reviewed the renewal of the contract for Valerie Breen, Executive Director.

Action Taken: Miller made a motion to provide written notice of the intent of the Council not to extend the current Employment Agreement beyond its expiration date of September 30, 2023, and to inform Breen that the Executive Committee was willing to discuss the potential restructuring of the Executive Director position and/or the possibility of a new agreement. Kosik seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

The meeting was adjourned by Johnson at 4:30 p.m.

FLORIDA DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES COUNCIL, INC.

CLOSED EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

MINUTES

Tuesday August 22, 2023

5:30 p.m.

Via ZOOM

PRESENT: Kevin Johnson, Jack Kosik, Eddie Hall, Sarah Goldman, Dennis Hart

ABSENT: Elly Hagen, Lisa Miller

STAFF: Valerie Breen, Executive Director

OTHERS PRESENT: Greg Stewart, FDDC attorney

The meeting was called to order at 5:35 p.m. by Chair Johnson in a closed executive session.

I. Approval of July 10, 2023, Minutes

Action Taken: Kosik made a motion to approve the minutes as presented. Hart seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

II. Executive Update

Johnson asked Breen to update everyone since she returned to work August 1, 2023. Breen entertained questions from the committee members and answered them accordingly. Johnson reinforced that Breen reports to the committee and the Council and staff report to Breen. Johnson also stated that he and the attorney were working on a more formalized complaint/grievance process for staff interaction with the Council.

III. Executive Director Contract

Johnson asked Breen to present what was most important to her in the contract negotiation and why. Johnson then excused Breen from the meeting and held a closed Executive Committee session, which involved the committee members present and the FDDC attorney. The Executive Committee members reviewed the renewal of the contract in response to Breen's requests for consideration of changes. Stewart, FDDC's attorney, provided a summary of options for the Executive Committee to consider. After discussion, the committee requested that Stewart consider revisions to the contract as a component for the ongoing negotiation.

The meeting was adjourned by Johnson at 6:58 p.m.

FLORIDA DEVELOPEMENTAL DISABILITIES COUNCIL, INC.

**FULL COUNCIL MEETING
AGENDA**

OUR MISSION

“To advocate and promote meaningful participation in all aspects of life for Floridians with developmental disabilities.”

1:30 p.m.	Call to Order/Roll Call	<i>Kevin Johnson, Chair</i>
1:45 p.m.-1:50 p.m.	Approval of May Minutes** <i>(A) May 18-19, 2023</i>	<i>Kevin Johnson, Chair</i>
1:50 p.m.-2:15 p.m.	Chair/Vice Chair Report	<i>Kevin Johnson, Chair</i> <i>Eddie Hall, Vice Chair</i>
2:15 p.m.-2:45 p.m.	Executive Director Report	<i>Valerie Breen, Ex. Dir.</i>
2:45 p.m.-3:00 p.m.	Break	
3:00 p.m.-4:15 p.m.	2024 Legislative Platform 2024 DD Day	<i>Sarah Goldman, Chair</i> <i>Margaret Hooper, Dir.</i> <i>Valerie Breen, Ex. Dir.</i>
4:15 p.m.-4:45 p.m.	Elections <i>(B) Bios on each candidate</i>	<i>Valerie Breen, Ex. Dir</i>
4:45 p.m.-5:00 p.m.	Public Comment	<i>Kevin Johnson, Chair</i>
5:00 p.m.	Meeting Adjourned	<i>Dinner on your own</i>

2nd DAY FULL COUNCIL MEETING SCHEDULE

Friday September 22nd

9:00 a.m.	Call to Order/Roll Call	<i>Kevin Johnson, Chair</i>
9:10 a.m.-10:45 a.m.	Presentation on Case Management & Quality Measures	<i>Sue Kabot, Chief of Programs</i> <i>Mathematica Staff:</i> <i>Noelle Denny-Brown</i> <i>Alex Korbin</i> <i>Suzie Rastgoufard</i>
10:45 a.m.-11:00 am.	Break/Check Out	<i>Kevin Johnson, Chair</i>
11:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m.	State & Sister Agency Reports <i>Agency for Persons with Disabilities</i> <i>Agency for Health Care Administration</i> <i>Department of Elder Affairs</i>	<i>Kevin Johnson, Chair</i>

Department of Education- Vocational Rehabilitation
Department of Education- BEESS
Department of Health, Childrens Medical Services
University of Miami- Mailman Center
University of South Florida- Florida Center for Inclusive Communities
Disability Rights Florida

11:30 a.m.-1:00 p.m.

Working Lunch

12:00 p.m.-1:00 p.m.

Committee Reports/Discussion

*State Plan Committee ***

Jean Sherman, Chair

*Finance Committee ***

Dennis Hart, Chair

*Public Policy Committee***

Sarah Goldman, Chair

*Executive Committee ***

Kevin Johnson, Chair

1:00 pm.

2024 Council Meeting- Tallahassee

1:00 p.m.

Public Comment/Adjourn

Kevin Johnson, Chair

**** Indicates the item requires a vote**

FLORIDA DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES COUNCIL, INC.
FULL COUNCIL MEETING
MINUTES
May 18-19, 2023

Thursday, May 18, 2023

Members Present: Kevin Johnson, Chair, Conney Dahn, Sarah Goldman, Elly Hagen, Eddie Hall, Laurie Harlow, Dr. Dennis Hart, Yolanda Herrera, Lisa Miller, TJ Moon, Frank Shalett, Dr. Jean Sherman, Peter Sleasman, Kali Wilson

Members Absent: Jack Kosik, Victoria Zepp

Staff Present: Susan Kabot (serving as Interim Executive Director), Sheila Gritz-Swift, Margaret Hooper, Jamie Mayersohn, Jan Pearce, Lisa Taylor, Kristin Vandagriff

Agency Representatives Present but Not Appointed: Dr. Beth Boone, Marcy Hajdukiewicz (for Andrea Gary), Catherine McGrath, Kim Quinn (for Taylor Hatch), Johana Valdivieso, Mirna Diaz

Others Absent: Jennifer Duggar, Kira Houge

Guests: Sheila Mohler, Valerie Whitaker (FDDC provider)

I. Call to Order

Pearce conducted roll call and quorum was established. Johnson called the meeting to order at 1:00 pm.

II. Approval of the Minutes

Action Taken: Hall made a motion to accept the January 26-27, 2023 meeting minutes as presented. Sleasman seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

III. Chair/Vice Chair Reports

Johnson shared an update on Executive Director Breen's health. He thanked staff for taking on additional responsibilities over the past few months. He also thanked the Council members for their support of the staff. He shared his participation in the NACDD's ITACC's Pathways to Inclusion: Engaging People in Expanding Access Across the Lifespan. His major takeaway was that we could do a better job of supporting our members with I/DD to participate more fully in the work of the council. He also spoke about the challenges providers face with limited rate increases in the budget and the end of pandemic funding. Johnson also shared that the FDDC's

public relations firm would like Council members to be active on their social media to promote Council postings.

Hall also thanked the staff and Council members for their support over the past few months. He also spoke of the importance of self-advocates sharing their voices and their stories. He emphasized that this is a way to empower people to be active in their communities.

IV. Executive Director Report

Kabot reported that Breen's projected return date is July 10, 2023. Kabot explained Valerie Whitaker's attendance at the meeting. Kabot explained that Whitaker is contracted with the FDDC for the COVID and Public Health Workforce funds. Kabot stated that Whitaker supports the Paramedicine Project. Kabot reported that she is revising job duties within the Tallahassee office, and to look for two positions to be posted for the administrative side.

Kabot stated that since the pandemic, the Tallahassee office is much larger than needed since four staff are working remotely. The leasing agent is trying to rent out either $\frac{1}{4}$ or $\frac{1}{2}$ of the space.

FDDC explored applying for some Hurricane Ian funding that ACL had available, but decided not to apply for that money since we don't provide direct service. We were not selected for a supported decision-making Project of National Significance. We did have a presentation chosen for the July 2023 NACDD conference in Orlando in July.

Sarah Goldman, Kevin Johnson, Sue Kabot, and Margaret Hooper attended the Disability Policy Seminar.

She also thanked Tom Rice, who was not in attendance, for his support to the FDDC and wished him luck in his move to Ohio. A gift was presented to him that will be given to him by Kim Quinn from the Agency for Persons with Disabilities.

V. DD Day Presentation

A video created by FDDC's public relations consulting firm, RB Oppenheim and Associates, Inc. was shared. It highlighted the March 2023 Developmental Disabilities Awareness Day event. The video included stories shared by Dennis Hart, Kali Wilson, and Sarah Goldman and included pictures of the dinner, Idelio Valdes award presentation, breakfast, and visits to legislators. There were 65 legislative meetings reported, and 2,000 views of the DD Day pages on the website. The suggestion was made to break apart each of the stories so they would be available separately.

VI. Legislative Session Outcomes

Goldman thanked everyone who participated in DD Day 2023. The FDDC 2023 legislative priorities were shared and included (1) Invest in Home- and Community-Based Services, (2) Supported Decision-Making, (3) Foster Care Recommendations, (4) Dental Services, and (5) Waitlist Initiatives. For the Home- and Community-Based Services, \$80 million was appropriated to transition individuals off the iBudget waitlist, \$5,980,368 for an increase in rates for support coordinators of \$10.00 per hour, and funds placed in reserve for AHCA to support individuals in ICFs if needed.

Goldman reported on Bills that passed this legislative session. They included:

- HB 019 Informed Consent
- SB 290 Public School Student Progression for Students with Disabilities
- HB 391 Home Health Aides for Medically Fragile Children
- SB 226 Support for Dependent Adult Children
- HB 1275 Persons with Disabilities Registry
- HB 1277 Public Records Persons with Disabilities
- HB 1517 Services for Persons with Disabilities

Goldman reported on bills that did not pass:

- SB 156 Student Elopement
- HB61 Medicaid Expansion through a Medicaid Buy-In Program
- SB 228 Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorders

Hooper shared relevant portions of two bills that passed as well as the most recent FDDC Capital Update. SB 1084 is the managed care bill, noting that a pilot project focusing on Miami-Dade was expanded to include the Florida Keys and Hillsborough, Highland, and Polk Counties. Federal approval will need to be requested by September 1, 2023. Individuals served must be 18+ and in APD categories 3-6. HB 1531 became a part of HB1517. FDDC was denoted as a stakeholder group in the final version along with ARC of Florida.

Discussion: Council members expressed the need to monitor the managed care project and requested information about managed care programs in other states. An external evaluator is required in the bill.

A discussion ensued regarding priorities for consideration for 2024. Hooper reported that this usually takes place during the September Council meeting. Support coordination rate increases may be necessary if the \$10 hourly rate increase does not increase the supply. An examination of the effects of the winding down of the COVID funds on providers will also take place. Severe cuts in waiver services was noted by Sherman and supported by others in attendance. The need

for training behavior therapists in challenging behavior is also an issue that has developed out of the FDDC project in this area.

VII. Public Input/Meeting Adjourned:

There was no input from the public. Johnson reminded the Council members that the next meeting is September 21-22, 2023, at the Florida Hotel, Orlando.

Johnson adjourned the meeting at 4:01 pm.

Friday, May 19, 2023

Members Present: Kevin Johnson, Chair, Sarah Goldman, Elly Hagen, Eddie Hall, Laurie Harlow, Dr. Dennis Hart, Yolanda Herrera, Lisa Miller, TJ Moon, Frank Shalett, Dr. Jean Sherman, Peter Sleasman, Kali Wilson

Members Absent: Conney Dahn, Jack Kosik, Victoria Zepp

Staff Present: Sheila Gritz-Swift, Margaret Hooper, Susan Kabot, Jamie Mayersohn, Jan Pearce, Lisa Taylor, Kristin Vandagriff

Agency Representatives Present but Not Appointed: Dr. Beth Boone, Marcy Hajdukiewicz (for Andrea Gary), Catherine McGrath, Kim Quinn (for Taylor Hatch), Johana Valdivieso

Others Absent: Jennifer Duggar, Kira Houge

Guests: Sheila Mohler, Valerie Whitaker (FDDC provider)

I. Call to Order

Pearce conducted roll call and quorum was established. Johnson called the meeting to order at 9:30 am.

II. State and Sister Agency Reports

Reports were provided by Kim Quinn, Agency for Persons with Disabilities; Catherine McGrath, Agency for Health Care Administration; Johana Valdivieso, Vocational Rehabilitation; Marcy Hajdukiewicz, Department of Health, Children's Medical Services; Dr. Jean Sherman, Mailman Center, University of Miami; Dr. Beth Boone, Florida Center for Inclusive Communities, University of South Florida; and Peter Sleasman, Disability Rights Florida. Representatives from the Florida Department of Education and the Department of Elder Affairs were not in attendance.

III. Committee Reports/Discussion

Sherman gave the State Plan Committee Report. She updated the Council on new Contracts with the Autistic Self-Advocacy Network and University of Illinois at Chicago that were executed since the last Council meeting. The Strive to Thrive project was selected to be presented to the full Council. Pearce provided information about this project, which will begin soon.

Action Taken: Miller made a motion to accept the report as presented. Herrera seconded. The Council voted unanimously to accept the state plan committee report. There was no discussion or abstentions. The motion passed unanimously.

Hart gave the Finance Committee Report. He highlighted administrative spending, which was in alignment with the time elapsed from this fiscal year. All reserve funds have been allocated to programs. A 12-month extension was requested from ACL for 2022 federal funds and is expected to be approved. Those funds have already been allocated to programs for next year.

Action Taken: Sleasman made a motion to accept the report as presented. Herrera seconded. Motion passed unanimously. There was no discussion or abstentions.

Johnson gave the Executive Committee Report. He reported that an updated Background Screening Policy for FDDC staff was reviewed and approved by the Executive Committee. An annual attestation will be required for staff between screenings and staff will complete a Level 2 background screening every 3 years. FDDC will pay the cost of staff background screenings.

Action Taken: Hall made a motion to accept the report as presented. Goldman seconded. Motion passed unanimously. There was no discussion or abstentions.

IV. Youth Ambassadors/Postsecondary Models

Jamie Timmons and Deborah Hart, from ICI at the University of Massachusetts, Boston, gave a presentation of their 5 years of work on postsecondary models. They then shared their current 1-year project to develop youth ambassadors through a curriculum that is being developed.

V. Public Input/Adjournment

No one from the public asked to speak.

Johnson announced that the next Council meeting is scheduled for September 21-22, 2023, at the Florida Hotel and Conference Center. Johnson adjourned the meeting at 1:05 p.m.



Florida Developmental Disabilities Council, Inc.
State Plan Committee Meeting Report
May 18, 2023

I. Approval of minutes from January 26, 2023 Meeting

The minutes from the January 26, 2023 meeting were approved.

II. Update on IFPs/Sole Source/Bids

Dr. Sue Kabot provided a brief update on the status of IFPs/Sole Source/Bids. She shared that the Autistic Self Advocacy Network (ASAN) was secured through a bid process as the provider for the PIP Curriculum Project with contract execution on May 1. Dr. Kabot also shared that the Strive to Thrive: Supporting Families Across the Aging and DD Networks Research Project's contract was executed on May 16. The provider for this project, secured through sole source procurement, is The Board of Trustees at the University of Illinois at Chicago.

III. Task Force Updates

Each Director, Programs and Contracts, briefed State Plan Committee members on the projects that fall under their Task Forces and highlighted one or two of those projects by providing more detailed information on their current status. Council members chose one project update from the collaborative Task Force presentation to be shared with the full Council. The Strive to Thrive: Supporting Families Across the Aging and DD Networks Research Project was selected. We will hear from Jan Pearce shortly as a part of this report.

IV. Approval of Program Budget with Revisions

Dr. Jean Sherman provided an overview of the State Plan Committee's role in reviewing and approving the Council's 5-Year State Plan Budget. She noted that the updated program budget further defines the upcoming scope of work and associated funding that will be required for Years 3 – 5 of the state plan. Dr. Sherman also noted that the budget is based on Council input at the January meeting, Task Force input, feedback from our current providers, and internal staff reviews and revisions to meet our intended state plan goals within our allocated budget.

Sheila Gritz-Swift reviewed each major goal and associated activities/projects. She provided brief updates on progress during Years 1 and 2 and presented highlights of planned work and associated funding for Years 3 – 5 of the state plan. The State Plan Committee approved the updated program budget as presented.

V. Strive to Thrive: Supporting Families Across the Aging and DD Networks Research Project

Jan will now share the Strive to Thrive: Supporting Families Across the Aging and DD Networks Research Project presentation segment from our State Plan Committee meeting yesterday.

FLORIDA DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES COUNCIL, INC.

Finance Committee Report

May 18, 2023

Action Items:

1. Approved minutes from the 1/26/2023 Finance Committee meeting.

Review/Discussion:

1. Reviewed the Administrative Expenditures Budget to Actual Report for 10/01/22 through 3/31/2023. Line items were highlighted with details and the overall administrative spending is in line with the budget with anticipated unspent funds.
2. Reviewed Program Reserve. At 3/31, approximately \$1.1 million program reserve funds were available. All reserve funds were allocated to state plan goals based on need and input from the council.
3. Update on Grant Awards - Our 2022 grant funds were scheduled to expire 9/30/2023, however all councils were notified by the Administration for Community Living's staff that we could apply for a 12-month extension of time to spend the funds. This would allow these funds to be spent by 9/30/24. Our request was submitted, and we anticipate approval.

Florida Developmental Disabilities Council, Inc.

**Executive Committee
Report to the Full Council
Thursday, May 18, 2023**

Action Items:

1. The minutes from the March 30, 2023 meeting were approved.
2. The Background Screening Policy dated April 15, 2023 was approved.

Discussion:

Background information regarding the changes from the 2017 Background Screening Policy to the April 15, 2023 Background Screening Policy was provided. A question was asked about who pays for the staff's Background Screening and it was shared that the FDDC covers the cost for staff. The annual Attestation for Disqualifying Offenses that will be completed by staff was shared, and staff will now have to repeat Level 2 background screening every 3 years.

It was also shared that discussions are taking place regarding the Level 2 requirement included in the current Provider contracts.

Bios on Each Candidate

Kevin Johnson

I have extensive board leadership experience, including with the FDDC. I previously served as the Chair of Florida ARF, Catholic Volunteers in Florida, and currently serve on the Catholic Disability Foundation and Morning Star School's boards. I have served on the Council since 2015 and as the chair since 2021. I previously served as the Employment and Transportation Task Force and Public Policy chairs as well as served on the Finance Committee. I am employed by Magnify of Central Florida as its Executive Director since 2008. Magnify provides residential, life skills, transition-to-work, and employment services to individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities through the iBudget waiver and Vocational Rehabilitation. Prior to my role as Executive Director I supervised group homes for individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities and served as a full-time direct support professional in a group home setting as a live-in staff person. The Council will need to closely monitor the changes within the iBudget waiver, in particular the Managed Care pilot, that could dramatically restructure how services for Floridians with developmental disabilities are provided. It is crucial that the Council is the thought leader in these discussions and remains at the table with legislators and policymakers to ensure that any potential changes to these systems represent the interest of individuals and their families. Beyond managed care, the service system continues to be extremely fragile, particularly over the next few years when pandemic-related programs that have supplemented Florida's rates will be ending, the Council needs to effectively advocate for proper investment in the system while also exploring new ways to drive strength in quality and service delivery. Finally, the Council may be entering into a period where funding may be limited from our federal partners; therefore, we need to evaluate the way we do business and how to best spend the allocations given Florida. We will need to carefully evaluate our capacity and priorities to ensure we are targeting our funds to our greatest needs and achievable goals.

TJ Moon

I have a disability, been a part of many boards and started boards in the past. I'm a past recipient of the Idelio Valdes award and other awards. I am the founder of Marion County Disability Alliance. I am the past president of Ocala Business Leaders. And more. When I speak, it's strong and people listen.

Eddie Hall

Eddie was appointed to the Council in 2015. He has served on the Executive Committee, chaired the Self-Advocacy, Housing and Transportation Sub-Committee, and served on the Legislative Sub-Committee. Eddie became paraplegic at age 8 and was the first student in a wheelchair to attend his elementary, middle, and high schools in his community. He then earned an Associate's degree in computer engineering. Eddie is retired from a 26-year career with Publix Supermarkets and a 14-year career with Home Depot. He is beginning a new career with Bass Pro, where he has worked for the past 2 months. He also has founded a nonprofit

called Expeditelife.org focusing on promoting adaptive recreation. He is a former Commissioner with the Lakeland Housing Authority. Eddie has served on a number of boards, including Family Café and FFAST (Florida Alliance for Assistive Services and Technology).

Dennis Hart

I have served one year as council treasurer. I am also on the Dual Diagnosis Training Project Advisory committee, the state planning committee and the taskforce evaluating the ABA-provider undersupply. My goals for the committee over the next two years are to continue to push the agenda of the 5-year state plan to determine the issues related to the lack of community ABA providers, continue lobbying to take people off the wait list, and continue to advocate for mental health services for people with dd.

Sarah Goldman

As a self-advocate, it would be an honor to give back and continue serving as a member at large for the Council. I would like to continue to be a voice for the challenges self-advocates face. Having served on the Council since January of 2019, I have been able to assist the Council with the Save the iBudget campaign by filming a video of my daily life and why the waiver is critical for those with developmental disabilities. Serving as Chair of the Public Policy Committee and in my role in the Legislature, I was able to assist in advocating for Council legislative priorities including the Working People with Disabilities program. Though I enjoy serving on the public policy and self-advocacy & leadership committees, I would like to continue serving in a greater capacity as an at-large member.

Three things I feel are priorities facing the Council in the next two years are 1) continuing our legislative presence and hosting more successful DD advocacy days, 2) continuing to be a voice for issues impacting those with developmental disabilities, and 3) providing grants, programming, and other opportunities for parents and self-advocates to become empowered to be their own advocates (continuing funds for Partners in Policy Making, FL-SAND, Fellows, etc).

Elly Hagen

I am the parent and advocate of an adult child with severe autism.

I currently serve on the Executive Committee as an at-large member. I am an active member of the Executive Committee, the Public Policy Committee and the State Plan Committee. I am chair of the Access to Services Task Force and a member of the Home- and Community-Based Services Task Force.

I have served on the Council since 2018.

I am a graduate of Partners in Policymaking. I have served on the planning committee for the Promising Pathways Autism Conference at Florida Gulf Coast University, the advisory boards for Eden Autism Services and Easter Seals Florida, chair of the Southwest Florida Walk for Autism, advocacy in the U.S. Congress for Autism Speaks, and a grant reviewer for Autism Speaks and The Southwest Florida Community Foundation.

The top priorities facing the council include:

- Aging caregivers and individuals with IDD
- Provider shortages and the impact on families and individuals with IDD
- Reducing iBudget waitlist

Laurie Harlow

I have served on the Council since 2013 on various committees. My main goals for the direction of the Council would be to expand exposure of the Council in the community with the idea that more families and those with disabilities need to be educated in the advocacy process and have their voices heard to truly address the challenges facing the developmental disability community. The committees I now serve on have that goal in mind, but there needs to be a broadening of goals and community outreach beyond what is being presented at this time. In addition, several projects are now emerging such as a joint venture with the Area on Aging/Disabilities, Dual Diagnosis, and pilot programs with Medicaid for managed care that would also be projects of interest that would speak to those goals and as an Executive Committee member, I feel I could have more input in those initiatives. My experience as a parent, service provider, employee at APD, and Council member would speak to the ability to give input to those goals.

Lisa Miller

Lisa is a member of the Polk County School Board. Her professional experience is in teaching, advertising, and real estate. Lisa has been on the Council for 4 years, serving on the Elementary through Post-Secondary Transition/ Employment Goal Sub-Committee. She is the parent of an adult with developmental disabilities. Lisa says the Council's work to preserve the iBudget and promote supported decision-making for individuals is of great importance. Her other top priorities include meaningful post-secondary opportunities with the ability to secure housing and transportation. She is a member of the Family Care Council for District 14, the Lakeland Advisory committee on Accessibility, and she serves on the board of the Transportation Planning Organization for Polk County. Lisa holds a bachelor's in public relations and mass communication and a Master's degree in Public Administration.

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2023 STANDING COMMITTEE MEMBERS

As of January 26, 2023

"To advocate and promote meaningful participation in all aspects of life for Floridians with developmental disabilities"

State Plan Committee

Jean Sherman, Chair

Staff, Sheila Gritz-Swift

Conney Dahn
Sarah Goldman
Elly Hagen
Eddie Hall
Dennis Hart
Yolanda Herrera
Jack Kosik
Lisa Miller
Kali Wilson

Executive Committee

Kevin Johnson, Chair

Staff, Valerie Breen

Eddie Hall, Vice Chair
Dennis Hart, Treasurer
Sarah Goldman, At-Large (Elected)
Lisa Miller, At-Large (Elected)
Jack Kosik, At-Large (Appointed)
Elly Hagen, At-Large (Appointed)

Public Policy Committee

Sarah Goldman, Chair

Staff, Margaret Hooper

Elly Hagen
Cherie Hall/Peter Sleasman
Eddie Hall
Yolanda Herrera
Kevin Johnson
Lisa Miller

Finance Committee

Dennis Hart, Chair

Staff, Lisa Taylor

Sarah Goldman
Cherie Hall
Jack Kosik
Kali Wilson

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2023 TASK FORCE MEMBERS

"To advocate and promote meaningful participation in all aspects of life for Floridians with developmental disabilities"

Access to Services

Elly Hagen, Chair
Lisa Miller, Co-Chair
Staff, Jamie Mayersohn
Cherie Hall/Peter Sleasman
Laurie Harlow
Beth Boone/Lise Fox
Tom Rice
Jean Sherman

Home & Community Based Services (HCBS)

Kali Wilson, Chair
Dennis Hart, Co-Chair
Staff, Sue Kabot
Kevin Johnson
Frank Shalett
Elly Hagen
Andrea Gary

Aging Caregivers

Yolanda Herrera, Chair
Jack Kosik, Co-Chair
Staff, Jan Pearce
Kira Houge
Catherine McGrath/Ann Dalton
Tom Rice
Jean Sherman
Beth Boone

Resource Members

Damian P. Gregory
Dèan Gregory-Stewart
Mary Jo McKay
Darrell Drummond

Self-Advocacy Leadership

Eddie Hall, Chair
Sarah Goldman, Co-Chair
Staff, Kristin Vandagriff
Laurie Harlow
Jack Kosik
TJ Moon

Broad Systems Change/Emerging Issues

Conney Dahn, Chair
Lisa Miller, Co-Chair
Staff, Jan Pearce
Jennifer Duggar/Angela Roland
Brent McNeal/Johana Valdivieso
Yolanda Herrera
Victoria Zepp