



May 21-22, 2026
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

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**State Plan
Committee**

2

**Finance
Committee**

3

**Executive
Committee**

4

**Public Policy
Committee**

5

Full Council

Florida Developmental Disabilities Council, Inc.

AGENDA AT A GLANCE
Thursday 5/21/2026 - Friday 5/22/2026
Florida Hotel and Conference Center- Orlando
1500 Sand Lake Road
Orlando, FL 32809
(407) 859-1500

Meeting Room- Legends 1

Thursday May 21st

DAY 1- COMMITTEE MEETINGS

9:00 a.m.-9:45 a.m.	State Plan Committee Meeting	<i>Jean Sherman, Chair</i>
9:45 a.m.-10:30 a.m.	Finance Committee Meeting	<i>Carla Mercer, Treasurer</i>
10:30 a.m.-10:45 a.m.	Break	
10:45 a.m.-11:00 a.m.	Executive Committee Meeting	<i>Eddie Hall, Chair</i>

DAY 1-FULL COUNCIL MEETING

11:30 a.m.	Call to Order/Roll Call	<i>Eddie Hall, Chair</i>
11:35 a.m.	Adoption of the Agenda **	<i>Eddie Hall, Chair</i>
11:40 a.m.	Approval of the 01/2026 Minutes ** Approval of the 04/2026 Minutes **	<i>Eddie Hall, Chair</i>
11:40 a.m.-11:55 a.m.	Chair/Vice Chair Report	<i>Eddie Hall, Chair</i>
11:55 a.m.-12:30 p.m.	Working Lunch	
12:30 p.m.-2:00 p.m.	Sunshine Law, Public Records, Code of Ethics <i>Refresher Training</i>	<i>Eddie Hall, Chair</i> <i>Nabors Giblin</i>
2:00 p.m.-2:15 p.m.	Break	
2:15 p.m.-3:00 p.m.	Aging Summit Discussion & Next Steps	<i>Jennifer Chung</i> <i>Program Director</i>
3:00 p.m.-4:15 p.m.	Project Presentation- Access to Services	<i>Diane Beaver</i> <i>Mathematica, Inc.</i>
4:15 p.m.	Any New Business Public Comment	<i>Eddie Hall, Chair</i>
4:20 p.m.	Meeting Adjourned	<i>Eddie Hall, Chair</i>

Meeting Room- Legends 1

Friday May 22nd

DAY 2- FULL COUNCIL MEETING

8:30 a.m.	Introductions/Roll Call	<i>Eddie Hall, Chair</i>
8:35 a.m.-9:15 a.m.	Update on 5-Year Plan and Procurement	<i>Susan Kabot, Chief Monica Moye, Chief</i>
9:15 a.m.-9:30 a.m.	Tour of the Redesigned FDDC website	<i>Jamie Mayersohn Program Director</i>
9:30 a.m.-10:15 a.m.	Standing Committee Recommendations for Council Discussion and Vote* <i>State Plan Finance Executive</i>	<i>Eddie Hall, Chair Jean Sherman, Chair Carla Mercer, Chair Eddie Hall, Chair</i>
10:15 a.m.-10:45 a.m.	Break to Check Out of the Hotel	
10:45 a.m.- 11:30 a.m.	Legislative Outcomes Report	<i>Jim DeBeaugrine Legislative Consultant</i>
11:30 a.m.- 12:00 p.m.	DD Day 2026 Outcomes Report	<i>Kim Countryman Consultant -Coordinator</i>
12:00 p.m.	Working Lunch	
12:00 p.m.-1:00 p.m.	State Agency/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, Children’s Medical Services University of Miami- Mailman Center University of South Florida- Florida Center for Inclusive Communities Disability Rights Florida</i>	<i>Eddie Hall, Chair</i>
1:00 p.m.- 1:10 p.m.	Public Comment	<i>Eddie Hall, Chair</i>
1:10 p.m.	Next Council Meeting	<i>Eddie Hall, Chair</i>
1:10 p.m.	Meeting Adjourned	<i>Eddie Hall, Chair</i>

Council Reminder: The September meeting will be September 17th and 18th at the Florida Hotel and Conference Center.

Florida Developmental Disabilities Council, Inc.

STATE PLAN COMMITTEE MEETING

Agenda

Thursday, May 21, 2026

9:00 am-9:45 am

OUR MISSION

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

9:00 am	Call to Order and Roll Call	<i>Dr. Jean Sherman, Chair</i>
	Jean Sherman, Chair Tina Cordova, Vice Chair Sarah Goldman Elly Hagen Yolanda Herrera Danielle McGill Carla Mercer Kali Wilson	
9:05 am	Adoption of the Agenda**	<i>Dr. Jean Sherman, Chair</i>
9:10 am	Approval of Minutes** <i>(A) Minutes from January 22, 2026</i>	<i>Dr. Jean Sherman, Chair</i>
9:15 am	Presentation of the Programmatic Budget Narrative for State Plan, Year 1 (2026-27)**	<i>Dr. Jean Sherman, Chair</i> <i>Dr. Susan Kabot, Staff</i>
9:25 am	Presentation of the Request to Purchase a Learning Management System**	<i>Dr. Jean Sherman, Chair</i> <i>Dr. Christine Reeve, Staff</i>
9:35 am	Presentation of the Procurement Timeline for State Plan Year 1 (2026-27)**	<i>Dr. Jean Sherman, Chair</i> <i>Dr. Susan Kabot, Staff</i>
9:45 am	Public Comment	<i>Dr. Jean Sherman, Chair</i>
9:45 am	Adjournment	<i>Dr. Jean Sherman, Chair</i>

Florida Developmental Disabilities Council, Inc.

STATE PLAN COMMITTEE MEETING

Minutes

Thursday, January 22, 2026

11:30-12:15 pm

OUR MISSION

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

Because both Dr. Jean Sherman and Elly Hagen were absent from the January 22, 2026 State Plan Committee meeting, Dr. Susan Kabot led the meeting.

Call to Order and Roll Call

Dr. Susan Kabot, Staff

- Jean Sherman, Chair--Absent
- Tina Cordova, Vice Chair--Absent
- Sarah Goldman--Present
- Elly Hagen--Absent
- Dennis Hart--Absent
- Yolanda Herrera--Present
- Danielle McGill--Present
- Carla Mercer--Present
- Kali Wilson—Present

Other Council members in attendance included: Enrique Escallon, Eddie Hall, Arizona Jenkins, Lauren Modawell, Michael Sayih, Charlotte Temple, Robert Asztalos (APD), Caitlyn Clibbon (DRF), Leah Compagnone-Bold (VR), Jennifer Zarconi (FCIC)

FDDC staff members in attendance included: Valerie Breen, Monica Moye, Kristen Conlin, Chris Reeve, Jennifer Chung, Jamie Mayersohn

Adoption of the Agenda**

Dr. Susan Kabot, Staff

Sarah Goldman made the motion to adopt the agenda as presented. Carla Mercer seconded it.

Approval of Minutes**

Dr. Susan Kabot, Staff

(A)Minutes from December 10,2025

Carla Mercer made the motion to approve the December 10, 2025 minutes of the State Plan meeting. Yolanda Herrera seconded the motion.

Discussion of the Design for PIP

Dr. Susan Kabot, Staff

Kabot shared the discussion that occurred during the Wednesday, January 21, 2026 staff meeting regarding the proposed activities that fall under the mandatory Self-Advocacy Leadership goal in the 2027-31 State Plan. Staff felt that the Council should continue contracting with the current providers for the Partners in Policymaking and Fellows-Florida SAN'D projects as they have been very well received by the participants. Kabot shared that she would like to see better participation in the Florida SAN'D self-advocacy conference. Arizona shared that the fact that self-advocates must upfront the cost and be reimbursed created a hardship that may be impacting attendance. He also shared that reimbursement rates are also low for some participants.

Kabot also discussed the PIP+ activity for the 2026-27 year. The staff felt that it is important to pilot this activity before opening it up to a larger group or integrating it into the Partners program. Staff will complete the planning that needs to occur to get this project operational, which includes defining participant prerequisites, creating the application process and materials, and developing modifications to the activities that are undertaken in PIP during the current year. The ASAN-created materials do not include the activities that are currently part of the PIP sessions—only the content in Easy Read format. Keeping this pilot in-house will allow the staff to get a good idea of what still needs to be done, what prerequisites support success of the participants, and how to adapt PIP to the varying needs of the participants in practice.

There was a discussion about the Robert Morgan project that is continuing with FCSUA funding. Herrera expressed concern that the program there is serving higher functioning students than the original design.

Approval for Staff to Proceed for Procurement for PIP and Fellows**

Dr. Susan Kabot, Staff

It was explained to the State Plan Committee that contracts with Stacey Hoaglund and OMS will be amended to continue through September 30, 2026. During the May 2026 Council meeting, the entire Programmatic Budget Narrative will be presented to the Council for approval for the 2026-27 year. Therefore, approval to procure these two Activities was not sought during this meeting.



Aging Caregivers Task Force and SAT

Task Force Meeting, December 3, 2025, 4:00-5:30 pm Minutes

- I. Call to Order** *Carla Mercer, Co- Chair*
The meeting was called to order by the Co-Chair, Carla Mercer, at 4:07pm.

- II. Roll Call and Introductions** *Carla Mercer, Co-Chair*
The Co-Chair asked Jennifer Chung to take roll call. Roll call was taken at 4:08pm.

Members Present: Yolanda Herrera, Carla Mercer, Lauren Modawell, Jean Sherman, Victoria Zepp

Members Absent: Ann Dalton, Kimberly Quinn, Elly Hagen, Kira Houge, Arizona Jenkins, Danielle McGill, Susan Nipper, Michael Sayih

Resource Members Present: None

Resource Members Absent: Darrell Drummond, Damian P. Gregory, Dèan Gregory-Stewart, Mary Jo McKay

Staff Present: *Sue Kabot, Jennifer Chung, Chris Reeve*

- III. Approving Meeting Agenda:**

Lauren Modawell made a motion to approve the agenda. Yolanda Herrera seconded the motion. No additions or corrections were requested. All members present approved. The agenda was approved at 4:09pm.

- IV. Approving Minutes from Last Meeting:**

The Co-Chair asked Jennifer to share the minutes on the screen from the last meeting, July 24, 2025. After a few moments allowing review of the minutes, Jean Sherman made a motion to approve the minutes. Lauren Modawell seconded the motion. All members present voted to approve of the minutes. The minutes were approved at 4:11pm.

- V. AGEDD Project** *Sue Kabot, Jennifer Chung*

suggested asking Serena Lowe if we could have any of the final products to display at the AGEDD Summit.

VII. Public Input

Carla Mercer, Co-Chair

At 4:39 pm Carla Mercer asked if there were any people present from the public. Jennifer indicated that there were no members of the public so there was no public comment.

VIII. Adjournment

Carla Mercer, Co-Chair

Carla Mercer adjourned the meeting at 4:40pm.



Florida Developmental Disabilities Council

**Aging Caregivers Task Force Meeting Minutes
March 18, 2025, 3:00-4:30 pm
Zoom Meeting**

Council Members Present: Yolanda Herrera, Carla Mercer, Lauren Modawell, Susan Nipper, Jean Sherman, Victoria Zepp

Absent Council Members: Ann Dalton, Kimberly Quinn, Elly Hagen, Kira Houge, Arizona Jenkins, Danielle McGill, Michael Sayih

Resource Members Present: Damian P. Gregory, Mary Jo McKay

Resource Members Absent: Darrell Drummond, Dèan Gregory-Stewart

Guests: Heather George

Staff Present: Sue Kabot, Jennifer Chung, Chris Reeve

Yolanda Herra called the meeting to order at 3:05pm.

I. Adopt the Agenda

Action Taken: The Chair asked Jennifer to share the agenda on the screen for the meeting. Damian P. Gregory made a motion to approve the agenda. Carla Mercer seconded the motion. No additions or corrections were requested. All members present approved. The agenda was approved at 3:10pm.

II. Approve the Minutes

Action Taken: The Chair asked Jennifer to share the minutes on the screen from the last meeting, December 3, 2025. After a few moments allowing review of the minutes, Lauren Modawell made a motion to approve the minutes. Carla Mercer seconded the

motion. No additions or corrections were requested. All members present voted to approve of the minutes. The minutes were approved at 3:12pm.

III. Review of the Projects

A. AGEDD Project: Jennifer Chung and Sue Kabot presented the date for the 2026 AGEDD Summit to be held on *April 20-22nd, at the Embassy Suites in Lake Buena Vista South, 4955 Kings Highway, Kissimmee, FL.* Major goal is to plan for and encourage aging agencies and IDD agencies to continue working together locally with information exchanges from COPs.

- Currently 69 registrations confirmed, including 9 task force members, 5 FDDC staff, and 36 Communities of Practice (COP) participants.
- Federal representatives attending include Dr. Rebecca Hines (Commissioner, on Disabilities), David Jones (Director, Office of Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities), and Dr. Serena Lowe (Director, National Bridging Aging and Disabilities Network).
- Special presentations include Chocolate Spectrum with Valerie Hertzwitz and magician Cody Clark who has autism.
- Implementation plans will be developed during the summit to help COPs create sustainable goals and continue collaborative work.
- FDDC plans to facilitate quarterly meetings with COPs post-summit, similar to the Partners in Policymaking alumni model.

B. Project of National Significance – Chris Reeve presented on Using Project of National Significance technical assistance funds to visit states using enabling technology most robustly. The upcoming technical assistance visits planned for summer 2026 to Tennessee and Kansas to study enabling technology implementations (i.e. Model homes, technology, CareBridge) with Chris, Sue, and Ana Cleveland from Agency for Persons with Disabilities. Tennessee has invested significantly in enabling technology with robust infrastructure for training, certification, and implementation

- Tennessee has invested significantly in enabling technology with robust infrastructure for training, certification, and implementation. During the visit the team will visit Tennessee model homes demonstrating how technology increases independence.
- In Kansas, the team will meet with company doing model homes with neighborhood network support system and will discuss

integrated care model with University of Kansas faculty on using technology for individuals with serious behavioral health challenges.

Action Taken: (if any)

IV. Questions/Answers

Jennifer Chung asked, “Would anyone like to plan for the Task Force Meeting?” Yes, Task Force agreed to Wednesday, July 15, 2026, at 3:00pm.

Jean Sherman suggested creating online repository of COP work for newer groups to reference. Chris Reeve mentioned BADN program website showing state accomplishments as potential model. Jean’s suggestion to create centralized place for Florida CoPs is being considered.

A balanced COP representation remains a priority, and Jean Sherman raised important questions about ensuring that both the aging and IDD agencies are adequately included. Each COP must have at least one representative from aging and one from developmental disabilities. Jennifer Chung will review the aggregate data and discuss balanced participation with Margaret Lynn Duggar and Associates (MLDA). Some original members have retired or are no longer able to attend, Jean Sherman wanted to ensure that their replacements may not have prior COP experience, received institutional knowledge.

Jean Sherman expressed disappointment about DoEA absence; noted importance of agency-level support. She hopes strong provider participation will eventually trigger DoEA involvement; suggested sending them summit compendium.

Damian raised critical issues about disconnect between aging and disability services at the information and referral level. Victoria Zepp offered to take issue with Senator Harrell and ask for update on liaison for individuals aging with disabilities.

Jean Sherman emphasized that the challenges are tied to a larger structural issue within the statewide information and referral systems. She noted that the online platform used by both aging and I/DD agencies is cumbersome and was originally built around aging-agency referrals, making it a poor fit for disability-related resources. Funding has repeatedly been cited as the barrier to updating or replacing the system. In response, Victoria Zepp, who works as a network engineer and whose company handles a

significant portion of IT work for state agencies, offered to look into the system to better understand its limitations and potential solutions.

The group discussed the importance of proactive planning for aging caregivers and individuals with disabilities, emphasizing that preparation must begin long before a crisis occurs. Yolanda Herrera noted that one of the biggest hurdles is the declining health of aging caregivers, who often seek help only when their own well-being has significantly deteriorated. Jean Sherman reinforced that future planning should start early, especially since emerging technologies will initially benefit only a small portion of families. Drawing on a practical analogy, Yolanda compared this process to making a shopping list while still healthy by identifying what will be needed as circumstances change and suggested creating an accessible booklet or fill-in-the-blank guide to support preventive planning. Yolanda stressed the need to reach families who are unfamiliar with advocacy systems and may not know what steps to take, sharing that many parents of children with disabilities focus on immediate needs rather than long-term planning. She emphasized that early information and education can lead to healthier futures by helping families understand what to expect and how to prepare.

V. Public Comment/Meeting Adjourned

- Heather George from FCIC heard about the AGEDD Summit and came to the task force meeting to learn more. She noted that FCIC doesn't have specific project(s) or person around aging caregivers. Heather will discuss with FCIC co-director about potential involvement with aging caregiver work.

Yolanda Herrera, Chair, adjourned the meeting at 4:10pm.

Summary of Activity for the Accessing Services Through Knowledge Task Force

Date: 3/24/26

The following summary was developed in lieu of holding a Task Force meeting in March. The projects providers have continued to progress in a similar fashion, and there were many competing meetings being held in the same time period.

Since our last meeting December 9, 2025, both the Research Team (NADD) and the Translating Research into Knowledge Team (Mathematica) have been working together to create more content for the ASK webtool and complete user testing of the different materials.

As of 3/12/26, NADD has completed user testing of the components in the web-based tool with 8 participants. They had 21 participants register interest in participating. Overall, the responses have been positive. Participants appreciate the simple design that doesn't overwhelm with too much information. They also liked the illustrations instead of photos for the avatars. The participants viewed a static webpage format of the materials, and they indicated preferences for the tool to have robust filtering options for search results (e.g., the ability to narrow results to specific locations, age, etc.).

Mathematica has been collaborating with NADD to provide materials for user testing and incorporating feedback from the Content Advisory Meetings. Since the last Task Force meeting, Mathematica has continued to revise the 9 site maps that provide the frame for the web tool. They also have added content modules including 5 new explainers (Voluntary Pre-K, Private Early Intervention Options, Paying for Childcare, Inclusive Postsecondary Education Programs, Head Start and Early Head Start), an Early Intervention Florida State and Medicaid Program Mind Map, and a College for Students with IDD Decision Aid.

User testing and Content Advisory Group feedback have both emphasized the need for the ASK tool to be robust in its facility to search and easily find needed information. Feedback from both groups have highlighted the need for the tool to go beyond a static set of website pages to include interactive components such as video, drop down selection menus, search options, and potentially a chat bot that is able to find information specific to the needs of the user. As we complete much of the content for the tool this year, activities in the next 5 Year Plan are expected to integrate the information into a tool with the ability to deliver information to the user in a way that is user-friendly and specific to their needs.

Florida Developmental Disabilities Council

**ASK Task Force Meeting Minutes
November 18, 2025
Zoom Meeting**

Council Members Present:

*Elly Hagen, Chair
Tina Cordova, Co-Chair
Carla Mercer
Charlotte Temple*

Absent Council Members:

*Denise Anderson
Caitlyn Clibbon
Dennis Hart
Kali Wilson
Victoria Zepp*

Resource Members

*Jennifer Zarcone, FCIC – Present
Danny Armstrong, Mailman Center-absent*

Staff Present: *Chris Reeve, Jennifer Chung*

Elly Hagen called the meeting to order at 4:02 pm.

I. Approve the Minutes

Action Taken: Draft minutes from August 6 were reviewed. Motion to approve made by Carla Mercer. Elly Hagen seconded. Tina Cordova and Jennifer Zarcone abstained from voting. Carla, Ellie, and Charlotte voted to approve.

II. Review of the Projects

A. Access to Knowledge (ASK) Project

Chris Reeve presented a PowerPoint on the ASK project's current progress and next steps. She discussed the project goal, the research from the past 3 years that informs the work, and an overview of the content developed so far including case studies, decision aids, roadmaps, explainers and mind maps. Mathematica and NADD are collaborating to complete 2 rounds of user testing this year with interviews with families and caregivers of developed elements of the system. This information will then result in content refinement.

Action Taken: (if any)

III. Questions/Answers

Tina Cordova asked what the plan is for where the website will be housed and who will maintain the online resource. Chris indicated that this is still being determined and will be the focus of this year as we can demonstrate how the system will look and work.

Tina asked how we will ensure families know about and can access the resource. Chris indicated that we will likely have one agency managing the system, but that it could be accessed through various sites/resources such as Early Steps, APD, FDDC so families can land on the hub from places they are seeking information.

Tina asked if this was part of the current 5-year plan and will continue to the next one. Chris indicated that it is expected to continue to be part of the next 5-year plan under the Access to Services goal.

Jennifer Zarcone asked what outcomes are expected (e.g., the number of users) and how will we evaluate usefulness? Chris noted that this is something that is expected to be part of the 5-year plan reporting. The current goal is written for 150 families to access the system, but this will be refined in the new state plan. Jennifer noted that sometimes agencies have a survey on their site about whether a resource was helpful, but sometimes it popped up before the resource was used. If this type of tool is used, this will need to be taken into account.

Jennifer Chung noted that the early childhood content looks farther along and whether rollout will be staged by segment. Chris noted that there are other areas that are already developed but not reviewed in this meeting including transition from school and guardianship. The tool is expected to roll out across the lifespan.

Jennifer Zarcone noted that early childhood and transition/adolescence likely draw most of the traffic. And Chris indicated this was the expectation for the most used entry points.

Charlotte Temple asked can the system be easily updated given the changing laws (e.g., early intervention age coverage, the addition of the managed care pilot). Chris noted that this will need to be taken into account and built into sustainability of the system.

V. Public Comment/Meeting Adjourned

No members of the public attended the meeting.

Elly Hagen adjourned the meeting at 4:35 pm.



**Self-Advocacy Leadership Task Force Meeting
Minutes
December 1, 2025
4:00-5:30 pm**

4:10 pm Call to Order *Sue Kabot, Staff*
 Neither Danielle McGill, Chair, or Sarah Goldman, Vice Chair, were present for the meeting. Sue Kabot stood in for them and called the meeting to order at 4:10 pm. She took the roll call, and three members of the Task Force were present, so quorum was established.

Roll Call and Introductions *Sue Kabot, Staff*

Danielle McGill, Chair	Absent
Sarah Goldman, Co-Chair	Absent
Mirna Diaz	Absent
Enrique Escallon	Present
Eddie Hall	Absent
Lauren Modawell	Present
Yolanda Herrera	Present

Staff: Susan Kabot --Present
 Chris Reeve --Present
 Jennifer Chung --Present

4:15 pm Approval of the December 1, 2025 agenda **
 The agenda for the December 1, 2025 meeting had previously been sent to Task Force members by email. The agenda was shared on the screen. There was an addition to the agenda from Christine Reeve. At the August 13, 2025 meeting, the group had asked to talk about leadership opportunities. That item was added to this agenda and the revised agenda was approved. Enrique Escallon made a motion and Lauren Modawell seconded the motion to approve the agenda. All were in favor.

4:20 pm Approval of August 13, 2025, Task Force Meeting Minutes ** *Sue Kabot, Staff*
 The draft minutes from the August 13, 2025 had been sent by email to Task Force members in advance of the December 1, 2025 meeting. They were shared on the screen for review and approval. There were two changes shared. The first was to correct the way Reid Caplan’s name was spelled and the second was to add a comma. Corrections were made and Enrique Escallon made a motion for approval. Lauren Modawell seconded the motion. All were in favor.

4:25 pm Project Progress Updates

Sue Kabot, Staff

- *PIP Curriculum Project – Chris Reeve, FDDC*

Chris Reeve shared an update on the PIP Curriculum Project. The project is scheduled to end on January 30, 2026 and the project is expected to meet the deadline. The first 5/6 print modules are completed and Module 6 will be reviewed by the Curriculum Committee on December 8. The first 4/6 modules have been recorded. The fact that this is a provider comprised of self-advocates was recognized by the group. The feeling of the group is that they should be recognized somehow.

- *Fellows Leadership Program – Sue Kabot, FDDC*

Sue Kabot gave an update on the Fellows Leadership Program. OMS, the provider, reviewed applications for Fellows and selected four for the program. One has since dropped out due to family issues so OMS is looking for another Fellow. Yolanda suggested that she may know someone who would be appropriate for the program. The training on the Leadership Modules has begun. The Fellows have also been providing support to FL SAN'D. The Fellows were scheduled to meet with Valerie Breen at 6:00 on December 1 to discuss the FDDC Legislative Priorities and for Valerie to learn about their priorities. This is in preparation for DD Day.

- *Partners in Policymaking (PIP) – Jennifer Chung, FDDC*

Jennifer Chung shared that there are currently 24 PIP participants. Three have dropped out and one has joined this group to complete the program as she had to drop out due to family issues. Applications for the next PIP class will open in March. The group has completed three sessions to date. PIP participants will be invited to Tallahassee for DD Day.

- *Partners in Policymaking Alumni—Jennifer Chung, FDDC*

Jennifer Chung reported on the PIP Alumni group. They met with Jim DeBeaugrine and Valerie Breen to learn about the ICMC (former Medicaid Managed Care Pilot) program. Jim gave an in-depth description of the program and Valerie then discussed the role of the PIP Alumni in supporting the FDDC's legislative priorities. The next Alumni meeting will address the topic of How to File a Complaint when denied services or services are reduced.

5:00 pm Participation on Boards

At the August 13, 2025 meeting, the group wanted to discuss participation on boards and leadership coalitions, especially for people who have completed some of the FDDC advocacy training activities like PIP or Fellows. The Leadership and Advocacy Guide, housed on the FDDC website, was shared with the group.

5:05 pm Questions, Discussion, and Next Meeting

Sue Kabot, Staff

There were no questions. Future dates for the Task Force were discussed in general. Staff reported that they were trying to develop a year's calendar. Enrique suggested that group members be polled in advance to have the broadest participation possible.

5:10 pm Public Input

Sue Kabot, Staff

There were no members of the public in attendance at the meeting.

5:10 pm Adjournment

Sue Kabot, Staff

The meeting was adjourned at 5:10 pm.



Self-Advocacy Leadership Task Force Meeting

Agenda

March 24, 2026

4:30-6:00 pm

Zoom link: <https://fddc.zoom.us/j/86956855589>

- Meeting ID: 869 5685 5589
- Passcode: 052361

4:30 pm **Call to Order**

Danielle McGill, Chair

Sarah Goldman called the meeting to order at 4:35 pm. Sue Kabot called the roll. Present were Sarah Goldman, Enrique Escallon, Eddie Hall, Lauren Modawell, and Yolanda Herrera. Danielle McGill arrived a few minutes late and assumed responsibility for leading the rest of the meeting. Mirna Diaz was not present. Staff who were present included Jennifer Chung; Sue Kabot; and Christine Reeve, who arrived late.

4:35 pm **Approval of the March 24, 2026 agenda ****

Danielle McGill, Chair

Enrique Escallon made a motion to approve the March 24, 2026 agenda, and Sarah Goldman seconded the motion. There were no objections.

Approval of December 1, 2025, Task Force Meeting Minutes ** *Danielle McGill, Chair*

Enrique Escallon made a motion to approve the minutes from the December 1, 2025 Task Force meeting. Lauren Modawell seconded the motion. There were no objections.

4:45 pm **Project Progress Updates**

*Sue Kabot, Staff
Danielle McGill, Chair*

Jennifer Chung presented an update on Partners in Policymaking. The most recent class graduated shortly after DD Awareness Day. Since that time, several Partners from this class have continued their advocacy work. One Partner is working with NAMI to support families with members who have both a developmental disability and mental health disorder. One Partner was the focus of a story in the Sun Sentinel regarding Blue Cross insurance not being in network for the public hospitals in Broward County forcing children to be seen outside the county. The story was followed with an editorial by the Sun

Sentinel editorial board. Jennifer also shared that recruitment for the next PIP class is ongoing and that the dates will shift for the next class and run from October through March because the legislative session is a late session this coming year.

The PIP Alumni will be meeting at Family Café as we have secured a room to meet on Saturday evening from 6-8 pm. The next alumni meeting will host Wendy West whose topic will be

Sue Kabot shared information about the Fellows program with a short history of Florida SAND and the Council's moved from direct support to Florida SAND to support through the Fellows program. She shared some of their training activities for other self-advocates as well as the low participation for the Route to Self-Determination Train-the-Trainer curriculum housed on the Florida SAND website. She shared that the Council's marketing group will be meeting with the Fellows program providers to see how visits to their website can be increased. The Council is also purchasing a Learning Management System to house training curriculums that have been developed through Council projects and will house the Route curriculum there when it is purchased.

Sue also shared the monthly calls that the Fellows hold for self-advocates and discussed the three topics held during this latest deliverable period. She will share the information on how to sign up for the calls as it is a great opportunity to hear and learn from the Fellows and other self-advocates. Fellows lead the calls so you can see them implementing the leadership skills they are learning.

Chris Reeve shared information about the PIP alternate curriculum. She shared that the work for this project has been completed. In addition to the six PIP sessions, there are four extra materials and videos that narrate the curriculum for those who learn better when they hear the material or are nonreaders.

A number of recommendations came out of this meeting and they are listed here:

1. A suggestion was made that we should consider advocating at the local level—not just at the state level.
2. It was shared that because there will be elections in November, members of the Florida legislature that we educated this year may not be in office next year. It is important to begin the education process and it does not have to wait for DD Day. Legislators can be visited in their home districts before session starts.
3. A suggestion was made to add PIP graduates to the Public Policy committee—especially as this class has been so successful following PIP graduation. Standing committees traditionally don't have resource members, but this idea will be explored.
4. Another idea shared was to use Fellows alumni as peer support. In some ways this is being done by now maintaining some Fellows for three years. However, there are strong Fellows alumni such as Eddie, Arizona, Amanda, and Laura Lee who might share their successes post Fellows. Another thought was to have them join with the PIP alumni.
5. It was also shared that it might be possible to re-energize PIP chapters that are no longer active or find an area that a new group could be developed.

6. Project SALT, which was a FDDC sponsored activity, is still ongoing at University of Miami and the Council hasn't done anything about having them join in our other self-advocacy groups. It was suggested that including them in FDDC projects might be useful.

5:30 pm Questions, Discussion, and Next Meeting

Danielle McGill, Chair

The script for the meeting noticed the next FDDC Council meeting was May; however, it was shared that there would be an April 22, 2026 meeting. Elections for Vice Chair, Treasurer, and At large member will be held then. A Survey Monkey survey will be sent out to plan the next meeting, which will be in July.

5:35 pm Public Input

Danielle McGill, Chair

There was no public input.

5:40 pm Adjournment

Danielle McGill, Chair

Danielle Mc Gill adjourned the meeting at 5:45.

DRAFT



**Home- and Community-Based Services
Task Force Meeting, August 18, 2025, 3:30-5:00 pm
Minutes**

3:30 pm Call to Order *Kali Wilson, Chair*

Kali Wilson called the meeting to order at 3:40. Sue Kabot called the roll.

Roll Call and Introductions *Kali Wilson, Chair*

Members	<i>Kali Wilson</i>	present
	<i>Dennis Hart</i>	absent
	<i>Denise Anderson</i>	present
	<i>Tina Cordova</i>	absent
	<i>Andrea Gary</i>	present
	<i>Arizona Jenkins</i>	absent
	<i>Susan Nipper</i>	present
	<i>Jean Sherman</i>	present

Staff	<i>Sue Kabot</i>	present
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<i>Chris Reeve-Addressing the Behavior Therapist Shortage and Dual Diagnosis Training</i>	present
<i>Jennifer Chung-First Responder Training</i>	present

Other Council members	Yolanda Herrera	present
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3:35 pm Approval of the August 18, 2025 Agenda *Kali Wilson, Chair*

Susan Nipper made a motion to approve the meeting agenda as presented and Denise Anderson seconded the motion. It was approved.

3:40 pm **Approval of April 3, 2025 Minutes *Kali Wilson, Chair*

Susan Nipper made a motion to approve the minutes from the April 3, 2025 Task Force meeting and Denise Anderson seconded the motion. They were approved as written.

3:45 pm Project Review *Sue Kabot, Chris
Reeve, Jennifer Chung*

Best Practices in Case Management
Researching Provider Solutions
Measuring Service Quality

2 new videos
Final report
Final ADT and
Draft SE

Addressing the Behavior Therapist Shortage
Dual Diagnosis Training

Crisis training report

First Responder Training

Final train-the-trainer

Sue Kabot began the project update presentation by previewing the committee about the “film festival” that would be presented at the September Council meeting that would highlight three projects of the Home- and Community-Based Services Task Force. They are Best Practices in Case Management, Measuring Service Quality, and First Responder Training. A short description of the status of these three projects was provided by Sue Kabot and Jennifer Chung.

Sue began by sharing the research results of the Researching Provider Solutions survey and focus groups. Jean Sherman expressed concern that we may still be missing the individual service providers working in home environments who do not have large agency support. She also expressed that it would be important to see whether any of the participants were individuals with I/DD who were living independently and being supported by this type of DSP.

Chris shared information about the UF behavior therapist shortage project and updated the Task Force on what the provider was doing and future plans for dissemination. She also shared the results of the training activities that NADD had accomplished this year for Dual Diagnosis Training. There continues to be challenges with face-to-face training. Many more participants enrolled in the synchronous virtual and asynchronous learning management system training. There were high rates of satisfaction with the training. Individuals thought that they would use the training in their work environments. They were also more confident in working with this population.

Jennifer shared the results of the social validity scale completed by the stakeholder workgroup for the First Responder Training project. All felt the project was important and that their time was well spent. She also described the next steps for 2025-26 that include integrating the curriculum into academic training programs so that first responders are prepared to work with people with I/DD before entering the workforce.

4:50 pm Public Input

Kali Wilson, Chair

There were no members of the public in attendance.

5:00 pm Adjournment

Kali Wilson, Chair

After reminding the members of the August 26, 2025 State Plan Committee meeting that all Council members are asked to attend and the September 18-19 Council meeting where the next 5-year state plan will be approved, Kali adjourned the meeting.



**Home- and Community-Based Services
Task Force Meeting, March 26, 2026 3:30 to 5:00 pm
Zoom link: <https://fddc.zoom.us/j/81174798001>
Passcode 353753**

Agenda

3:30 pm	Call to Order	<i>Sue Kabot, Staff</i>
	Roll Call and Introductions	<i>Sue Kabot Staff</i>
	Members	
	<i>Kali Wilson</i>	
	<i>Dennis Hart</i>	
	<i>Denise Anderson</i>	
	<i>Tina Cordova</i>	
	<i>Arizona Jenkins</i>	
	<i>Susan Nipper</i>	
	<i>Jean Sherman</i>	
	Staff	
	<i>Sue Kabot-Best Practices in Case Management, Measuring Service Quality, Researching Provider Solutions</i>	
	<i>Chris Reeve-Addressing the Behavior Therapist Shortage and Dual Diagnosis Training</i>	
	<i>Jennifer Chung-First Responder Training</i>	

The meeting was called to order at 3:35 pm by Sue Kabot because neither Kali Wilson nor Dennis Hart were in attendance. In attendance were Denise Anderson, Tina Cordova, Arizona Jenkins, Susan Nipper, and Jean Sherman. Quorum was achieved. Charlotte Temple, Council member, was also in attendance. Staff in attendance were Sue Kabot, Chris Reeve, and Jennifer Chung.

3:35 pm	**Approval of the March 26, 2026 Agenda	<i>Sue Kabot, Staff</i>
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Tina Cordova made a motion to approve the March 26, 2026 meeting agenda. Jean Sherman seconded it. There were no additions to the agenda.

3:40 pm	**Approval of August 18, 2025 Minutes	<i>Sue Kabot, Staff</i>
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There was no quorum for the November 19, 2025 meeting so approval for August 18, 2025 meeting minutes were presented for approval. Jean Sherman made a motion to approve the

August 18, 2026 meeting minutes and Tina Cordova approved them. There were no corrections to the meeting minutes.

3:45 pm	Project Review	<i>Sue Kabot, Chris Reeve, Jennifer Chung</i>
	<i>Best Practices in Case Management</i>	<i>Sue Kabot</i>
	<i>Researching Provider Solutions</i>	<i>Sue Kabot</i>
	<i>Measuring Service Quality</i>	<i>Sue Kabot</i>
	<i>Addressing the Behavior Therapist Shortage</i>	<i>Chris Reeve</i>
	<i>Dual Diagnosis Training</i>	<i>Chris Reeve</i>
	<i>First Responder Training</i>	<i>Jennifer Chung</i>

Sue Kabot presented an update on the Best Practices in Case Management activity. The tool for case managers to self-assess and the tool for their supervisors to use for quality improvement are about to be finalized. She explained that the FDCC website is being reorganized so that documents and tools are easier for self-advocates and family members to access. All the Best Practices in Case Management and Measuring Service Quality materials will be housed in the updated website. Jean Sherman was supportive of the tools being made available by the time of the Aging Summit. The group also felt it was important that the case management tools be framed as helping case managers to do their jobs well.

The Measuring Service Quality project was also updated. The group was asked to provide feedback on the content and presentation of the training videos that are going to be filmed in April for both the Adult Day Training and Employment Services tools. The group felt it was important that the point is made about the video presenting a limited sample of actual programs/services and that individuals with I/DD and families should keep that in mind when they are visiting or interviewing providers of those services for their family member. Goodwill was suggested as an employment services site to present. The group also felt that it was important to provide context and definitions of adult day training and employment services because individuals with I/DD and family members might not be familiar with these terms and what they can expect from their services. The emphasis should be on choosing the “best fit” program.

Another point that was made regarding program/service choice was to consider specialized services that the individual may need. The medical and behavioral areas are two areas of support that may be critical to an individual being able to access that service provider’s program. It was also suggested that family members ask whether their individual can do a visit or a trial period of attendance.

Sue then updated the group on the Researching Provider Solutions project. Mathematica has completed their environmental scan, and some preliminary results were shared about four types of training programs for DSPs. They have received IRB approval to conduct interviews

with representatives of each of these four types of programs to get more in-depth information to identify models that may be relevant to the Florida environment. Jean Sherman shared that it is also important to remember that many DSPs are not working in agency programs and are employed in family homes with little agency training and supervision. Susan Nipper confirmed that an obstacle in Florida is that agencies are not reimbursed for administrative time for DSPs but only actual service provision to I/DD individuals.

Chris Reeve described the status of the University of Florida behavior therapist project and shared the use of the curriculum modules in behavior analyst programs and in behavioral clinic settings. The aim now is to adapt these modules to other more natural settings like schools, homes, day programs and group homes. The Task Force made the point that the issue is how to provide these services to adults as opposed to the emphasis on young children.

Chris also described the two projects that NADD is implementing this year. The first is a pilot peer mentor program where a parent with a member with I/DD and co-occurring mental health issues goes through peer mentor training and is paired with a family facing the same challenges to provide support to them. The second project is the Individual Service Planning Initiative. This is also a pilot project to serve several individuals with very complex mental health/behavioral health needs in addition to their developmental disability. Conversations are ongoing with University of Florida and University of Miami who are both working with their behavioral health hospitals already to provide training and support around these complex individuals. The goal is for a multi-agency group representing appropriate disciplines work together to meet the needs of this type of individual.

Jennifer Chung shared information regarding the Training First Responders needing to be paused because FAU could not complete their contractual obligations. It is planned that this work will be rebid for the first year of the next state plan. A letter went out to all advisory committee members for that project following the Task Force meeting. It was also emphasized that although there are other training courses available for law enforcement officers, this training includes all I/DDs and that there is a train-the-trainer component.

There was no public comment.


The next meeting is scheduled for July 9, 2026, at 3:30 pm.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:05.

4:30 pm **Public Input** *Kali Wilson, Chair*

4:35 pm **Adjournment** *Kali Wilson, Chair*


Year 1: Budget Narrative
 State Plan Committee
 May 2026



1

Goal 1: Access to Services (\$600,000 + \$92,875 Cross Cutting)


- Goal 1: By September 30, 2031, individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities (IDD and their families will have increased knowledge of, and expanded access to, comprehensive and high-quality community resources, services, and supports across the lifespan.
- In Year 1 of the State Plan (2026-27), funds will be budgeted to support creating the web-based platform for the Access to Services resource system (\$300,000), dissemination of the Case Management assessment system (\$150,000), and dissemination the three tools (ie., residential, adult day training, and employment services) to assess service fit with an individual with IDD (\$150,000).



2

Goal 1: Access to Services


- Procurement
 - Access to Services Web-Based Platform
 - Invitation for Proposal
 - Best Practices in Case Management
 - Continuation Contract
 - Measuring Service Quality
 - Continuation Contract
 - Researching Provider Solutions
 - In house



3

Goal 2: Behavioral Health and Challenging Behaviors (\$675,000 + \$92,875 Cross Cutting) [SK1]


- Goal 2: By September 30, 2031, individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities (I/DD) and co-occurring behavioral health needs, including challenging behaviors, and their families will have increased availability of services and supports to manage their behaviors and allow them to maintain a safe quality of life in family homes and community settings.
- In Year 1 of the State Plan (2026-27), funds will be budgeted to continue the development and dissemination of training for behavior therapy supervisors (\$300,000), peer mentoring for families with an individual with dual diagnosis of I/DD and mental health, and dissemination of an Integrated Service Planning Program process (\$200,000). Continued activities in the First Responder Training arena will fall under this goal/budget (\$175,000).



4

Goal 2: Behavioral Health and Challenging Behaviors


- Procurement
 - Behavior Therapist Shortage
 - Continuation Contract
 - NADD Peer Mentor and IISP
 - Continuation Contract
 - Training First Responders
 - Bid



5

Goal 3: Aging Families (\$400,000 + \$92,875 Cross Cutting) [SK1]


- Goal 3: By September 30, 2031, aging individuals with I/DD and their families will have increased availability of services and supports needed by an aging population that allows them to maintain quality lives in their communities.
- In Year 1 of the State Plan (2026-27), funds will be budgeted to identify or develop person-centered future planning tools for aging families (\$200,000) and to complete an environmental scan and recommend innovative, enabling technology strategies to allow aging families to remain in their homes (\$200,000).



6

Goal 3: Aging Families


- Procurement
 - Future Planning Toolkit
 - Bid
 - Environmental Scan Technology
 - Bid
 - AGEDD Follow up
 - In House



7

Goal 4: Self-Advocacy Leadership (\$370,000 + \$92,875 Cross Cutting +\$155,000 on FDDC budget)


- Goal 4: By September 30, 2031, the number of individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities (I/DD) trained as leaders, providing leadership training for other individuals with I/DD, and engaged in cross-disability leadership roles and coalitions will be increased.
- In Year 1 of the State Plan (2026-27), \$370,000 will be budgeted to continue the Fellows Leadership Program (\$300,000), Partners in Policymaking (\$65,000), and pilot the alternate PIP curriculum strand (\$5,000).



8

Goal 4: Self-Advocacy Leadership

- Procurement
 - Florida SAN'D Fellows
 - Continuation
 - Partners in Policymaking
 - Continuation
 - Partners Alumni
 - In House or Consultant
 - Partners Alternate Curriculum Pilot
 - In House



9

Goal 5: Emerging/Emergency Needs

- Goal 5: \$0.00
- Funds will be shifted with the approval of ACL to assess emerging or emergency needs and engage a provider, if needed, to address such needs in a timely manner.



10

Cross-Cutting Activities

- RBOA \$140,000
- Lingua \$ 30,000
- Kim Countryman \$ 22,500
- Jim DeBeaugrine \$ 54,000
- Sheila Gritz-Swift \$125,000
- Total \$371,500
- \$371,500/4 goals = \$92,875 per goal



11

Total Budget

- Goal 1 Access to Services \$600,000 + \$92,875
- Goal 2 Behavioral Health \$675,000 + \$92,875
- Goal 3 Aging Families \$400,000 + \$92,875
- Goal 4 Self-Advocacy Leadership \$370,000 + \$92,875
- Goal 5 Emerging/Emergency Needs \$ 0
- Total 2,045,000 + \$371,500 = \$2,416,500



12

Learning Management System (LMS) Proposal

Florida Developmental Disabilities Council, Inc.,| April 16, 2026

Overview

As we continue to work with providers to develop training content for different segments of the populations we serve, a central LMS will serve us in multiple ways.

1. Housing all the training with the FDDC will increase the dissemination, sustainability, and long-term impact of our funded programs beyond the end of their funded grant terms.
2. Providers will be able to create online course material on our platform, reducing additional time required by staff or providers to transition materials to the FDDC site.
3. Data collection for federal reporting will be tracked automatically. And since participants would sign up with an email address, we could also follow up by email to inquire how they have applied their knowledge (a key federal reporting requirement).
4. If we choose to, we can become a Continuing Education provider for different professions (e.g., BCBA) and offer training for a fee to those outside the state. We could also offer the CEUs for free within the state and potentially increase participation.

Currently we have 4 program providers who have developed training that is either already online (through the provider's LMS) or can be adapted or built on the FDDC LMS. These include:

- The Dual Diagnosis project by NADD,
- The Addressing the Behavior Therapists Shortage project with University of Florida (UF),
- The Training First Responders project previously with Florida Atlantic University (FAU), and
- The Route to Self-Determination Train-the-Trainer currently housed and offered by Florida Self-Advocates Network'D (FL SAND).

Review of Potential Platforms

To determine which platform would best meet our needs, I have looked at numerous options. I tested three options that seemed to be the best fit for us: Articulate, Absorb, and TalentLMS.

Articulate and Absorb are both highly sophisticated but are designed more for internal corporate training than external professionals and families. In addition, they are more expensive and would have a much steeper learning curve for our providers to learn to use the platform.

Articulate, while less expensive than Absorb, would also require additional payment processors should we ever want to charge for training outside the state. It also would require staff to manually enter students into the courses.

TalentLMS offers a simpler system that still meets the needs for the variety of uses discussed, but it will be easier for new users to navigate. It also includes a course registration feature that can be automated to reduce the staff time to keep it updated.

Overview of TalentLMS

- Straightforward pricing that scales with the number of users as we grow
- A dedicated registration and payment (if needed) process built into the system

- The ability to upload existing content and create new content
- A variety of tools to break up the content with knowledge checks and tests
- The opportunity to create portals for particular types of participants (e.g., house multiple trainings designed just for law enforcement in one place)
- CEU tracking and certificate generation for licensed professionals (BCBAs, etc.)
- Group enrollment management for organizations (e.g., police precincts, agencies)
- Custom domain for branding
- Reporting and completion data to support grant compliance
- The ability to easily upload course materials already created in another system (e.g., like Dual Diagnosis training)
- Automated registration systems (Pro Plan only) to reduce maintenance time of staff
- Live chat support and priority email support (Pro Plan only)
- AI video captions and thumbnails for accessibility (Pro Plan only)

Cost Comparison

Attached to this summary are 3 estimates or invoices from the different companies. Below is a summary of the estimates received.

Platform	Talent LMS	Articulate + Reach	Absorb
Annual Cost	\$6,468 – 20% nonprofit discount = \$5,174	\$10, 596	In excess of \$20,000
Details	400 seats (includes trainers)	4 trainer seats and 1200 annual seats *Trainer seats may increase depending on number of projects creating or managing courses	Estimate provided for 400 seats

Recommendation

Platform	TalentLMS
Plan / Tier	Pro Plan
Number of Seats	400
Annual Subscription Cost	\$6,468 – 20% nonprofit discount = \$5,174

SALES QUOTE

PREPARED FOR
Florida Developmental Disabilities Council

PREPARED DATE
 Mar 9, 2026

EXP. DATE
 Apr 9, 2026

Please find below the quote for your TalentLMS subscription.

Product Description	Price (USD)
<p>TalentLMS Pro 400 registered users:</p> <p>Features</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Unlimited courses • 15 branches • Custom homepage • Single Sign On • Custom domain + SSL • API • Custom reports • LTI 1.3 support • Analytics • Unlimited Learning Paths • Automations • Remove TalentLMS branding • HubSpot Integration <p>AI features</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • TalentCraft premium • AI content assistance • AI thumbnails • AI video captions 	<p>\$5,174.4/ year billed annually (20% discount for non-profits applied)</p>

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • AI test creation • AI course translation • AI Coach • Skills <p>Support</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Onboarding Advanced • Unlimited email support • Priority email support • Live chat support 	
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THIS QUOTATION IS SUBJECT TO THE FOLLOWING TERMS AND CONDITIONS:

1. This price quotation refers to the provision of TalentLMS subscription licence
2. This quote was made for Florida Developmental Disabilities Council
3. The pricing displayed is valid until April 9, 2026
4. The pricing will become effective upon your preferred activation date
5. All applicable sales taxes will be added to your bill and are not included in this quote. [Learn more about Sales tax](#)
6. By accepting this quote, you agree to our Terms of Service which govern the use of TalentLMS. Please review our [Terms of Service](#) for further details.

If you would like further information or clarification, please feel free to contact me.

Sincerely,

Betty Kordha
Sales Account Executive

AGREED AND ACCEPTED:

NAME

TITLE

DATE



RE: Absorb LMS Demo Follow Up

From Jackson Oldale <Jackson.Oldale@absorblms.com>

Date Thu 2026-03-12 11:05 AM

To Chris Reeve <ChrisR@fddc.org>

Hi Chris,

Thanks for this information. In full transparency, Absorb will be coming in higher than the \$7,000 allocated budget. A first glance, without any discounts, We would be looking at around \$20,000 USD/year. We have some wiggle room, and could potentially get this number down a bit, but unfortunately we will not be able to accommodate your current budget.

Would there be wiggle room on your end? Or is that \$7,000 budget a firm cap?

Thanks!

[Book a meeting with me here!](#)



Jackson Oldale

Account Executive

jackson.oldale@absorblms.com

Office: 587-804-2342

Cell: 403-771-4601



absorb

Calgary, AB, Canada || T2G 1S5

From: Chris Reeve <ChrisR@fddc.org>

Sent: Thursday, March 12, 2026 8:55 AM

To: Jackson Oldale <Jackson.Oldale@absorblms.com>

Subject: Re: Absorb LMS Demo Follow Up

Hi Jackson,

Our budget is only about \$7,000. We don't need any internal integrations but would need registration and to know if we would need to hook up our own payment processors. Thank you for your help. 😊

From: Jackson Oldale <Jackson.Oldale@absorblms.com>

Sent: Thursday, March 12, 2026 10:39 AM

To: Chris Reeve <ChrisR@fddc.org>

Subject: RE: Absorb LMS Demo Follow Up

Hi Chris,

I can certainly do that. It's been a while since we last spoke (back in June) I wanted to gather a bit more information on a few areas. First, what does the budget look like? This will help me in

putting together a quote to ensure we are within your budget. Second, you alluded to a few areas like number of learners (400) and 3 course authors and admin. In addition to that, I was curious if you had any integrations needed? I.e. HRIS, payroll, etc.

As for term length, are you looking for a shorter-term deal (ie. 1 year) or a longer-term deal (3 years)?

if you can provide me with this information, I can certainly draft up a formal quote for you and share.

Thanks!

[Book a meeting with me here!](#)



Jackson Oldale
Account Executive
jackson.oldale@absorblms.com
Office: 587-804-2342
Cell: 403-771-4601



Calgary, AB, Canada || T2G 1S5

From: Chris Reeve <ChrisR@fddc.org>
Sent: Thursday, March 12, 2026 5:55 AM
To: Jackson Oldale <Jackson.Oldale@absorblms.com>
Subject: Re: Absorb LMS Demo Follow Up

Hi Jackson, thanks so much for your help in looking at Absorb as an option for our learning management system. The organization is finally at a point where we are ready to make a decision. Could you please provide me with an estimate / invoice for Absorb for our nonpromfit with at least 3 course authors/admins and approximately 400 trainees/users? My admins can then review it and we can make a decision.

Thank you for your help,
Chris

[Christine Reeve, Ph.D., BCBA-D](#)
Director, Programs
Florida Developmental Disabilities Council, Inc. (FDDC)

1203 Governors Square Blvd, Suite 602

Tallahassee, Florida 32301-2961

Ph: (850) 652-9119

Fax: (850) 922-6702

Florida Relay (TTY): (800) 955-8771

ChrisR@fddc.org

articulāte

244 5th Avenue #2960
New York, NY 10001
Phone: (800) 861-4880

Articulate Price Quote

Created: Mar 18, 2026

Valid until: Mar 31, 2026

Prepared by:
Katelin Meffert
kmeffert@articulate.com

Prepared for:
Christine Reeve
Florida Developmental Disabilities Council
124 Marriott Dr Ste 203
Tallahassee, FL 32301
chrisr@fddc.org

Quote #: Q-1507718

Subscription Term:
Mar 18, 2026 - Mar 17, 2027

Payment Method:

Product	Quantity	Subscription Price	Your Price	Your Total Price
Articulate 360 Teams	4	\$1,499.00	\$1,499.00	\$5,996.00
AI Assistant	4	\$250.00	\$250.00	\$1,000.00
Reach 360 Pro	1,200	\$3.00	\$3.00	\$3,600.00
Total (excl. tax):				\$10,596.00

To complete your purchase, please contact your Account Executive directly or email sales@articulate.com.

Pricing is provided in U.S dollars and does not include sales or use taxes, which will be added to your order if applicable. Promotional pricing is subject to eligibility.

Articulate 360 is evolving. After March 31st, 2026, Articulate 360 and AI Assistant will be packaged together as a single line item.

Your Reach 360 Pro subscription comes with 300 additional active learners included at no additional cost.

All subscriptions are subject to the Articulate 360 General Terms of Service, or other terms you have negotiated with Articulate; see the Articulate General Terms of Service here: <https://articulate.com/360/terms>

STATE PLAN

Fiscal Year 2026 (October 1, 2025 – September 30, 2026)

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

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

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

Goal 1: Access to Services				
Project	Provider	Funding Period	Funding Allocation	Project Description
Access to Services Through Knowledge (ASK)	The National Association for the Dually Diagnosed (NADD)	September 2025 – September 2026	\$100,000	In Year 4 of the ASK project, the provider will be working with the ASK: Translating Research Project provider to design strategies for user testing of the site maps and content module materials for the online platform. The two providers will develop a formative user testing research design to evaluate the materials and incorporate in-person and virtual interview and focus groups to gather feedback about the specific elements. In addition, the provider will establish a Content Advisory committee to provide input into the design of the products as well.

Tri-Annual Period (dates)	Update Information
October 2025 – January 2026	The provider is collaborating with the ASK-Translating Research provider to develop protocols for user testing of the material for the online referral tool. They re-established the Content Advisory Committee membership and held their first meeting in November and scheduled dates for 5-6 meetings through the year. The project submitted a draft of the protocols for user testing to the ASK-Translating Research provider and FDDC for feedback. And they expect to start recruiting participants in January.
January 2026- May 2026	The provider completed user testing in collaboration with the ASK-Translating Research provider. They finalized the systems and materials for user testing, recruited participants, and received their feedback. They used a combination of individual interviews and focus groups to help determine what resonates with families and caregivers. Their focus in this round of user testing was on the organization and style of the material. They determined what materials need more revision to be clear, easy to use, and what created a strong user experience for them. The results will be shared in their next deliverable. They also held 2 Content Advisory Committee with 3 parents, one of whom was an early intervention professional. They shared the plan for user testing in the first meeting and the emerging outcomes from the testing during the second meeting. The committee members asked to participate in user testing and expressed that they are excited to see all the content as a web platform in the future.

Goal 1: Access to Services				
Project	Provider	Funding Period	Funding Allocation	Project Description

Access to Services through Knowledge: Translating Research into Application	Mathematica	September 2025-September 2026	\$ 149,906	In Year 3 of Phase 2 of the Access to Services through Knowledge (ASK): Translating Research into Application project, the Contractor will continue to develop the beginning structure for a web-based service directory for families of individuals with I/DD. Using the research from the ASK: Research provider from previous years, and the user testing completed this year, the Contractor will develop and integrate personas (i.e., avatars) and/or journey maps (i.e., roadmaps) with a variety of assets including: sitemaps, content modules and additional user tools for each age group and domain within the lifespan that include scenarios, stories, and embedded links to resources. They will work with the ASK: Research provider to develop and implement a quality assurance user testing strategy and collaborate to make modification to the sitemaps, content modules and additional user tools based on the user feedback.
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Tri-Annual Period (dates)	Update Information
October 2025- January 2026	The provider has been working with the ASK Research provider to develop the protocols for user testing of developed elements of the ASK online tool. They met with the Content Advisory Committee and reviewed the activities for the year, including key questions for user testing. As part of the first deliverable in November, they have added the following modules to the Early Intervention domain: decision aid, Child Find explainer, Early Learning Coalitions explainer, Early Steps explainer, Early Steps to Pre-K roadmap, and a Using Early Intervention Services case study. They added an iBudget Waiver explainer to the health insurance / medical domain and a Personal Care Services explainer to Services and Supports. They are also creating mockups of the website for the ASK Research provider to use during user testing.

Tri-Annual Period (dates)	Update Information
<p>January 2026- May 2026</p>	<p>Since the last reporting, the provider has continued to revise the 9 site maps that provide the framework for the web tool. They also added content modules including 5 new explainers (Voluntary Pre-K, Private Early Intervention Options, Paying for Childcare, Inclusive Postsecondary Education Programs, Head Start and Early Head Start), an Early Intervention Florida State and Medicaid Program Mind Map, and a College for Students with IDD Decision Aid. The team participated in 2 Content Advisory Committee meetings held with the ASK – Research team. They received feedback from the committee on the Young Adult Modules. This feedback included comments on the ways to explore the developed materials (e.g., landing page, topic page, case study story, life stage page). The Content Advisory Committee suggested reframing the Age 18 checklist as a preparatory checklist to be completed prior to age 18 and perhaps splitting it into 2 time frames. They recommended creating a <i>prepare for 18</i> pathway story and a <i>post-high school / vocational</i> pathway story. During the second meeting, the committee emphasized the need for including financial planning information for families throughout the lifespan, rather than waiting until the teen years.</p>

Goal 2: Home- and Community-Based Delivery Systems				
Project	Provider	Funding Period	Funding Allocation	Project Description
Best Practices in Case Management (BPCM)	Mathematica, Inc.	September 2025 – September 2026	\$702,000 for Case Mgmt., Measuring Service Quality, and Researching Provider Solutions	During Year 4 of the project, the provider will focus on developing the 508-compliant versions of the case manager and program administrator versions of the Toolkit intended for use by case managers and organizations employing case managers. The tools will be finalized and posted to the FDDC website for dissemination. Work will continue with the previously identified MCO serving individuals with I/DD in Florida to adopt the suite of instruments.

Tri-Annual Period (dates)	Update Information
October 2025 – January 2026	The first workgroup of the year was held during this period to discuss the dissemination of the BPCM. A number of individuals who were not on the workgroup attended the meeting but did not share information or opinions. The workgroup recommended that the tool not be completed until the care coordinator had at least three visits or 6 months as the care coordinator. They also recommended an information sheet be developed for the people with I/DD and their families/caregivers introducing the tool when enrolled in the ICMC (formerly called the pilot). Continued conversations took place with Mathematica, FDDC, and Florida Community Care about adopting the toolkit. Suggestions were provided about family-focused organizations that could disseminate the toolkit to get it into wider use. Draft formats for providing reports on tool use and public engagement with the training videos were provided to the FDDC.
January 2026- May 2026	Mathematica continues to work on finalizing all the elements of the Guide for Case Management Professionals and Program Administrators for case managers and support coordinators to complete self-assessments and for their supervisors to assess their performance as a quality improvement mechanism. All the elements for individuals with IDD and family members/caregivers have been reviewed and are being revised so that all elements have the same look and feel. The FDDC website is being revised so that the Case Management materials are organized by user (i.e., individuals with IDD, family members/caregivers, and professionals).

Goal 2: Home- and Community-Based Delivery Systems				
Project	Provider	Funding Period	Funding Allocation	Project Description
Researching Provider Solutions	Mathematica, Inc.	October 2025 – September 2026	Combined budget for 3 projects	Mathematica will develop and implement a mixed methods research study to identify DSP training programs in a variety of settings in Florida and nationally and prepare a report with findings and recommendations regarding training for DSPs to be implemented in Florida.

Tri-Annual Period (dates)	Update Information
October 2025 – January 2026	The first workgroup meeting was held on December 4. Additional workgroup members were recruited for the project. The group discussed what type of training organizations should be included in the environmental scan, which is the first activity of the year. The group also shared information about what program qualities should be considered that would lead to successful outcomes in recruiting and retaining the DSP workforce members. Following an analysis of the scan results, interviews will be conducted with leaders in the field.
January 2026- May 2026	The Researching Provider Solutions are continuing to gather information about a variety of training programs that are offered in Florida and around the country and that may be applicable to Florida. The environmental scan results were presented to the workgroup for feedback, and this led to a revision of the planned interview questions. The interviews will be scheduled and information gathered from several types of training programs (i.e., high school internships, national training programs, technical college programs, 2-year college programs, and agency programs). During Year 1 of the next state plan, the FDDC staff will work to gather state agency input about creating an offering that can be used to improve quality and retention of DSPs.

Goal 2: Home- and Community-Based Delivery Systems				
Project	Provider	Funding Period	Funding Allocation	Project Description
Measuring Service Quality	Mathematica, Inc.	October 2025 – September 2026	Combined budget for 3 projects	During the 2025–2026 year, this project will focus on completing the testing and revising of the Employment Services tool (short and long version), as well as developing training videos for both the Adult Day Training (ADT) and Employment Services (ES) tools.

Tri-Annual Period (dates)	Update Information
October 2025 – January 2026	The first workgroup of the year was held on November 13, 2025. Mathematica reviewed the status of the Residential tool, which is posted on the FDDC website with two training videos. They presented side-by-side tools (icons, AI generated images, and black/white images) from the Best Practices in Case Management instrument. A robust discussion took place about preferences. Most people did not like the images on the Case Management tool and preferred the images on the Residential tool. The AI-generated images on the ADT tool were thought to be potentially confusing. The group did feel that the tools should all have a similar feel so that they looked like a coordinated set of tools. The group also expressed a preference for training videos that included real people with I/DD and their family members.
January 2026- May 2026	Mathematica is continuing work on the ADT and Employment Services tools for individuals with IDD and their family members/caregivers. The look of the two tools has been revised to ensure that the three tools have the same look and feel. Scripts have been developed and approved for training videos to introduce the ADT and Employment Services tools and how to use them. Filming will be done at ADT and Employment Services sites in April, and it is expected that the videos will be completed over the summer.

Goal 2: Home- and Community-Based Delivery Systems				
Project	Provider	Funding Period	Funding Allocation	Project Description
Addressing the Behavior Therapist Shortage	University of Florida (UF) Board of Trustees	September 2025 – September 2026	\$300,000	In Year 4, the project will implement systematic dissemination and the sustainability plan for expansion and assessment of the internship and training curriculum models. They will expand the internship and training curriculum models to other systems for implementation. They will complete the evaluation checklist and assess adoptability and sustainability outcomes and create a list of considerations based on those outcomes. They will disseminate refined training to other sites in Florida. Finally, they will develop transition planning for measuring and effectively maintaining specialized supervision skills in other settings and develop leadership retention training for improving working conditions of behavior analysts working with individuals with severe challenging behavior.

Tri-Annual Period (dates)	Update Information
October 2025 – January 2026	The provider held the first project task force meeting of the year. They have gathered a wide variety of stakeholders including family members, university faculty, behavioral providers, and agency representatives. During the meeting they brainstormed with the attendees about how to best disseminate the training to address the needs of different settings. They have developed a literature review of leadership training for improving working conditions for behavior therapists and created a draft list of systems to be included in expanding efforts to implement the internship and training curriculum.
January 2026- May 2026	The provider has been working on methods for expanding the implementation of the developed training. They are planning to provide the training at the UF CARD training this summer and offer CEUs for BCBAs. In addition, they are engaging other providers to implement the training, including Rollins College, which is integrating the training into the BCBA practicum. In their last deliverable, they submitted drafted strategies for a Train-the-Trainer model specifically individualized for different types of sites (e.g., community, clinic-based, schools). The model is based on research in the training field to ensure that trainers are prepared to train and supervise Registered Behavior Technicians and other BCBAs working with individuals with severe behaviors.

Goal 2: Home- and Community-Based Delivery Systems				
Project	Provider	Funding Period	Funding Allocation	Project Description
Dual Diagnosis Training	The National Association for the Dually Diagnosed (NADD)	September 2025 – September 2026	\$225,000	During Year 5 of the Dual Diagnosis Training project, the work will continue to foster collaboration between state agencies and other organizations to address the needs of complex individuals through a pilot of the Year 4 developed approach. Research will be undertaken to learn about peer-to-peer support programs for families with individuals with dual diagnosis and a peer support program will be developed and piloted over the course of the project year.

Tri-Annual Period (dates)	Update Information
October 2025 – January 2026	The project held its first advisory committee meeting for the full project during this period. This committee will be involved with reviewing the Family Peer Support Pilot and the Individual Integrated Service Planning (IISP) pilot. In addition, it held the first collaborative workgroup specifically for the IISP part of the project. Following that meeting, a draft of the pilot framework that was developed in the previous year for the IISP was sent to both groups to review and provide feedback.
January 2026- May 2026	NADD reached out to the National Association of State Directors of Developmental Disabilities Services (NASDDDS) who created a review of existing peer support models in the United States. A summary of the research was shared with the advisory group for feedback. is beginning to recruit participants to be Peer Mentors for the Family Peer Support Pilot. They have drafted the model for the program and have shared it with the Advisory Committee for feedback. We have also been working together to recruit families who would be a good match and willing to serve as the peer mentors from the PIP program and PIP alumni. In addition, NADD has completed the implementation plan for the IISP. They have gathered a wide variety of agencies and met with them to review the model. In addition, we have connected them with the lead professional for the state-wide behavioral health teaching hospital program out of the University of South Florida. We also introduced them to the University of Florida’s Behavior Therapist Shortage project team, who are working with these 2 hospitals for individuals with severe behavior, many of whom have dual diagnoses. Since these members are familiar with the invisible barriers in the behavioral health system for individuals with co-occurring conditions, this collaboration has led the team to focus on Jackson Memorial and UF’s hospital systems for the project.

Goal 2: Home- and Community-Based Delivery Systems				
Project	Provider	Funding Period	Funding Allocation	Project Description
Training First Responders	Florida Atlantic University Board of Trustees	July 2025 – July 2026	\$149,500	In Year 4 of the First Responder Training, FAU will conduct an environmental scan to identify technical colleges, state colleges, and universities in Florida that offer certifications and/or degrees in criminal justice or emergency medical services. Individuals will be interviewed following the environmental scan to further discuss the current curriculum being offered to students regarding I/DD. A curriculum will be developed for students in technical colleges, state colleges, and universities in criminal justice and emergency medical services to be offered in academic and technical training programs. FAU will continue to maintain and update the course curriculum for training and the train the trainer materials. Training(s) will be offered on an as-needed basis.

Tri-Annual Period (dates)	Update Information
October 2025 - January 2026	During the Training for First Responders Y4 Advisory Meeting #1 on September 24, 2025, the survey and interview questions for curriculum instructors were created and presented by FAU. Advisory Committee Members were requested to provide any feedback on the interview and survey questions by 10/8. Seven people responded with suggestions and demonstrated an overall approval of the measures. Based on the feedback from the Advisory Committee members, the survey and interview questions for the curriculum instructors were revised on 10/13. Draft documents of the IRB background and methods were included that clearly outline the approach for collecting the survey and interview data. The curriculum was drafted with structural elements and annotations drawn from the law enforcement officers and emergency medical services curricula to guide future development and revisions. The initial draft was submitted as part of the deliverables, accompanied by a general template and annotated comments highlighting areas that require further development. During the second Advisory Meeting on December 10, 2025, the curriculum was reviewed and discussed.

Tri-Annual Period (dates)	Update Information
<p>January 2026- May 2026</p>	<p>During the TFR Y4 Advisory Meeting on December 10, 2025, the agenda included updates on surveys (data received), interview questions (final version), and curriculum development (Drafts for Modules 1-7 and the Curriculum Syllabus). IRB 2404149 was approved. The survey was emailed on 1/6/2026 to all the potential participants on the FL Police Training Centers contact list. Of the 12 participants who completed the survey, 3 participants indicated that they were open to participating in an interview. The draft curriculum and Curriculum Syllabus were submitted as part of the deliverables with annotated comments highlighting areas that require further development.</p> <p>Dr. Scott reported that FAU would not be able to meet their contractual obligations. Deliverable 2 was completed and the contract was terminated. This project will be procured out to a new provider for Year 1 of the next state plan.</p>

Goal 3: Aging Caregivers				
Project	Provider	Funding Period	Funding Allocation	Project Description
Aging Generations' Expectations in Developmental Disabilities (AGEDD)	Margaret Lynn Duggar & Associates, Inc.	September 2025 – September 2026	\$200,000	In Year 5, Margret Duggar and Associates continue to plan and execute the April 2026 AGEDD Summit in Kissimmee, FL. The ten Community of Practice (CoP) groups, representing 16 of Florida's 20 counties, continue to meet to discuss their collaboration and educational opportunities between the Aging and I/DD populations. At the end of the Summit, each CoP will develop a sustainability plan between the aging and I'DD networks.

Tri-Annual Period (dates)	Update Information
<p>October 2025 – January 2026</p>	<p>There are currently 13 Communities of Practice (CoPs), with 19 counties actively participating. Each CoP meets at least once during the contract year. Four CoPs have met during this period. Several CoPs are in the process of scheduling to meet by the end of January. Technical Assistance was offered to all the CoPs by the provider.</p> <p>The 2026 AGEDD Summit will be held on April 20-22nd, 2026 at the Embassy Suites in Kissimmee, FL. The RSVP link to the AGEDD Summit was sent out by Margret Lynn Dugger and Associates to register for the event. Tentative speakers for the upcoming summit include Serena Lowe from the Bridging Aging & Disability Network Initiative, representing the National Association of Councils on Developmental Disabilities, who will share insights on projects implemented across 14 states. Another speaker under consideration is David Jones from the Administration for Community Living (ACL). Possible breakout session topics may cover transportation, meal models, community participation, and policy or systems change discussions. Two Summit planning meets have been completed and four additional are scheduled from February to April 2026.</p>
<p>January 2026- May 2026</p>	<p>A total of six Communities of Practice (CoPs) have met during this time period. Technical Assistance has continued to be offered to all the CoPs by the provider.</p> <p>The 2026 AGEDD Summit was held on April 20-22nd, 2026 at the Embassy Suites in Kissimmee, FL. The major goal was to plan for and encourage aging and IDD agencies to continue working together locally through the COPs. The speakers for the Summit included: Serena Lowe from the Bridging Aging & Disability Network Initiative, representing the National Association of Councils on Developmental Disabilities; David Jones from the Administration for Community Living (ACL); Dr. Rebecca Hines, Commissioner of the Administration on Disabilities; and Robert Azstalos, Director of the Agency for Persons with Disabilities. Currently, 64 registrations were confirmed as of 04/8/2026, including 9 task force members, 7 FDDC Staff/Council Members, 40 Communities of Practice (CoP) participants, 3 Speakers, and 5 provider staff. Implementation plans will be developed during the summit to help COPs create sustainable goals and continue collaborative work.</p>

Goal 4: Self-Advocacy Leadership				
Project	Provider	Funding Period	Funding Allocation	Project Description
Florida SAND Fellows Leadership Program	Pathways Resolution Center, Inc. Doing Business As (dba) OMS, Inc.	August 2025 – August 2026	\$300,000	The goal of this project, in its tenth 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 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.

Tri-Annual Period (dates)	Update Information
October 2025 – January 2026	The new group of four Fellows were selected by OMS with FDDC staff input. Since then, one of the Fellows dropped out and OMS is looking for another person to join the program. The group is going through training on the Leadership Modules. They are also preparing their legislative platform. Valerie Breen presented the FDDC’s Legislative Priorities to the group. There was a robust discussion on the Working People with Disabilities program and the lack of people taking advantage of it. Valerie also discussed DD Day and the mechanics of it that have been organized to date.

Tri-Annual Period (dates)	Update Information
January 2026- May 2026	<p>The Fellows continue to develop their skills in providing leadership to the FL SAND statewide grassroots organization. There are currently 7 Fellows: 3 first year Fellows, 2 second year Fellows, and 2 mentor Fellows who are in their third year and have advanced administration and program coordination responsibilities. The program began the year with three additional Fellows, but they could not complete the program due to personal or family issues. Four Fellows participated in DD Awareness Day by visiting legislators and staff, hosting the Florida SAND exhibit table, and sharing stories from self-advocates on housing and transportation. They also hosted the monthly self-advocate call. The topic for January was Gearing up for the 2026 Florida Legislative Session. The February topic was Pet Peeves and How to Address Them with Advocacy. The March topic was Developmental Disabilities Awareness Month: Come share how your community is celebrating. April's topic was "What advice would you give to your younger self about advocacy?" The Fellows also are responsible for training the Florida SAND Executive Board and completing the required state and federal paperwork to maintain the group's 501c3 status.</p>

Goal 4: Self-Advocacy Leadership				
Project	Provider	Funding Period	Funding Allocation	Project Description
Partners in Policymaking Coordinator	Stacey Hoagland	August 2025 – August 2026	\$65,000	<p>The goal of this project, in its eleventh year of funding with the Coordinator, is to plan and execute all aspects of the Council's Partners in Policymaking (PIP) 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>

Tri-Annual Period (dates)	Update Information
<p>October 2025 – January 2026</p>	<p>The PIP 2025–2026 cohort is comprised of 21 guardians/caregivers and 6 self-advocates for a total of 27 participants. The cohort has successfully completed four of its six sessions, marking the program’s halfway point. The class will graduate in February and participate in DD Day 2026. The current PIP class has had 3 dropouts (Session 1 – One Self-Advocate; Session 3 – Two Guardians/Caregivers). The PIP class size is now 24 participants with one participant completing session 6 for a total of 25 PIP participants.</p> <p>The PIP Alumni Program has scheduled quarterly meetings with tentative topics (November, January, April, July). The first session, focused on Managed Care, presented by Valerie Breen and Jim DeBeaugrine, was held on November 25, 2025, and. Of the 57 individuals registered, 33 PIP Alumni and 2 FDDC staff members attended the meeting. The event was well received, and participants requested additional information and were invited to attend the December 2025 Public Policy Task Force Meeting to learn more about FDDC’s advocacy work related to Managed Care, iBudget and CDC+.</p>
<p>January 2026- May 2026</p>	<p>The PIP 2025–2026 cohort began with 21 guardians/caregivers and 6 self-advocates for a total of 27 Partners. Since the start, the program had 4 dropouts. The remaining cohort successfully completed all six sessions. 23 participants graduated with one participant completing session 6 for a total of 24 PIP graduates. 17 PIP participants from the current class attended DD Day 2026. Approximately 20-25 PIP Alumni planned to attend, but tracking of actual attendance was uncertain. The 2026-2027 applications were made available on the FDDC website on March 1, 2026. A total of 25 applications have been submitted for review as of April 1. The Review Committee will remain the same with the addition of a self-advocate from the 2025-2026 PIP graduates. The 2026-2027 Schedule has been finalized: Session 1: October 23-24, 2026; Session 2: November 20-21, 2026; Session 3: December 11-12, 2026; Session 4: January 15-16, 2027; Session 5: February 4-5, 2027; Session 6: March 19-20, 2027, at the Florida Hotel and Conference Center in Orlando, FL.</p> <p>The PIP Alumni Program has scheduled quarterly meetings (November, January, April, July). Topics for the quarterly meetings are Managed care and what it means; Filing a complaint for denial of eligibility and/or services; Understanding the end of certificates of completion and Dual Diagnosis Peer Support Projects. The January session focused on Filing a complaint for denial of eligibility and/or services, presented by Bradley Hunt from Disability Rights Florida. Twenty-three individuals attended, including 22 PIP Alumni and 1 FDDC staff member.</p>

Goal 4: Self-Advocacy Leadership				
Project	Provider	Funding Period	Funding Allocation	Project Description
Partners in Policymaking Curriculum Project	Autistic Self Advocacy Network (ASAN)	September 2024 – January 2026	\$150,000	The goal of this project, in its second year of funding, is to further 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. 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.

Tri-Annual Period (dates)	Update Information
October 2025 – January 2026	The provider, ASAN, has been great to work with. They have submitted the final draft of Sessions 1-5 of the PIP curriculum in Easy Read format with videos completed for Sessions 1-4. Session 6 has been submitted in Easy Read format in draft format and was reviewed by the Curriculum Review Committee on December 8, 2025. Videos for Session 5 have been submitted in draft format. ASAN is set up well to complete the contract at the end of January with the final copy of all Easy Read documents, video sessions of the curriculum, and suggestions for train the trainer and for implementation of the PIP Plus curriculum.
	Contract completed

Goal 5: Broad Systems Change/Emerging Needs: Advocacy and Communications Cross-Cutting Systems Change Projects				
Project	Provider	Funding Period	Funding Allocation	Project Description
Spanish Translation	Lingua School, Inc. d.b.a. Lingua Language Center	September 2025 – September 2026	\$30,000	This consulting agreement provides for translation of selected Council documents into Spanish or other languages deemed appropriate.

Tri-Annual Period (dates)	Update Information
October 2025 – January 2026	Materials relating to the solicitation of public comment regarding the development of the 2026-2031 State Plan were translated into Spanish. Additionally, the Council’s Legislative Priorities were translated.
January 2026- May 2026	Materials for the Council’s Best Practices in Case Management Project were translated into Spanish.

Goal 5: Broad Systems Change/Emerging Needs: Advocacy and Communications Cross-Cutting Systems Change Projects				
Project	Provider	Funding Period	Funding Allocation	Project Description
Communications	RB Oppenheim Associates, Inc.	September 2025 – September 2026	\$140,000	Consultant will provide a variety of expert professional services, and create/implement outreach communication vehicles and products. The Consultant will provide advice and support to Council staff to conduct any and all activities that impact the target audiences the Council is responsible to reach and represent through its five-year state plan. Outreach activities shall include awareness and educational events, messaging and branding, website and digital communication, e-news, social media efforts, and updating ongoing Council materials. They will be responsible to collaborate/work with Council staff and other partners, as requested, to ensure that the Council remains the leader in branding, messaging and education/outreach regarding the Council, its activities, and meet responsibilities for communication to and engagement with its audiences.

Tri-Annual Period (dates)	Update Information
October 2025 – January 2026	The provider created marketing and public awareness support for the public comment phase of the Five-Year Plan and the Idelio Valdes and Bobbie Lake Advocacy Awards. Creative work during this period included materials for DD Awareness Day; Legislative Priorities, Fact Sheet and Talking Points; web page for DD Day; blog/AI posts; and redesigned award applications. RBOA also continued to develop and distribute the monthly Connections newsletter. In October, FDDC exceeded 10,000 Facebook followers.
January 2026- May 2026	The provider executed marketing and public awareness activities for DD Day including pre- and post-event coverage, My Story campaign, and Our Voices Matter materials. A redesigned, weekly Legislative Briefing was created and distributed throughout the 2026 session. RBOA also continued to develop and distribute the monthly Connections newsletter, including a special DD Day edition.

Florida Developmental Disabilities Council, Inc.

**FINANCE COMMITTEE MEETING
Thursday, May 21, 2026
Florida Hotel and Conference Center - Orlando
1500 Sand Lake Road
Orlando, FL 32809**

Zoom Meeting

<https://fddc.zoom.us/j/87557405669?from=addon>

Meeting ID: 875 5740 5669

Passcode: 896905

9:45 a.m. – 10:30 a.m.

OUR MISSION

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

AGENDA

9:45 a.m.	Call to Order Welcome & Roll Call	<i>Carla Mercer, Chair</i>
	Adopt the Agenda	<i>Carla Mercer, Chair</i>
9:55 a.m.	Approval of Minutes ** (A) Minutes for January 22, 2026	<i>Carla Mercer, Chair</i>
10:00 a.m.	Review/Discussion of Financials ** (B) Budget/Actual 10/1/25- 3/31/26	<i>Carla Mercer, Chair Ben Moon, CFO-THF</i>
10:15 a.m.	Updates ➤ Audit	<i>Carla Mercer, Chair Ben Moon, CFO-THF Monica Moye, COF</i>
10:20 a.m.	Public Comment	<i>Carla Mercer, Chair</i>
	Meeting Adjourned	

**** Items that require vote**

Florida Developmental Disabilities Council, Inc.**FINANCE COMMITTEE MEETING****Minutes****Thursday, January 22, 2026**

Committee Members Present: Dennis Hart; Caitlyn Clibbon; Enrique Escallon; Sarah Goldman; Charlotte Temple; Kali Wilson; Tina Cordova

Council Members Present: Yolanda Herrera; Danielle McGill; Carla Mercer; Lauren Modawell; Michael Sayih; Arizona Jenkins; Robert Asztalos (APD); Leah Compagnone-Bolt (VR); Jennifer Zarcone (FCIC); Tracie Hardin (AHCA)

Council Members Absent: Denise Anderson; Christina Cordova; Elly Hagen; Dennis Hart; Victoria Zepp; Anna Simmons (DOH); Kira Houge (Elder Affairs); Jean Sherman (UCEDD); Patricia Bodiford (DOE)

Staff Present: Valerie Breen; Susan Kabot; Monica Moye; Chris Reeve; Jennifer Chung; Kristen Conlin; Jamie Mayersohn

Guests: Jim DeBeaugrine (FDDC Legislative Advisor); Personal care staff

Adoption of Agenda

Enrique Escallon made a motion to adopt the agenda as presented; Kali Wilson seconded. All members voted in favor; none abstained. The motion carried and the agenda was adopted.

Adoption of Financials

Ben Moon from Thomas Howell Ferguson (outsourced CFO) presented the first quarter's accrual-based financial reports. Following the financial presentation, Enrique Escallon inquired about including a year-by-year financial review of the annual budgets. Moon explained that the financial reports are now on an accrual basis. As the fiscal years progress, side-by-side annual budget information will be available.

Escallon also inquired about the status of the updated FDDC Accounting Manual. Monica Moye, Chief of Operations and Finance, shared that the FDDC Accounting Manual is in draft and will be updated going into the audit and will be presented to the Finance Committee for review and approval.

Enrique Escallon made a motion to adopt the Budget vs Actual and Profit and Loss, by class as presented by Ben Moon from Thomas Howell Ferguson; Charlotte Temple seconded. All members voted in favor; none abstained. The motion carried and the Budget vs. Actual and Profit and Loss, by class were adopted, and moved to Full Council Recommendation.

Update: FDDC 2026 Financial Status

Monica Moye provided an update advising that all reporting has been filed for the year. We also received the first notice of award for 2026 on December 12th. The audit is scheduled for mid-March, and it will be conducted by Law Redd again.



Florida Developmental Disabilities Council, Inc.

Financial Reporting

For the period ending March 2026

Table of Contents

- Budget vs. Actuals
- Statement of Activity by Class

Florida Developmental Disabilities Council, Inc.

Budget vs. Actuals

October 2025 - March 2026

	TOTAL	
	ACTUAL	BUDGET
Revenue		
4100 Grant - ADD		
4102 Grant - NACDD - Bridging the Gap	1,498.33	
Total 4100 Grant - ADD	1,498.33	
4101 Grant ADD	1,975,264.43	
Miscellaneous Income	6,869.73	
Total Revenue	\$1,983,632.49	\$0.00
GROSS PROFIT	\$1,983,632.49	\$0.00
Expenditures		
6000 Program Expense		
6010 Access to Services		
6010.1 ASK Steering Committee & Research	23,271.49	200,000.00
6010.2 ASK Personas & Journey Mapping Expert Contact Dev	78,754.29	200,000.00
6010.3 ASK Web-Based Platform and Training		200,000.00
Total 6010 Access to Services	102,025.78	600,000.00
6020 Home & Comm Based Del System		
6020.1 Best Practices in Case Management	419,226.00	225,000.00
6020.2 Researching Provider Solutions		252,000.00
6020.3 Measuring Service Quality		225,000.00
6020.4 Behavioral Therapist Shortage	93,207.01	300,000.00
6020.5 Dual Diag Targeted Disparity	77,452.10	225,000.00
6020.6 First Responder Training	0.00	149,990.00
Total 6020 Home & Comm Based Del System	589,885.11	1,376,990.00
6030 Aging Caregivers TF		
6030.1 Aging Caregivers Roadmap Initiative	80,418.17	200,000.00
Total 6030 Aging Caregivers TF	80,418.17	200,000.00
6040 Self Advocacy Leadership		
6040.1 Partners In Policymaking Coordinator	32,500.00	65,000.00
6040.2 SAL TF Travel/Supports	126,760.71	150,000.00
6040.3 Florida SAND	116,109.71	300,000.00
6040.4 Partners In Policy Curriculum Strand Travel	38,713.60	64,435.20
Total 6040 Self Advocacy Leadership	314,084.02	579,435.20
6050 Broad Systems Change/Emerging Needs		
6060 25 Advocacy & Communications		60,111.00
6060.1 Communications	55,158.82	150,000.00
6060.2 State Plan Goal Related (Easy Read, Sp Trans)	832.00	30,000.00
6060.3 Public Policy / Legislative Education	42,568.26	40,000.00
Total 6060 25 Advocacy & Communications	98,559.08	220,000.00
6071 Task Force Travel/Misc		5,000.00
Total 6000 Program Expense	1,184,972.16	3,041,536.20
9000 Administrative		
9001 Computer Expenses	38,318.41	87,639.00

Florida Developmental Disabilities Council, Inc.

Budget vs. Actuals

October 2025 - March 2026

	TOTAL	
	ACTUAL	BUDGET
9002 Dues	5,261.07	25,000.00
9003 Education/Training	309.28	5,000.00
9004 Insurance - General	7,253.64	16,962.00
9005 Office Expenses	842.01	
9005.1 Bank Charges	1,441.52	2,250.00
9005.2 Supplies & Expense	12,158.85	13,020.00
Total 9005 Office Expenses	14,442.38	15,270.00
9006 Payroll		
9006.1 Wages	364,007.98	900,486.00
9006.2 Payroll Taxes	29,334.22	69,277.00
9601 Payroll Processing Fee		2,350.00
9604 Workers Comp Insurance		1,531.00
Total 9006 Payroll	393,342.20	973,644.00
9007 Benefits		
9007.1 STD, LTD and Life	1,762.16	4,315.00
9007.2 Retirement	17,614.91	44,743.00
9007.3 Health Insurance	9,383.71	35,775.00
9007.4 Dental Insurance	527.76	1,736.00
9007.5 AFLAC	4,108.96	8,320.00
Total 9007 Benefits	33,397.50	94,889.00
9008 Professional Fees		
9008.1 Legal Fees	7,030.00	30,000.00
9008.2 HR Consultant	17,403.00	20,000.00
9008.3 Consultant	131,787.24	253,872.00
9008.4 Accounting	34,650.00	77,000.00
9802 Audit & 990	7,500.00	25,000.00
Total 9008 Professional Fees	198,370.24	405,872.00
9009 Postage	272.14	3,500.00
9010 Employee Morale	131.88	1,500.00
9020 Rent		
9020.1 Building Rent	52,397.91	61,926.00
9020.2 Equipment Rental	2,956.74	6,000.00
Total 9020 Rent	55,354.65	67,926.00
9023 Telephone	1,663.87	7,000.00
9060 Travel Allocation		
9060.1 Council Meeting/Other - Members & Staff	44,132.25	112,000.00
9060.2 Member Travel - Other	619.27	5,500.00
9060.3 Travel Staff	461.75	5,500.00
9060.4 Travel Conference	2,832.76	15,000.00
Total 9060 Travel Allocation	48,046.03	138,000.00
9070 Board Development		6,000.00
Total 9000 Administrative	796,163.29	1,848,202.00

Florida Developmental Disabilities Council, Inc.

Budget vs. Actuals

October 2025 - March 2026

	TOTAL	
	ACTUAL	BUDGET
Total Expenditures	\$1,981,135.45	\$4,889,738.20
NET OPERATING REVENUE	\$2,497.04	\$ -4,889,738.20
Other Expenditures		
9100 Depreciation Expense	2,497.04	
Total Other Expenditures	\$2,497.04	\$0.00
NET OTHER REVENUE	\$ -2,497.04	\$0.00
NET REVENUE	\$0.00	\$ -4,889,738.20

DRAFT

Florida Developmental Disabilities Council, Inc.

Statement of Activity by Class

October 2025 - March 2026

	2501	BRIDGING THE GAP	TOTAL
Revenue			
4100 Grant - ADD			\$0.00
4102 Grant - NACDD - Bridging the Gap		1,498.33	\$1,498.33
Total 4100 Grant - ADD		1,498.33	\$1,498.33
4101 Grant ADD	1,975,264.43		\$1,975,264.43
Miscellaneous Income	6,869.73		\$6,869.73
Total Revenue	\$1,982,134.16	\$1,498.33	\$1,983,632.49
GROSS PROFIT	\$1,982,134.16	\$1,498.33	\$1,983,632.49
Expenditures			
6000 Program Expense			\$0.00
6010 Access to Services			\$0.00
6010.1 ASK Steering Committee & Research	23,271.49		\$23,271.49
6010.2 ASK Personas & Journey Mapping Expert Contact Dev	78,754.29		\$78,754.29
Total 6010 Access to Services	102,025.78		\$102,025.78
6020 Home & Comm Based Del System			\$0.00
6020.1 Best Practices in Case Management	419,226.00		\$419,226.00
6020.4 Behavioral Therapist Shortage	93,207.01		\$93,207.01
6020.5 Dual Diag Targeted Disparity	77,452.10		\$77,452.10
Total 6020 Home & Comm Based Del System	589,885.11		\$589,885.11
6030 Aging Caregivers TF			\$0.00
6030.1 Aging Caregivers Roadmap Initiative	80,418.17		\$80,418.17
Total 6030 Aging Caregivers TF	80,418.17		\$80,418.17
6040 Self Advocacy Leadership			\$0.00
6040.1 Partners In Policymaking Coordinator	32,500.00		\$32,500.00
6040.2 SAL TF Travel/Supports	126,760.71		\$126,760.71
6040.3 Florida SAND	116,109.71		\$116,109.71
6040.4 Partners In Policy Curriculum Strand Travel	38,713.60		\$38,713.60
Total 6040 Self Advocacy Leadership	314,084.02		\$314,084.02
6060 25 Advocacy & Communications			\$0.00
6060.1 Communications	55,158.82		\$55,158.82
6060.2 State Plan Goal Related (Easy Read, Sp Trans)	832.00		\$832.00
6060.3 Public Policy / Legislative Education	42,568.26		\$42,568.26
Total 6060 25 Advocacy & Communications	98,559.08		\$98,559.08
Total 6000 Program Expense	1,184,972.16		\$1,184,972.16
9000 Administrative			\$0.00
9001 Computer Expenses	38,318.41		\$38,318.41
9002 Dues	5,261.07		\$5,261.07
9003 Education/Training	309.28		\$309.28
9004 Insurance - General	7,253.64		\$7,253.64
9005 Office Expenses	14,442.38		\$14,442.38
9006 Payroll			\$0.00
9006.1 Wages	362,656.54	1,351.44	\$364,007.98
9006.2 Payroll Taxes	29,234.94	99.28	\$29,334.22

Florida Developmental Disabilities Council, Inc.

Statement of Activity by Class

October 2025 - March 2026

	2501	BRIDGING THE GAP	TOTAL
Total 9006 Payroll	391,891.48	1,450.72	\$393,342.20
9007 Benefits			\$0.00
9007.1 STD, LTD and Life	1,762.16		\$1,762.16
9007.2 Retirement	17,567.30	47.61	\$17,614.91
9007.3 Health Insurance	9,383.71		\$9,383.71
9007.4 Dental Insurance	527.76		\$527.76
9007.5 AFLAC	4,108.96		\$4,108.96
Total 9007 Benefits	33,349.89	47.61	\$33,397.50
9008 Professional Fees			\$0.00
9008.1 Legal Fees	7,030.00		\$7,030.00
9008.2 HR Consultant	17,403.00		\$17,403.00
9008.3 Consultant	131,787.24		\$131,787.24
9008.4 Accounting	34,650.00		\$34,650.00
9802 Audit & 990	7,500.00		\$7,500.00
Total 9008 Professional Fees	198,370.24		\$198,370.24
9009 Postage	272.14		\$272.14
9010 Employee Morale	131.88		\$131.88
9020 Rent			\$0.00
9020.1 Building Rent	52,397.91		\$52,397.91
9020.2 Equipment Rental	2,956.74		\$2,956.74
Total 9020 Rent	55,354.65		\$55,354.65
9023 Telephone	1,663.87		\$1,663.87
9060 Travel Allocation			\$0.00
9060.1 Council Meeting/Other - Members & Staff	44,132.25		\$44,132.25
9060.2 Member Travel - Other	619.27		\$619.27
9060.3 Travel Staff	461.75		\$461.75
9060.4 Travel Conference	2,832.76		\$2,832.76
Total 9060 Travel Allocation	48,046.03		\$48,046.03
Total 9000 Administrative	794,664.96	1,498.33	\$796,163.29
Total Expenditures	\$1,979,637.12	\$1,498.33	\$1,981,135.45
NET OPERATING REVENUE	\$2,497.04	\$0.00	\$2,497.04
Other Expenditures			
9100 Depreciation Expense	2,497.04		\$2,497.04
Total Other Expenditures	\$2,497.04	\$0.00	\$2,497.04
NET OTHER REVENUE	\$ -2,497.04	\$0.00	\$ -2,497.04
NET REVENUE	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00

Florida Developmental Disabilities Council, Inc.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING
Thursday, May 21, 2026
Florida Hotel and Conference Center - Orlando
1500 Sand Lake Road
Orlando, FL 32809

Zoom Meeting

<https://fdcd.zoom.us/j/87557405669?from=addon>

Meeting ID: 875 5740 5669

Passcode: 896905

10:45 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.

OUR MISSION

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

AGENDA

10:45 a.m.	Call to Order Welcome & Roll Call	<i>Eddie Hall, Chair</i>
	Adopt the Agenda**	<i>Eddie Hall, Chair</i>
10:50 a.m.	Approval of Minutes** <i>(A) Minutes from September 11, 2025</i> <i>(B) Minutes from February 23, 2026</i> <i>(C) Minutes from March 2, 2026</i> <i>(D) Minutes from April 22, 2026</i>	<i>Eddie Hall, Chair</i>
10:55 a.m.	Public Comment	<i>Eddie Hall, Chair</i>
	Meeting Adjourned	

**** Items that require vote**

Florida Developmental Disabilities Council, Inc.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MINUTES

September 11, 2025

VIA ZOOM

Committee members present: Eddie Hall Chair; Enrique Escallon; Sarah Goldman; Dennis Hart; Elly Hagen; Yolanda Herrera

Committee members absent: Arizona Jenkins

Other council members present: None

Staff present: Valerie Breen; Susan Kobot; Valerie Breen; Monica Moye; Chris Reeve

Guests present: Danielle Towery, HR Consultant

Quorum was established. Hall called the meeting to order at 6:25 p.m.

I. ITEMS ADOPTED BY COMMITTEE

Action Taken: Goldman made a motion to adopt the agenda as presented. Escallon seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

Action taken: Escallon made a motion to adopt July 22, 2025, and August 5, 2025, minutes as presented. Hart seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

II. RECOMMENDATIONS FOR FULL COUNCIL VOTE

- A. Adopt the implementation of the Qualified Small Employer's Health Reimbursement Arrangement (QSEHRA) January 1, 2026.

Action Taken: Hart made the motion to move the QSEHRA plan to the full Council for adoption. Escallon seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

- B. Adopt the Executive Director Performance Evaluation report.

Action Taken: Hagen made a motion to move the report as presented to the full Council for adoption. Hart seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

- C. Adopt the renewal of the Executive Director annual employment agreement effective September 30, 2025, October 1, 2025- September 30, 2026 based on performance.

Action Taken: Hagen made a motion to move the recommendation of the annual renewal of the Executive Director based on the performance evaluation for adoption. Hart seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

- D. Adopt the recommendations from the Bylaws Task Force to add the position of Secretary, to be elected and serve as an officer on the Executive Committee, eliminate one Chair

appointed position on the Executive Committee and add Florida Department of Children and Families as an additional agency to be appointed to the Council.

Action Taken: Escallon made a motion to move recommendations to the full Council. Hagen seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

Key points being made during committee discussion:

QSEHRA: Towery informed the committee that the cost of QSEHRA was added to the Finance Committee budget proposal.

Executive Director Performance Evaluation: Towery reported that the Executive Committee completed the evaluation, and the summary report was developed for committee and Council member review. Towery reported that she followed the process adopted by the Executive Committee for the performance evaluation of the Executive Director.

Executive Director Annual Employment Agreement Renewal: Towery reported that the employment agreement has an option for renewal every year up to two years post the original agreement. The annual employment agreement for the Executive Director was established in September 2023 with the Council attorney, Chair and Executive Committee with two annual options for renewal. The first renewal was executed effective October 1, 2024, with an amendment to compensation based on the performance evaluation. The second renewal with no amendment is recommended based on the performance evaluation for execution October 1, 2025, and will end September 30, 2026. Escallon recommended that best practice for engagement with Executive Directors be evaluated for 2027 with the Council attorney.

Bylaw Task Force Recommendations: Escallon reported that there were many considerations discussed by the Task Force that will need to be tabled at this time.

E. Re-defining the role of the Public Policy Committee: Sarah Goldman, Public Policy Committee Chair discussed her thoughts about changing the way the public policy committee focused its attention and work. She discussed focusing on a more streamlined message and legislative issues related to home-and community-services. Goldman presented considerations for more targeted messaging and monitoring on specific key issues that impact our population (i.e., consumer directed plus). She also stated that creating a message that would increase the number of stakeholders and supports for DD Day and awareness would be something that the Public Policy Committee would weigh in on and help facilitate outreach/engagement. Escallon and Hart reinforced that there may be other big issues that could impact our population, especially children, that should also not be ignored and that legislative briefings to be sent out during legislative sessions, are very helpful.

There was no public comment
Hall adjourned the meeting at 7:04 p.m.

Florida Developmental Disabilities Council

Executive Committee Meeting Minutes

Date: February 23, 2026

Time: 6:30 p.m.

Location: Not specified

Attendees

Merle Barrett
Kristen Conlin
Stacy Hoagland
Dennis Hart
Jay Wagmaster (Florida Phoenix)
Sarah Goldman
Chris Reeve
Enrique Escalon
Sue Kabot
Eddie Hall
Ellen Leibowitz, Attorney
Monica Moye
Jennifer Chung
Valerie Breen
Elly Hagen
Greg Stewart
Arizona Jenkins
Carla Mercer

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 6:30 p.m.

Review of January 22, 2026 Meeting and Sunshine Law Compliance

Greg Stewart stated that the January 22, 2026 meeting was not properly noticed, which constituted a violation of Florida's Sunshine Law. He explained that while Council members may remain present during meetings, staff members may not be excluded. Mr. Stewart further stated that actions taken at the January 22 meeting could be ratified at a subsequent properly noticed meeting. Minutes of the January 22 meeting were taken by Caitlyn Clibbon. Mr. Stewart advised that a full discussion of events from that meeting must occur at a subsequent properly noticed meeting.

Two primary issues arising from the January 22 meeting were identified:

1. The removal letter from Disability Rights Florida from the Public Policy Committee.
2. Whether to begin a search for a new Executive Director.

Dennis Hart stated that he was caught off guard by the discussion regarding the non-renewal of Valerie Breen's contract and asked how the topic arose.

Greg Stewart explained that no action or vote regarding a search for a new Executive Director occurred on January 22 because members of the Executive Committee were not present.

Sarah Goldman stated that she made a motion during the January 22 meeting to delay discussion regarding the Executive Director.

Enrique Escalon stated that the Executive Committee meeting held earlier that day was continued later in the day and that the later discussion was a continuation of the earlier meeting.

Executive Director Contract Discussion

Enrique Escalon stated that the Executive Director's contract was discussed because it expires at the end of September 2026, at which time Valerie Breen would have completed her tenure. He noted that there were misunderstandings about whether the discussion concerned the continuation of employment or the initiation of a search for a new Executive Director. Mr. Escalon suggested that research regarding potential options should begin prior to the end of the contract term.

Elly Hagen asked why staff members were not invited to attend the meeting.

Enrique Escalon stated that training held in January 2025 indicated that closed meetings may be held when matters of a sensitive nature are discussed. He asked whether all prior closed meetings would need to be ratified.

Greg Stewart clarified that employment issues, while uncomfortable, are not an exception to Sunshine Law requirements. He emphasized that the only meeting under consideration at this time was the January 22 meeting.

Sarah Goldman clarified that the Executive Committee meeting was moved to the end of the day and was not a lunch meeting. She stated that the conversation was strictly about whether to renew the Executive Director's contract and that no derogatory comments about Valerie Breen were made.

Public Policy Committee Matter

Greg Stewart stated that representatives from Disability Rights Florida were returned to the Public Policy Committee.

Ratification of January 22, 2026 Meeting

A motion was made by Enrique Escalon to ratify the January 22, 2026 meeting. The motion was seconded by Eddie Hall. Dennis Hart abstained. The motion passed.

Proposal for Separation from Service

Greg Stewart and Ellen Leibowitz reviewed an email outlining a proposal for severance compensation related to the Executive Director's renewed employment contract. The estimated cost was approximately \$69,000.

Greg Stewart stated that the Executive Committee does not have the authority to approve such a proposal and that any recommendation must be made to the full Council. No questions were raised.

Ellen Leibowitz stated that Valerie Breen was currently in a position where she was being marginalized. She presented an alternate proposal, stating that Ms. Breen would either remain in her role or a decision would be made to pursue her departure. Ms. Leibowitz expressed concern that one individual appeared to be leading efforts to remove Ms. Breen. Attorney's fees totaling approximately \$3,000 to date were discussed should Ms. Breen remain employed, along with the possibility of additional compensation related to a future Executive Director search.

Dennis Hart stated that the Committee had not discussed retaining Valerie Breen under a new contract.

Statement by Valerie Breen

Valerie Breen described the events of January 22 as startling. She stated that she, Sarah Goldman, and Eddie Hall had decided to reinstate Caitlyn prior to the Council meeting and believed the issue had been resolved. She stated that the Council meeting concluded and was followed by a continuation during which her performance was discussed.

Ms. Breen stated that she contacted Greg Stewart regarding the Sunshine Law violation and was instructed to obtain her own legal counsel. She expressed concern regarding reputational risk, legal responsibility, and fiduciary obligations.

Ms. Breen stated that prior to the January 22 incident, the organization had strong staff, a new state plan, and a transition plan. She reported ongoing undermining behavior beginning in 2023 and an internal human resources complaint filed in 2024.

Greg Stewart shared a letter outlining proposed conditions.

Elly Hagen stated reasons why Valerie Breen should not leave and described the harm her departure would cause to the Council.

Dennis Hart stated that the discussion should not focus on Valerie Breen's resignation.

Sarah Goldman referenced federal funding requirements and performance considerations.

Allegations and Investigation Discussion

Enrique Escalon stated that he felt misrepresented and requested a full investigation of the Council. He stated that he held no animosity toward Valerie Breen and denied stating that she was a poor leader, though he acknowledged differences regarding management style that he had previously discussed with her.

Mr. Escalon denied accusations of plotting with others and stated that his questions were part of his duty of care as a Council member, not personal attacks. He characterized the accusations as unsubstantiated.

The Committee discussed allegations of discrimination and whether a forensic investigation should be conducted. Several members expressed concern that such an investigation would divert the organization from its mission.

Greg Stewart stated that a forensic audit should not be undertaken without specific allegations. He emphasized that any specific allegations against individual members should be taken seriously and investigated appropriately.

Hostile Work Environment Discussion

Dennis Hart asked whether concerns regarding hostile relationships applied equally to all parties.

Greg Stewart stated that hostile work environment complaints must be taken seriously and investigated when sufficiently substantiated. He noted that similar complaints reviewed in February 2025 were found to have no basis.

Ellen Leibowitz stated that a hostile work environment claim must be related to a protected class and that spending additional time and resources on such a matter would not be an appropriate use of funds. She characterized certain allegations as defamatory.

Motions and Decisions

A proposal not to rescind prior actions unless specific conditions were met was discussed.

Enrique Escalon stated that the compensation proposal appeared reasonable but that he would not resign.

Sarah Goldman stated that she disagreed with the proposal.

Valerie Breen stated that she would not continue working until the end of her term if Enrique Escalon remained.

Ellen Leibowitz stated that Valerie Breen felt pressured, undermined, and marginalized and that the meeting proceeded despite her warnings.

Dennis Hart stated that he did not want Valerie Breen to leave and recommended denying the proposal and revisiting the matter in two weeks.

Elly Hagen stated that she would resign if Valerie Breen left.

Dennis Hart expressed concern that unresolved issues within the Executive Committee were not fully understood.

Motion to Reject Buyout Proposal

A motion was made by Dennis Hart to reject Valerie Breen's buyout proposal until there was a better understanding of issues surrounding the Executive Committee. The motion was seconded by Enrique Escalon. The motion passed unanimously.

Additional Discussion

Dennis Hart stated that he still owns property in Florida and intends to move permanently at a later date.

The Committee discussed prior hostile work environment complaints, including a previous cost of approximately \$7,000 associated with an external consultant.

Ellen Leibowitz stated that changes were needed, including a greater sense of decorum and deference to Valerie Breen in her role as Executive Director, and that efforts should not be made to make her work environment intolerable.

Greg Stewart stated that an additional investigation was not necessary at this time.

The Committee briefly discussed bylaws governing Executive Committee procedures and next steps.

Valerie Breen stated that she loved working for the Council but expressed concern that failure to follow established rules undermines trust and creates risks to business opportunities. She stated that she could not continue under such practices for the health of the organization.

Closing Discussion and Next Steps

Eddie Hall and Enrique Escalon stated that they did not want Valerie Breen to leave before the end of her contract. Enrique Escalon offered to speak with her individually.

Eddie Hall stated that Yolanda Herrera had resigned from the Executive Committee but not from the Council due to internal disagreements that prevented meaningful contribution.

Arizona Jenkins emphasized the accomplishments achieved under Valerie Breen’s leadership and encouraged the Committee to move forward with the work already accomplished.

Sarah Goldman stated that next steps should be identified.

Greg Stewart stated that the minutes would be updated and that another Executive Committee meeting would be scheduled to further discuss the selection process.

Public Comment

None

The next meeting was tentatively scheduled for **March 2, 2026 at 6:30 p.m.**

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at **8:03 p.m.**

**Florida Developmental Disabilities Council
Executive Committee Meeting Summary
March 2 | 6:42 PM**

Executive Committee Members Present

- Eddie Hall
- Elly Hagen
- Dennis Hart

Others Present

- Sarah Goldman
- Enrique Escallon
- Valerie Breen
- Chris Reeve
- Greg Stewart
- Jamie Mayerson
- Jennifer Chung
- Kristen Conlin
- Danielle Towery
- Carla Mercer
- Jay Wagmeister
- Ellen Leibovitch
- Sue Kabot

Previous Minutes

Minutes from the February 23 meeting were not approved.

- Greg Stewart requested that approval be delayed, noting that he had not yet reviewed the minutes.

Approval of Agenda

Motion: Elly Hagen
Second: Dennis Hart

The agenda was approved.

Discussion

Executive Director Situation

Greg Stewart opened discussion regarding concerns about the organization's direction and the situation involving Executive Director.

Resignation and Counterproposal

Enrique Escallon submitted a resignation proposal and a counterproposal was discussed.

The proposal from Valerie Breen included:

- Unwillingness to remain in the role through September.
- Willingness to remain as Executive Director through May 31, 2026.
- Request that previous benefits be honored.
- Reference to a 20-week severance package outlined in the agenda materials.

Ellen Leibovitch noted that a proposal remained on the table.

Historical Background Referenced During Discussion

During discussion, several historical issues were referenced by Valerie Breen:

- January 2026 – Closed meeting attended by members who had participated in prior discussions.
- 2008 – Investigation conducted while Enrique Escallon served as Chair.
- 2009 – Complaint filed by Lisa Taylor; Enrique Escallon was involved in the investigation.
- Allegations of inaccurate information on a Council application.
- Concerns regarding reputational challenges over the past three years.
- Discussion regarding support for early termination.
- Recognition of the difficulty created when an individual involved in the issue continues to serve on the Council.
- January 23 – Investigation referenced during earlier Council activity.
- April–August 2023 – Leave period referenced.
- Allegations that the Council operated like a “kabal” or behind-the-scenes group were mentioned.
- The Executive Director contract had been renegotiated for a three-year term.
- A second complaint was filed with HR, resulting in a full investigation.
- Council Appointments and Governance Activity
- December 2023: Fourteen Council appointments were made.
- January 2024: First meeting of the newly structured Executive Committee
- Additional Complaints Referenced
- July 2024: Complaint involving Enrique Escallon and staff.
- September 2024: Closed meeting held without staff present. Staff letter submitted outlining concerns.
- January 2025: Sunshine Law training conducted. Council bylaws reviewed.

Recommendation by Dennis Hart

Dennis Hart recommended:

- Voluntary termination of the Executive Director without cause, effective May 31, 2026.

The recommendation included:

- Payment of a severance package.
- Estimated severance amount: \$69,952.02.

It was noted that any final decision would need to be approved by the full Council.

Valerie Breen stated that:

- She does not wish to remain in the position indefinitely.
- She does not want to leave the Council in a difficult situation.
- Severance of approximately \$69,000 would apply if termination occurred without cause.

Severance Discussion and Vote

A vote was taken.

Vote Results

- Dennis Hart — Yes
- Elly Hagen — Yes
- Eddie Hall — No

Motion passed 2–1.

Request to Bring Matter to Full Council

Elly Hagen asked whether the issue could be brought to a meeting of the full Council to expedite consideration.

Next Steps

- Motion to present the matter to the full Council.
- Kristen Conlin will coordinate scheduling.

The next in person Council meeting is scheduled for May 20–22.

Greg Stewart emphasized the need to ensure all Council members are fully informed about the situation.

Valerie Breen indicated she will prepare background materials for Council members.

Executive Committee Structure

Discussion was held regarding future Executive Committee leadership.

Key points:

- The Vice President nomination will come through the Nominating Committee.
- Election will occur by vote of the full Council.

Valerie Breen noted:

- Florida law does not require an Executive Committee.
- However, the Council must maintain officer positions.

Additional governance notes:

- Eddie Hall may appoint a replacement for Yolanda's vacant seat.
- Dennis Hart indicated he will need to resign at some point.

Officer Elections

Greg Stewart raised the need for nominations for:

- Vice President
- Treasurer

Dennis Hart suggested elections occur by the end of March.

Valerie Breen stated that consent-to-serve forms will be distributed to Council members.

Sue Kabot will circulate preliminary consent-to-serve forms.

Upcoming Council Position

- Eddie Hall's term expires in September.
- Four Council positions will become available.

Sue Kabot suggested holding a meeting to determine who will assume leadership roles.

Valerie Breen will speak individually with Council members regarding potential roles.

Scheduling

The Council meeting previously planned by Valerie Breen may be delayed until early April.

Meeting Format Discussion

Greg Stewart stated he would prefer another individual serve as a buffer in communications.

Sue Kabot asked whether the meeting could be conducted via Zoom.

A question was raised regarding whether 40% of participants must be physically present.

Greg Stewart will review the requirements.

Staff Coordination

- Kristin Conlin - Coordinate dates for a full Council meeting to review the separation proposal.

Executive Director Search

A motion was made to table the search for a new Executive Director until the Executive Committee structure is resolved.

Motion: Elly Hagen
Second: Dennis Hart

Motion passed.

Public Comment

Enrique Escallon requested that:

- All documentation referencing him be copied to him.

It was noted that meeting recordings will be retained.

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 7:30 PM.

Motion to Adjourn: Elly Hagen
Second: Dennis Hart

**Florida Developmental Disabilities Council, Inc.
Executive Committee
Wednesday, April 22, 2026**

Wednesday, April 22, 2026- Executive Committee Meeting

Council Members Present: Eddie Hall; Dennis Hart, Arizona Jenkins; Elly Hagen; Caitlyn Clibbon (DRF); Cherie Hall (DRF); Tina Cordova; Sarah Goldman; Charlotte Temple; Enrique Escallon; Kali Wilson; Michael Sayih; Lauren Modawell; Danielle McGill; Carla Mercer; Yolanda Herrera; Jean Sherman (UCEDD)

Council Members Absent: Victoria Zepp; Tracie Hardin (AHCA); Robert Asztalos (APD); Leah Compagnone-Bolt (VR); Patricia Bodiford (DOE); Kira Houge (Elder Affairs); Anna Simmons (DOH)

Staff Present: Sue Kabot; Merle Barrett; Chris Reeve; Jennifer Chung; Monica Moye; Kristen Conlin; Jamie Mayersohn

Guests: Jim DeBeaugrine (FDDC Board Advisor); Personal care staff; Kerry Parsons (Nabors, Giblin & Nickerson Attorney); Alejandro Murcia (AV for Hotel) Alex M (AV for Hotel)

The meeting was called to order by Eddie Hall at 1:04 p.m. Roll call was taken for the Executive Committee and quorum was established.

Committee Meeting

I. Executive Committee

Adoption of Agenda

Elly Hagen made a motion to adopt the agenda as presented; Dennis Hart seconded. All members voted in favor; none abstained. The motion carried and the agenda was adopted.

Discussion: Request from Elly Hagen

Kerry Parsons provided an overview of the bylaws, including procedures for removal of a Council Member.

Elly Hagen raised concerns about and asked for additional information regarding an unnoted meeting that occurred following the January 2026 Council meeting, where discussions about Valerie's contract took place and where Enrique Escallon addressed Valerie's leadership numerous times.

Dennis Hart stated he was unable to attend the January 2026 Council meeting and expressed concern about decisions made during an unnoted session. He suggested notifying the Governor's Office regarding the removal of Enrique Escallon from the Council.

Elly Hagen noted she was also absent from the January 2026 Council meeting and did not have opportunity to participate.

Eddie Hall, Chair, opened the meeting up to Enrique to ask any questions.

Enrique mentioned that Dennis had already resigned according to the email he submitted. Dennis stated that there was no date on the letter submitted, and that it was more of a notice that he would be resigning after he moved.

Enrique Escallon addressed prior concerns, including clarification that past audits involving him were conducted in response to complaints made by other employees, including the CFO at the time. He expressed concerns about the timing of these issues being raised and the lack of opportunity for him to respond. He emphasized the potential legal, financial, and reputational impacts on the Council and stated that additional investigation into the complaints should have been conducted. Enrique referenced an alleged statement made by Valerie during the January meeting that he was in her "crosshairs," suggesting that misunderstandings may have been influenced by language. He further alleged that Valerie made threats, stating that he has recordings to support this claim, and requested copies of all prior meeting recordings. Enrique asserted that the January meeting was a continuation of the Council meeting rather than a new meeting, noted that the Executive Committee meeting had been postponed until after lunch, and stated he would be open to further discussion regarding the January meeting. He also remarked that staff have been dismissed in the past when legal matters were discussed and expressed that he has served on the Council for many years without personal benefit.

Dennis Hart questioned whether the January meeting was a continuation or a separate unnoted meeting but had no additional questions for Enrique

Caitlyn Clibbon stated that she believed the January session constituted a new meeting rather than a continuation. She explained that the discussion began around a letter she had submitted, which she felt had already been addressed, and then shifted into a discussion regarding whether to being a search for a new Executive Director. She noted that Eddie Hall asked her to take notes during the session and that she had not received any direction from Valerie indicating that the meeting should not take place.

Kali Wilson stated her perspective was the same as Caitlyn Clibbon's, that this was a new meeting. Kali also stated she felt that it was not appropriate to have this conversation since most of the Executive committee were not present, but Enrique did keep pushing to keep the meeting going.

Yolanda Herrera was still part of the Executive committee at the time and concurs with Caitlyn on her statement.

Dennis Hart asked when it was decided to have the additional meeting and who requested the additional meeting.

Eddie advised that he shared the information regarding the letter from Caitlyn Clibbon with Enrique and it was Enrique who asked to have the meeting.

Sarah Goldman stated that the issue raised in the letter from Caitlyn had already been resolved and that there was no need for an official meeting. Sarah further noted that once the discussion began, no one intervened to stop it and that all those present share responsibility for allowing it to continue.

Dennis Hart proposed either notifying the Governor's Office or involving the Attorney General. Kerry Parson, Attorney, advised that involving the Attorney General would not resolve the governance issue and is not outlined by the by-laws. Elly Hagen suggested that staff draft a letter for review to be shared with Enrique for any objections. Kerry clarified that, per the bylaws, the letter must be drafted and provided to Enrique within 15 business days.

Action Taken: Dennis Hart then made a motion to move forward with drafting a letter of dismissal for Enrique Escallon; Elly Hagen seconded. A vote was taken, with all members in favor except for Eddie Hall who opposed. The motion carried.

It was decided that the letter would be drafted by Monica Moye with assistance from Kerry Parsons. Once completed, it will be provided to Enrique Escallon for review and any objections and then forwarded to the Full Council.

Enrique Escallon requested access to all recordings of prior meetings. He also reiterates that the January council meeting was, in his view, a continuation of the existing meeting rather than a newly called session.

Eddie Hall notified that Council that Jim DeBeaugrine has been engaged as Special Board Advisor at the rate of \$1000 per month for a six-month period to assist during Valerie Breen's absence.

Yolanda Herrera expressed appreciation for Jim's presence in Valerie's absence, noting that it would help ensure meetings are conducted properly. She also requested access to past meeting recordings, emphasized the importance of clear communication, and suggested the bylaws address communication expectations. Eddie Hall responded that Jim will be reviewing the bylaws.

Sarah asked if Jim would still be staying on as the legislative advisor, Eddie advised he would be in both legislative and board advisor rolls.

Caitlyn asked what the proper way is to get an agenda item added for the next meeting.

Tina Cordova mentioned providing the minutes to individuals who cannot attend meetings so they can be informed.

Since, there is open position for Treasurer and it is currently by Dennis, he will offer his official resignation as of now.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:04 p.m.

DRAFT

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Florida
Developmental
Disabilities
Council, Inc.

Legislative Briefing

March 30, 2026



The following is a list of bills that the Council recommended to the 2026 Legislature during its regular session which ended on March 13. These bills will eventually be presented to the Governor. For each bill, he will have the option to sign the bill into law, veto the bill, or allow the bill to become law without his signature by not taking action on the bill within the 15-day time limit established by the Constitution.

For bills that did not pass, we have provided a brief summary of how far the bill progressed in the process. This will give the reader an idea of bills that generated some momentum vs those that had no chance of passage. In a few instances, the substance of a bill that did not pass was added as an amendment to another bill that did pass. We have indicated where this occurred.

HB 915 by Tant (SB 1016 by Bradley) codifies the Working People with Disabilities program which was established by proviso language in the 2019-20 General Appropriations Act. The program allows people with a developmental disability to earn up to 550% of the Supplemental Security Income Federal



Passed

Benefit Rate (\$994 per month for 2026) and maintain cash assets of \$13,000 and still retain eligibility for Medicaid.



Passed

for graduation.

HB 453 by Gossett-Seidman (SB 556 by Berman) allows participation in Special Olympics to substitute for the physical education credit required for graduation. The bill also allows participation in marching band for 2 years to substitute for both the physical education and performing arts requirements



Passed

with individuals with autism be included in the curriculum required for law enforcement officers to obtain certification.

SB 418 by Jones (HB 365 by Valez) creates the Blue Envelope Program for individuals with autism that provides a blue envelope and/or blue card that alerts law enforcement that the individual has autism and includes communication guidelines. The bill also requires that training on interacting



Passed

the CARD Centers at the University of Florida, Florida Atlantic University, the University of South Florida, and at the Florida State University.

HB 1405 by Duggan (SB 1570 by Gaetz) Revives the Project Leo program administered by the CARD centers which expired in 2019. The program provides tracking devices to individuals who are at risk of elopement. The bill provides non-recurring appropriations of \$250,000 each to



Passed

administrators on supporting students with autism.

HB 851 by Long (SB 206 by Harrell) relates to professional training for instructional personnel who teach students with autism spectrum disorders. The Legislature passed a significantly toned-down version of the bill that requires at least one training opportunity for instructional personnel and



Failed

HB 109 by Lopez/SB 662 by Bernard which would have prohibited the use of corporal punishment on public school students by school district staff. Neither bill was heard in a committee.



Failed

version did not receive a hearing.

FHB 517 by Tramont/SB 152 by Harrell would have required that managed care plans pay at least agency rates for dental care and established minimum standards for certain types of specialty care such as sedation and anesthesia. The House passed its version to the Senate where it died in the Senate Rules Committee. The Senate

HB 411 by Maggard/SB 1652 by Burgess would have updated the definition of Autism to match the current definition in the Diagnostic and Statistical



Failed

Manual. The House bill was amended in its first committee to remove the language related to the definition of Autism but it died in its second committee. The Senate version was not heard in a committee.



Failed

SB 72 by Harrell/HB 615 by Tendrich would have established deadlines for Individual Education Plan (IEP) development, would have required parental notification if IEP services were missed, would have required that parents were allowed to review service logs and other information in the IEP within 15 days of the request, and required IEP orientation. The House passed its version of the bill. The Senate version was not heard in a committee. ***The parental notification requirements and parental access to IEP provisions were included in the final version of HB 1279 by Kincart-Jonsson which passed the Legislature.***



Failed

HB 487 by Eskamani/SB 586 by Smith would have required original equipment manufacturers to provide owners and independent repair providers with the necessary documentation, software, parts, and tools to repair mobility devices. The House version passed all committees but was never considered by the full House. The Senate version was not heard in a committee.



Failed

HB 859 by Chambliss and Tramont/SB 1170 by Calatayud would have required video cameras in self-contained exceptional education classrooms. The House passed its version of the bill and it died in the Senate. The Senate version was passed out of a single committee but was not heard in any of its subsequent committees.



Failed

SB 1088 by Jones/HB 1099 by Aristide would have restricted a guardian's ability to limit a ward's contact and required identification of people entitled to notification in certain situations. Neither version of the bill was heard in a committee.



Failed

HB 1507 by Harris/SB 1640 by Smith would have established a Medicaid dental care pilot program for individuals with disabilities in Region B. Neither version of the bill was heard in a committee.



Failed

HB 6003 by Trabulsky/SB 1700 by Grall would have removed the civil law barrier that prevents adult children and certain parents from recovering damages or medical negligence resulting in death. The House passed its

version of the bill which died in the Senate. The Senate version was not heard in a committee.



HB 423 by Eskamani and Tramont/SB 494 by Arrington would have required school districts to establish SAFE Teams that respond to instances of elopement and required plans to deal with student elopements. The House passed its version of the bill which died in the Senate. The Senate version was not heard in a committee.



HB 531 by Barnaby and Basabe/SB 568 by Harrell would have prohibited Medicaid managed care plans from reexamining certain prior authorization claims for medical necessity and ensured coverage for durable medical equipment and complex rehabilitation technology from providers of the enrollee's choosing within the network.

Neither version was heard in a committee.



HB 533 by Woodson/SB 562 by Garcia would have ensured that individuals with disabilities would be able to communicate in their preferred manner. Neither version was heard in a committee.



SB 468 by Bradley/HB 1261 by Oliver would have created a definition of pediatric continuing care integrated communities in Medicaid and would have established minimum requirements for managed care plans to reimburse private duty nursing. Neither version was heard in a committee.



HB 935 by Skidmore/SB 1026 by Rodriguez would have authorized Medicaid coverage for community health workers. Neither version was heard in a committee.



HB 969 by Tant/SB 1046 by Calatayud would have required the development and distribution of informational materials for detecting developmental delays and autism spectrum disorders in young students. Neither version was heard in a committee.



HB 1091 by Skidmore/SB 1136 by Calatayud would have authorized school districts to establish non-invasive dental screening services after notifying parents and providing the ability for parents to opt out. Both House and Senate versions were heard in their first committees but stalled thereafter.



HB 1091 by Skidmore/SB 1136 by Calatayud would have authorized school districts to establish non-invasive dental screening services after notifying parents and providing the ability for parents to opt out. Both House and Senate versions were heard in their first committees but stalled thereafter.



SB 1110 by Truenow/HB 1301 by F. Robinson would have expanded coverage for orthotic and prosthetic services for certain Medicaid and other insured recipients. The Senate passed its version of the bill which died in the House. The House version was not heard in a committee.



HB 1133 by Tendrich/SB 1302 by Rouson would have established new standards for pediatric behavioral and mental health screening. Neither version was heard in a committee.



SB 1330 by Rodriguez/no House companion would have established a Disability Awareness and Inclusion Education Program in K-12 schools. The bill was not heard in committee.



SB 1408 by Smith/HB 1433 by Harris would have established a Medicaid buy-in program for individuals with disabilities that are employed that would allow them to exceed minimum income thresholds and maintain Medicaid coverage. Neither version of the bill was heard in a committee. ***HB 915 which allows individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities who work to earn up to 550% of the Medicaid income limit passed and will be presented to the Governor.***

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Florida Developmental Disabilities Council, Inc.

Full Council
Thursday 5/21/2026 & Friday 5/22/2026

Our Mission

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

Thursday May 21st

11:30 a.m.	Call to Order/Roll Call	<i>Eddie Hall, Chair</i>
11:35 a.m.	Adoption of the Agenda **	<i>Eddie Hall, Chair</i>
11:40 a.m.	(A) Approval of the 01/2026 Minutes ** (B) Approval of the 04/2026 Minutes **	<i>Eddie Hall, Chair</i>
11:40 a.m.-11:55 a.m.	Chair/Vice Chair Report	<i>Eddie Hall, Chair</i>
11:55 a.m.-12:30 p.m.	Working Lunch	
12:30 p.m.-2:00 p.m.	Member Hearing	<i>Eddie Hall, Chair Nabors Giblin</i>
2:00 p.m.-2:15 p.m.	Break	
2:15 p.m.-3:00 p.m.	Aging Summit Discussion & Next Steps	<i>Jennifer Chung Program Director</i>
3:00 p.m.-4:15 p.m.	Project Presentation- Access to Services	<i>Diane Beaver Mathematica, Inc.</i>
4:15 p.m.	Any New Business Public Comment	<i>Eddie Hall, Chair</i>
4:20 p.m.	Meeting Adjourned	<i>Eddie Hall, Chair</i>

Friday May 22nd

8:30 a.m.	Introductions/Roll Call	<i>Eddie Hall, Chair</i>
8:35 a.m.-9:15 a.m.	Update on 5-Year Plan and Procurement	<i>Susan Kabot, Chief Monica Moye, Chief</i>
9:15 a.m.-9:30 a.m.	Tour of the Redesigned FDDC website	<i>Jamie Mayersohn Program Director</i>
9:30 a.m.-10:15 a.m.	Standing Committee Recommendations for Council	<i>Eddie Hall, Chair</i>

Discussion and Vote*

State Plan

Finance

Executive

Jean Sherman, Chair

Carla Mercer, Chair

Eddie Hall, Chair

10:15 a.m.-10:45 a.m.

Break to Check Out of the Hotel

10:45 a.m.- 11:30 a.m.

Legislative Outcomes Report

Jim DeBeaugrine

Legislative Consultant

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

DD Day 2026 Outcomes Report

Kim Countryman

Consultant -Coordinator

12:00 p.m.

Working Lunch

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

State Agency/Sister Agency Reports

Eddie Hall, Chair

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, Children's Medical Services

University of Miami- Mailman Center

University of South Florida- Florida Center for Inclusive Communities

Disability Rights Florida

1:00 p.m.- 1:10 p.m.

Public Comment

Eddie Hall, Chair

1:10 p.m.

Next Council Meeting

Eddie Hall, Chair

1:10 p.m.

Meeting Adjourned

Eddie Hall, Chair

Council Reminder: The September meeting will be September 17th and 18th at the Florida Hotel and Conference Center.

Florida Developmental Disabilities Council, Inc.
Full Council Meeting Minutes
January 22-23, 2026

Thursday, January 22, 2026

Council Members Present: Enrique Escallon; Sarah Goldman; Eddie Hall; Yolanda Herrera; Danielle McGill; Carla Mercer; Lauren Modawell; Michael Sayih; Charlotte Temple; Kali Wilson; Arizona Jenkins; Robert Asztalos (APD); Leah Compagnone-Bolt (VR); Jennifer Zarcone (FCIC); Caitlyn Clibbon (DRF); Tracie Hardin (AHCA)

Council Members Absent: Denise Anderson; Christina Cordova; Elly Hagen; Dennis Hart; Victoria Zepp; Anna Simmons (DOH); Kira Houge (Elder Affairs); Jean Sherman (UCEDD); Patricia Bodiford (DOE)

Staff Present: Valerie Breen; Susan Kabot; Monica Moye; Chris Reeve; Jennifer Chung; Kristen Conlin; Jamie Mayersohn

Guests: Jim DeBeaugrine (FDDC Legislative Advisor); Personal care staff

The meeting was called to order by Eddie Hall at 9:09 a.m. Roll call was taken and quorum was established.

Committee Meetings

I. Public Policy Committee

Adoption of Agenda

Charlotte Temple made a motion to adopt the agenda as presented; Yolanda Herrera seconded. All members voted in favor; none abstained. The motion carried and the agenda was adopted.

Approval of Minutes

Charlotte Temple made a motion to adopt the December 10, 2025, minutes; Carla Mercer seconded. All members voted in favor; none abstained. The motion carried and the December 2025 minutes were adopted.

2026 Legislative Report

Executive Director Breen advised that since September, she has met with several legislators and provided them with clarification on what the Council is, and that we are in Federal and State statute. Breen is trying to schedule as many legislators as possible to attend our DD Day lunch at the Capitol.

Jim DeBeaugrine advised that we are part of three branches in the Developmental Disabilities Bill of Rights Act (federal law). There are the University Centers of Excellence and the Protection and Advocacy Centers (Disability Rights), and the Council is the resource for policy. He also advised that there are 61 bills proposed regarding disabilities, but we are actively following 37 of them.

Sarah advised that today we will be focusing on the 10 starred bills within the supplemental materials packet.

Bill prioritization

Lauren Modawell made a motion to adopt the presented Bill prioritization, with the following moved to active support, HB 109, SB 0152, HB 0411; Enrique Escallon seconded. All members voted in favor; none abstained. The motion carried and the Bill prioritization was adopted.

Active Support Bills

**HB 0915/SB 1016- Medical Assistance Eligibility for Working Persons with Disabilities
Creates a new program allowing certain working individuals with disabilities to maintain Medicaid eligibility while earning additional income.**

Charlotte Temple made a motion to adopt HB 0915/SB 1016; Lauren Modawell seconded. All members voted in favor; none abstained. The motion carried and support for the bill was adopted.

During the discussions, Danielle McGill asked if this includes members who are on the waitlist for the waiver, and Jim advised that it is for those individuals who are currently enrolled in the waiver or the managed care pilot. Charlotte advised that it has been used for individuals who have been on the waitlist. Caitlyn advised that Disability Rights Florida has submitted a public records request, but that has been open for a year.

**HB 0453/SB 0556- Requirements for Standard High School Diploma
Expand the ways students can satisfy physical education and performing arts requirements for a standard high school diploma. Allow completion of 2 years of marching band to fulfill both the physical education and performing arts requirements instead of just one or the other. Permits students with disabilities to participate in the Special Olympics as a substitute for the physical education requirement.**

Charlotte Temple made a motion to adopt HB 0453/SB 0556; Caitlyn Clibbon seconded. All members voted in favor; none abstained. The motion carried and support for the bill was adopted.

Passive Support

****SB 0072/HB0615- Individual Education Plans
Requires timely evaluations, IEP meetings, and enhanced parent engagement for students receiving exceptional student education services.**

Lauren Modawell made a motion to adopt SB 0072/HB 0615; Carla Mercer seconded. All members voted in favor; none abstained. The motion carried and support for the bill was adopted.

****HB 0109/SB 0662- Corporal Punishment**

Prohibits school district employees for using corporal punishment on public school students.

Arizona Jenkins made a motion to adopt HB 0109/SB 0662 and move this Bill to active support; Carla Mercer seconded; none abstained. The motion carried and support for the bill was adopted and moved to active support.

During discussions, Arizona felt that schools should not be allowed to punish students and that should be handled at home. Caitlyn Clibbon asked if we were trying to eliminate bills from moving to active support, and Sarah advised that everyone should look at the icons sheet provided in the supplemental materials folder that gives the definitions of active and passive support. Caitlyn also advised that this should have been done long ago.

****SB 0152/HB 0517- Medicaid Provider Networks**

Requires Medicaid managed care plans to negotiate and pay dentists at or above agency rates while strengthening provider network requirements for dental services.

Caitlyn Clibbon made a motion to adopt SB 0152/HB 0517 and move to active support; Yolanda Herrera seconded; none abstained. The motion carried and support for the bill was adopted and moved to active support.

During discussions, Caitlyn made some points regarding dental services being important and a big issue that she sees at Disability Rights Florida (DRF). She feels that this bill would be best served in active support.

****HB 0411/SB 1652- Terminology Associated with Autism**

Updates the definition of autism to align with the most recent edition of the DSM and rename it to include autism spectrum disorder.

Caitlyn Clibbon made a motion to adopt HB 0411/SB 1652 and move the bill to active support; Yolanda Herrera seconded; none abstained. The motion carried and support for the bill was adopted and moved to active support.

During discussions there was dialogue back and forth about the bill. Robert Asztalos (APD) advised that the way the bill is written opens the eligible list up, and he advised that they are trying to keep the definition in but add more clarification about APD services, because it could create a conflict.

Danielle McGill asked if the Council could help APD with this bill, and Valerie Breen advised that if we are asked, we would provide assistance.

Valerie advised that if we are moving to the active category and supporting this bill, it does not mean we are working on the bill. Jim advised that we would work with all the parties involved to come up with acceptable language.

Going forward through the meeting votes did not occur on each bill and were adopted fully at the end.

****HB 0487/SB 0586- Repair of Mobility Devices**

Requires original equipment manufacturers to provide owners and independent repair providers with the necessary documentation, software, parts, and tools to repair mobility devices.

****HB 0859/SB 1170- Exceptional Students and Video Cameras in Public Schools**

Expand the use of video cameras and audio in self-contained classrooms upon a parent's request to ensure greater transparency and monitoring of special education services.

****SB 1088/HB 1099- Guardianship**

Prohibit guardians from restricting adult wards' contact except under certain circumstances and require notices regarding changes in residential settings and persons entitled to receive information and visits.

****HB 1405/SB 1570- Statewide Project for Missing Person with Special Needs**

Revives, readopts, and amends the missing persons with special needs statewide project to expand the distribution of personal devices for search-and-rescue efforts through multiple centers for autism and related disabilities.

****HB 1507/SB 1640- Medicaid Dental Pilot Program**

Establishes a 3-year Medicaid dental pilot program for persons with disabilities in Region B.

Danielle McGill asked what Region B was. There was discussion about it, and it was decided that it was the Jacksonville area, and it is based on the Agency for Healthcare Administration (AHCA) regions.

****HB 6003/SB 1700- Recovery of Damages for Medical Negligence Resulting in Death**

Removes the statutory bar preventing adult children and parents of an adult child from recovering damages in medical negligence wrongful death cases.

Jim advised that this bill has already passed through the House and it is not necessarily a disability bill, but there seems to be a lot of individuals who have disabilities who are impacted by this type of bill. It was passed and got vetoed by the Governor.

Valerie advised that the bills that are passive are being watched by the Council, and the ones that are active are going to be reported on. The passive bills will still receive reports but not as frequently.

Caitlyn suggested prioritizing the bills to change the definition of #4 because working at DRF, she receives a lot of calls regarding eligibility. The new bill changes the APD criteria to the current clinical criteria from DMS-IV to DMS-5; currently individuals must prove their eligibility. It is a real barrier because they are not familiar with the APD standards and the clients are getting their evaluations from psychologists and they are using DSM-5 criteria so there is a mismatch. She feels that if everything is aligned, it would be less stressful for the individuals applying for services.

Arizona asked questions regarding Disability Parking, Sarah asked if we should monitor this bill. Caitlyn will look up the bill number and provide it to the council.

Eddie asked for clarification on the definitions regarding active vs passive support regarding the bills.

Active- High priority legislation that aligns with the Council's public policy agenda.

For these bills, Council's leadership actively works with bill sponsors, committee staff and other legislators through one-on-one meetings and provides testimony to committees, as requested.

Passive- Legislation that is aligned with the Council public policy agenda.

For these bills, Council's leadership offers public support such as letters, visible support during committee hearings, and website listings without engaging in active support.

Eddie asked if we as a member were to go out and meet with our legislator and were supporting a bill that is not active but is passive for the FDDC, but he feels passionate about, and would that be allowed. Sarah advised that it would be fine to do that and feels that it is a passive move, and she advised that we want to do more grassroots advocacy.

Our Voice Matters is still the FDDC's main legislative platform

Danielle McGill and Enrique Escallon brought up the issue of federal legislation that would impact people with I/DD, especially medical insurance and the role of the FDDC in addressing them.

II. State Plan Committee

Adoption of Agenda

Sarah Goldman made a motion to adopt the agenda as presented; Carla Mercer seconded. All members voted in favor; none abstained. The motion carried and the agenda was adopted.

Approval of Minutes

Carla Mercer made a motion to adopt the December 10, 2025, minutes; Yolanda Herrera seconded. All members voted in favor; none abstained. The motion carried and the December 2025 minutes were adopted.

Sue Kabot, Chief of Programs and Research, advised that she provided a copy of the public comment presentation provided at the State Plan Committee meeting on December 10, 2025 with the Council meeting materials.

Approval for Procurement for PIP and Fellows

There was no formal vote in approval for Procurement for PIP and Fellows.

Sue advised that staff met on Tuesday, January 21, 2026, to discuss PIP, PIP Plus, and Fellows. As staff, we made the decision on how we would handle these contracts moving forward since both PIP and Fellows contracts end of August. It was decided that we would complete amendments to extend our current PIP and Fellows contracts through the end of September to coincide with all the other contracts and our fiscal year. For the alternate PIP class (PIP plus) it was decided that staff; Jennifer Chung, Director of Programs, and Chris Reeve, Director of Programs, would run the pilot, and would accept individuals with moderate disabilities. The reason for this is there are a lot of unknowns with the pilot such as needing easy-read applications, hands-on activities, types of support, and what kind of support is needed.

Yolanda asked about the PIP Plus project and asked if there was an opportunity to make changes and referenced Robert Morgan. Danielle advised that they utilize the next Self-Advocacy Leadership Task Force Meeting to discuss this.

Arizona mentioned that financial support might be an issue as well as reimbursement rates, and Lauren mentioned AAC devices for those who cannot speak. Enrique, following up on Yolanda's comment, learned about the Robert Morgan program. Even though it's been continued without FDDC funding, it has not been met the need for those with the most significant disabilities.

Regarding the PIP Alumni, it would remain under Stacey Hoaglund, but we may want to provide a year's worth of activities in advance so she is aware and can plan.

III. Finance Committee

Adoption of Agenda

Enrique Escallon made a motion to adopt the agenda as presented; Kali Wilson seconded. All members voted in favor; none abstained. The motion carried and the agenda was adopted.

Adoption of Financials

Ben Moon from Thomas Howell Ferguson (outsourced CFO) presented the first quarter's accrual-based financial reports. Following the financial presentation, Enrique Escallon inquired about including a year-by-year financial review of the annual budgets. Moon explained that the financial reports are now on an accrual basis. As the fiscal years progress, side-by-side annual budget information will be available.

Escallon also inquired about the status of the updated FDDC Accounting Manual. Monica Moyer, Chief of Operations and Finance, shared that the FDDC Accounting Manual is in draft and will be updated going into the audit and will be presented to the Finance Committee for review and approval.

Enrique Escallon made a motion to adopt the Budget vs Actual and Profit and Loss, by class as presented by Ben Moon from Thomas Howell Ferguson; Charlotte Temple seconded. All members voted in favor; none abstained. The motion carried and the Budget vs. Actual and Profit and Loss, by class were adopted, and moved to Full Council Recommendation.

Update: FDDC 2026 Financial Status

Monica Moyer provided an update advising that all reporting has been filed for the year. We also received the first notice of award for 2026 on December 12th. The audit is scheduled for mid-March, and it will be conducted by Law Redd again.

Presentation provided by Special Olympics

Full Council Meeting- January 22, 2026

Chair Hall called the meeting to order at 2:00 p.m., roll call was taken and quorum was established. *It was noted that Robert Aztalos (APD) had to leave due to another engagement.*

I. Adoption of Agenda

Arizona Jenkins made a motion to adopt the agenda as presented; Kali Wilson seconded. All members voted in favor; none abstained. The motion carried and the agenda was adopted.

II. Adoption of Minutes

Caitlyn Clibbon made a motion to adopt the September 2025 minutes; Enrique Escallon seconded. All members voted in favor; none abstained. The motion carried and the September 2025 minutes were adopted.

III. Chair/Vice-Chair Report

Chair Hall has been following our politics to understand what our country is trying to accomplish just to stay on top of things. He mentioned that the Council should also be working with other groups and he is looking forward to DD Day at the Capitol to see our partners.

Vice Chair, Escallon, wanted to follow up on any legislative agendas on the federal level that would potentially impact the Council. Mentioning some of our biggest challenges are with IEPs and are on the educational level, but how can we get our concerns addressed when no one from that agency attends the meetings.

IV. Executive Director Report

Breen reported that ACL is being transitioned into the Department of Children and Families and they are also downsizing. But we are the only Council that can pull down our dollars directly from the Treasury. This allows us to have continuous payments/cash flow as funds are released.

State commitments- since 1996 when we became a non-profit organization, there was no tie in to us being a state agency. Before that, we were part of DCF as a state agency.

Statewide evaluation of pilot program- We were asked to give input into the program by AHCA to provide our thoughts and opinions.

Transportation- working with our state agencies to secure money for the pilot programs over the years.

Quality measures/competencies for support coordination/care coordination, settings- there has never been a study prior on the quality of support coordinators for IDD. For the last few years, we have worked with Mathematica, and Representative Tant is working on a bill now to encompass this.

Defining our Value, In the Past, In the Present.

Some of the items that have been found while downsizing our physical office represent activities that we are covering today but in a more expanded updated form.

Part 1 was asking to hire Jim DeBeaugrine, and he discussed the historic movement in Florida to create APD. Part 2, We had to initiate was a new State Plan (2022-2026) and complete public input on new 5 year plan (2027-2031). We will submit the new state plan to the federal govt in August for approval. Our Voices Matter: Preserve our Choice is the theme for our 2026 legislative platform.

- DD Day- we are hosting the event with other vendors, and we want to make sure that everyone is well educated on their choices as well as the legislators.
- We went serverless, we went paperless, changed phone system, and changed our Tallahassee headquarters.
- Federal annual programmatic and fiscal report is completed and submitted prior to December 31, 2025, deadline.
- Onboarded part-time Executive Administrator.
- Hired an external event coordinator for DD Day.

Starting our 2nd quarter

- Legislative session- Discussed Council members having a relationship with their legislator.
- Legislative Briefs- This used to be called Capitol Updates, and it was rebranded so everyone can be briefed on what we are tracking.
- Collecting stories and partners- We have always talked about people's stories and this year we have stories about Our Voices Matter.
- DD Day- The objective this year is to get the legislators to come down and meet with individuals at lunch.

V. **State and Sister Agency Reports**

Reports were provided by the following agencies:

- Valerie Breen provided the report from Agency for Persons with Disabilities for Robert Asztalos.
- Tracie Hardin provided the report from Agency for Healthcare Administration.
- Jennifer Zarcone provided the report from University of South Florida- Florida Center for Inclusive Communities.
- Caitlyn Clibbon provided the report from Disability Rights Florida.
- Leah Compagnone-Bolt provided the report from Division of Vocational Rehabilitation

VI. **Executive Committee**

The Executive Committee did not formally meet due to the sake of time. However, they instead chose to move their recommendation for approval of the amended bylaws to the Full Council since all Council members were already present at the meeting.

Enrique discussed the various changes to the amended bylaws and went on to state that the major change was to add a secretary position and eliminate one of the Appointed at-large positions. The bylaws were provided as part of the supplemental materials packet that show the track changes.

Page 2 references the changes in the items

Page 4 references adding the Secretary

Page 5 defines the duties of the position and what we would vote on.

Bylaw Amendments

Enrique Escallon made a motion to adopt the Bylaw amendments as presented; Charlotte Temple seconded. All members voted in favor; none abstained. The motion carried and the Bylaw amendment was adopted.

VII. Public Comment

Hall asked if there was any public comment from the floor. None was offered.

Hall adjourned the meeting at 3:40 p.m.

Full Council Meeting- Friday, January 23, 2026

Council Members Present: Enrique Escallon; Sarah Goldman; Eddie Hall; Yolanda Herrera; Danielle McGill; Carla Mercer; Lauren Modawell; Michael Sayih; Charlotte Temple; Kali Wilson; Arizona Jenkins; Leah Compagnone-Bolt (VR); Jennifer Zarcone (FCIC); Caitlyn Clibbon (DRF); Tracie Hardin (AHCA)

Council Members Absent: Denise Anderson; Christina Cordova; Elly Hagen; Dennis Hart; Victoria Zepp; Anna Simmons (DOH); Kira Houge (Elder Affairs); Jean Sherman (UCEDD); Patricia Bodiford (DOE); Robert Asztalos (APD)

Staff Present: Valerie Breen; Susan Kabot; Monica Moye; Chris Reeve; Jennifer Chung; Kristen Conlin; Jamie Mayersohn

Guests Present: Jim DeBeaugrine (FDDC Legislative Advisor); Personal care staff

Hall called the meeting to order at 9: 01 a.m., roll call was taken and quorum was established.

I. Committee Recommendations for Full Council Discussion/Adoption

Public Policy Committee

The Public Policy Committee met yesterday to review 11 bills proposed for consideration by determining initial dedication and involvement of staff to the level they would be involved in overseeing, being involved in and reporting on the bills. The ratings for classifying the bills

The committee is recommending to the full Council the adoption of the following bills for Active Support.

- HB0915/SB1016 Medical Assistance Eligibility for Working People with Disabilities
- HB0453/SB0556 Requirements for Standard High School Diploma
- HB0109/SB0662 Corporal Punishment

- SB0152/HB0517 Medicaid Provider Networks
- HB0411/SB1652 Terminology Associated with Autism

The committee recommends that all other bills starred in the Passive Support remain in that category.

The committee asked staff to investigate the use of disabled parking spaces by expectant mothers as it relates to the use of disabled parking places.

The Council volunteered to work with the Agency for Persons with Disabilities to provide assistance on content for the Terminology Associated with Autism Bill.

All other passive support Bills remained in that category for now. Thirty-seven Bills were listed under monitoring. Council members were reminded that the current categorization of Bills could and would change over the course of the Legislative session. They were also told that they were free to advocate on behalf of bills that they supported even if they were not included in the active or passive support categories.

Danielle McGill and Enrique Escallon brought up the issue of federal legislation that would impact people with I/DD, especially medical insurance and the role of the FDDC in addressing them.

Sarah Goldman called for a vote on the recommendations of Active Support and starred Passive Support Bills to remain

Lauren Modawell made a motion to adopt all Active and Passive bills as presented; Enrique Escallon seconded. All members voted in favor; none abstained. The motion carried, and the Active and Passive bills categorization was adopted.

State Plan Committee

No Recommendations

Finance Committee

The finance committee reviewed the financial statements with Thomas Howell Ferguson and recommended full adoption of the financial reports as presented. They are the Budget vs. Actual and the Profit and Loss by Class.

Enrique Escallon made a motion to adopt the financial reports as presented; Charlotte Temple seconded. All members voted in favor; none abstained. The motion carried and the reports were adopted.

Executive Committee

No motions required

II. Our Voices Matter

The staff have put together an Our Voices Matter campaign, and we are the official host at DD Day. The FDDC will be the the full host and evaluate who would be on the second floor of the rotunda, and the criteria were revised to include a requirement to be a state-wide organization. We have always paid for council members, current PIP members and Fellows as part of FL SAND to attend DD Day. This year we are not having a formal dinner on Monday night, instead we are going to have a buffet dinner at the top floor of the Double Tree. All the rooms are booked at the Double Tree, and the buses are scheduled to arrive the next morning to take individuals to the Capitol. If someone signs up to be a partner by bringing 30 people with you, we will post you on our website and share your organization. The booths on the second floor will be open from 9-12, at which time lunch will be served in the Senate Portico from 12-1, and legislators will speak. Afterwards the booths will reopen until 2 p.m.

Kim Galban-Countryman introduced herself and Alex Dotson, who are working as our DD Day Event Coordinator, and shared some information regarding the day.

Before, During DD Day and Beyond.

Jamie shared the new website, Our Voices Matter, and the two forms for individuals to fill out to share their stories. They are linked on our website and can be submitted to us, and we will send them to legislators for those individuals who are unable to attend DD Day. The story pages will also be available at the booth.

Yolanda congratulated staff for the hard work because it covers all aspects of the day. She asked for some guidance because sometimes the legislators are not in their office, but there are only the aides there.

Eddie questioned whether we want to consider AI in regard to legislation and advised that maybe we could harness that to use as a Council for jobs and legislation. Enrique mentioned that he has only seen this on a federal level and it could possibly take away jobs.

Enrique asked if the website would have a dropdown added, and Jamie advised that it could probably be done by next week.

Valerie mentioned the Idelio Valdes Award (Self-Advocate) and the Bobbie Lake Award (Family Member). Shavaughn Barnes was selected for the Idelio award (17th annual). Judee Samuels was selected for the Bobbie Lake award (2nd annual).

III. Public Comment/Meeting Adjourned

Hall asked if there was any public comment from the floor. None was provided.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:59 a.m.

Florida Developmental Disabilities Council, Inc.

Special Full Council Meeting

Minutes

Wednesday, April 22, 2026

Council Members Present: Eddie Hall; Arizona Jenkins; Elly Hagen; Caitlyn Clibbon (DRF); Cherie Hall (DRF); Tina Cordova; Sarah Goldman; Charlotte Temple; Enrique Escallon; Michael Sayih; Lauren Modawell; Danielle McGill; Carla Mercer; Yolanda Herrera; Jennifer Zarcone (FCIC); Denise Anderson; Jean Sherman (UCEDD); Tracie Hardin (AHCA)

Council Members Absent: Kali Wilson; Victoria Zepp, Robert Asztalos (APD); Leah Compagnone-Bolt (VR); Anna Simmons (DOH); Kira Houge (Elder Affairs); Patricia Bodiford (DOE)

Staff Present: Sue Kabot; Merle Barrett; Chris Reeve; Jennifer Chung; Monica Moye; Kristen Conlin; Jamie Mayersohn

Guests: Jim DeBeaugrine (FDDC Board Advisor); Personal care staff; Kerry Parsons (Nabors, Giblin & Nickerson Attorney); Alejandro Murcia (AV for Hotel) Alex M (AV for Hotel)

The meeting was called to order by Eddie Hall at 2:04 p.m.

Special Voting for the Full Council

Enrique asked how the voting was handled, Sue advised that Greg advised her to contact members, but not to contact those who just left the executive committee.

Yolanda advised that Sue did not contact her, but she felt things were not handled.

Election Results:

Vice Chair: Jean Sherman

Treasurer: Carla Mercer

At-Large (Elected): Tina Cordova

At-Large (Appointed): Yolanda Herrera

Michael Sayih made a motion to accept Jean Sherman as the newly elected Vice Chair; Enrique Escallon seconded. All members voted in favor; none abstained. The motion carried and the elected Vice Chair was adopted.

Yolanda Herrera made a motion to accept Carla Mercer as the newly elected Treasurer; Michael Sayih seconded. All members voted in favor; none abstained. The motion carried and the elected Treasurer was adopted.

Carla Mercer made a motion to accept Tina Cordova as the newly elected At-Large member; Arizona Jenkins seconded. All members voted in favor; none abstained. The motion carried and elected At-Large member was adopted.

Michael Sayih made a motion to accept Yolanda Herrera as the newly appointed At-Large member; Elly Hagen seconded. All members voted in favor; none abstained. The motion carried and the appointed At-Large member was adopted.

Carla mentioned that the minutes from the executive committee from the last two meetings could be provided prior to the May meeting.

Enrique asked again for the recordings as well.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:47 p.m.

DRAFT

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

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2026 STANDING COMMITTEE MEMBERS

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

State Plan Committee

Jean Sherman, Chair

Staff, Sue Kabot

Tina Cordova

Sarah Goldman

Elly Hagen

Yolanda Herrera

Danielle McGill

Carla Mercer

Kali Wilson

Executive Committee

Eddie Hall, Chair

Staff, Valerie Breen

Jean Sherman, Vice-Chair

Carla Mercer, Treasurer

Elly Hagen, At-Large (Elected)

Tina Cordova, At-Large (Elected)

Arizona Jenkins, At-Large (Appointed)

Yolanda Herrera, At-Large (Appointed)

Public Policy Committee

Sarah Goldman, Chair

Staff, Valerie Breen

Enrique Escallon

Eddie Hall

Yolanda Herrera

Arizona Jenkins

Danielle McGill

Carla Mercer

Lauren Modawell

Charlotte Temple

Caitlyn Clibbon

Kali Wilson

Finance Committee

Carla Mercer, Chair

Staff, Monica Moya

Caitlyn Clibbon

Enrique Escallon

Sarah Goldman

Charlotte Temple

Kali Wilson

Tina Cordova



2026 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

Tina Cordova, Co-Chair

Staff, Chris Reeve

Denise Anderson

Caitlyn Clibbon

Elly Hagen

Carla Mercer

Charlotte Temple

Kali Wilson

Victoria Zepp

Resource Members

Danny Armstrong

Jennifer Zarcone

Home & Community Based Services (HCBS)

Kali Wilson, Chair

Vacant, Co-Chair

Staff, Sue Kabot

Denise Anderson

Tina Cordova

Arizona Jenkins

Susan Nipper

Jean Sherman

Self-Advocacy Leadership

Danielle McGill, Chair

Sarah Goldman, Co-Chair

Staff, Sue Kabot

Mirna Diaz

Enrique Escallon

Eddie Hall

Yolanda Herrera

Lauren Modawell

Aging Caregivers

Yolanda Herrera, Chair

Carla Mercer, Co-Chair

Staff, Jennifer Chung

Ann Dalton/ Kimberly Quinn

Elly Hagen

Kira Houge

Arizona Jenkins

Danielle McGill

Lauren Modawell

Susan Nipper

Michael Sayih

Jean Sherman

Victoria Zepp

Resource Members

Darrell Drummond

Damian P. Gregory

Dèan Gregory-Stewart

Mary Jo McKay

Managed Care- AD HOC

Sarah Goldman, Chair

Staff, Valerie Breen

Caitlyn Clibbon

Elly Hagen

Yolanda Herrera

Susan Nipper

Kimberly Quinn

Charlotte Temple

Victoria Zepp

Resource Members

Kevin Johnson

Laura Minutello

Broad Systems Change/Emerging Issues- AD HOC

2026 Meeting Schedule & Locations

FDDC Council Meeting

January 22-23, 2026
Florida Hotel & Conference Center
Orlando, FL


FDDC Council Meeting

May 21-22, 2026
Florida Hotel & Conference Center
Orlando, FL

FDDC Council Meeting

September 17-18, 2026
Florida Hotel & Conference Center
Orlando, FL


****Supplemental Materials****



Sunshine Law, Public Records, Conflict of Interest, and Ethics

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1



Sunshine Law

Purpose of the Government in the Sunshine law is to protect the public from “closed door” decision making and to provide a right of access to meetings.

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2

Sunshine Law

- Gives the public access to meetings of “any board or commission of any state agency or authority or of any agency or authority of any county, municipal corporation, or political subdivision.”
- “All meetings in which official acts are taken or public business is transmitted are public meetings open to the public at all times.”

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3

Sunshine Law

Applies to all Boards, Committee or Subcommittees:

- That official business may be taken; or
- That have the authority to make recommendations to the Governing Board.

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4

Sunshine Law Application

- Applies to formal and informal discussions between two or more members about a matter on which the Council may take action.
- May apply to in-person discussions, telephone calls, e-mails, texts and even social media (Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, etc.)
- Does not generally apply to staff unless staff has been delegated some decision-making authority.

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Compliance with Sunshine Law

- (1) **Reasonable Notice of Meetings** – Reasonable and timely notice, which depends on the circumstances. Though generally no less than 72 hours.
- (2) **Open to Public** – Meetings cannot be held at exclusive or inaccessible facilities.
- (3) **Minutes** – Written minutes must be kept, which contain a brief summary of the meeting's events and must record any votes. Written minutes and any recordings become public records.

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Sunshine Law Violations

- Violation can void the Council's decisions or recommendations.
- Second Degree Misdemeanor to **knowingly** violate the Sunshine Law, which is punishable by a fine of up to \$500 and/or up to 60 days imprisonment.
- Possible removal from position.
- Attorneys Fees

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Public Records Law

- Creates a right of access to records made or received in connection with official business of a public body.
- "Every person has the right to inspect or copy any public record made or retrieved in connection with official business of any public body."

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8

Public Records

Include: all records, regardless of physical form or means of transmission, made or received in connection with transacting official business. May include records developed by staff and individual council members.

- Unless statutorily exempt and/or confidential, all public records are subject to disclosure and must be retained pursuant to the state records retention schedule.

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Is this a Public Record?

- An email/text from staff wishing me a happy birthday? Not a public record.
- An email/text from staff asking if I'm available to meet next Tuesday? A transitory public record, therefore does not need to be retained.
- An email/text from staff asking my opinion on a new Council policy? Is a public record.

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10

Public Records

- Each Council member must ensure the preservation of public records in their possession.
- **Practice tip:** when sending emails or text message or if you receive emails or text messages on your personal account related to Council business you should always send a copy to: ____@fdhc.org

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11

Public Records Requests

- Can be made:
 - *Verbally or in Writing, and*
 - *By any person*
- FDDC:
 - *Has a reasonable time to respond*
 - *Can charge for the cost of retrieving records if the amount or nature of the records requires extensive use or staff time.*
 - Can otherwise charge 15 cents/page

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Public Records Law

Does NOT require:

- *FDDC to create records*
- *FDDC to produce records in specific format if not already in that format*
- *FDDC to verbally answer questions to explain records.*

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Public Records Violations

- Violators may be fined up to \$500
- ***Knowingly*** violating may result in removal from position and being charged with a first degree misdemeanor

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14

Conflict of Interest

A conflict of interest exists when a member has a personal interest that impairs the independence of his/her judgment to the point that it tends to lead to the disregard of his/her public duty.

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Conflict of Interest Policy

Applies to:

- Council members and Task Force members
- Relatives
- Partners and business associates
- Organizations of which members are employees, officers, directors or consultants.

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Conflict of Interest Policy prohibits members from:

- Directly or indirectly soliciting or accepting anything of value that is intended to influence his/her decision.
- Using or attempting to use his/her Council position, property or resource to secure a special privilege, benefit or exemption for him/herself or others.
- Disclosing or using information not available to the general public and gained by reason of their Council activities for personal gain/benefit.

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Conflict of Interest Policy (continued)

- Using a portion of his/her salary as a match for a Council grant or contract.
- Monitoring a project where he/she has a direct or indirect financial interest.

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Should a Conflict of Interest arise, a member must:

- Abstain from any discussion, deliberation and/or vote regarding the matter. However, for policy-related issues members may provide information on the issue, but shall not advocate or attempt to influence the decision.
- Disclose the conflict and complete a Declaration of Conflict of Interest Form within 15 days.

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Form 8B

FORM 8B MEMORANDUM OF VOTING CONFLICT FOR COUNTY, MUNICIPAL, AND OTHER LOCAL PUBLIC OFFICERS

THIS FORM IS FOR USE BY ANY PERSON SERVING AS THE COUNTY, CITY, OR OTHER LOCAL PUBLIC OFFICER (S) AS DEFINED IN SECTION 112.3143, FLORIDA STATUTES.

NAME AND ADDRESS:	THE COUNTY, MUNICIPAL, COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT OR OTHER LOCAL AGENCY
CITY:	COUNTY:
DATE THIS VOTE OCCURRED:	MEMORANDUM TO: <input type="checkbox"/> Executive <input type="checkbox"/> Committee

WHO MUST FILE FORM 8B

This form is for use by any person serving as the county, city, or other local level of government on an appointed or elected board, council, commission, authority, or committee. It applies to members of advisory and non-advisory bodies who are presented with a voting conflict of interest under Section 112.3143, Florida Statutes.

Your responsibilities under the law also depend on whether you have a conflict of interest and very greatly depending on whether you hold an elective or appointive position. For this reason, please pay close attention to the instructions on this form before completing and filing the form.

INSTRUCTIONS FOR COMPLIANCE WITH SECTION 112.3143, FLORIDA STATUTES

A person holding elective or appointive county, municipal, or other local public office (S) AS DEFINED IN SECTION 112.3143, FLORIDA STATUTES, shall abstain from voting on a measure which would result in the or her financial private gain or loss. Each elected or appointed local officer shall **ABSTAIN** from voting on a measure which would result in the or her financial private gain or loss of a principal other than a governmental agency to which he or she is related (including the parent, subsidiary, or sibling or proprietor of a particular business in which he or she is related), the special private gain or loss of a relative, or the special private gain or loss of a business associate. Commissioners of community development agencies (CDA's) under Sec. 153.002 or 153.007, F.S., and officers of independent special tax districts elected on a one-term, one-vote basis are not prohibited from voting on the measure.

For purposes of this law, a "relative" includes only the officer's father, mother, son, daughter, husband, wife, brother, sister, father-in-law, mother-in-law, brother-in-law, and daughter-in-law. A "business associate" means any person or entity engaged in or carrying on a business enterprise with the officer as a partner, joint venturer, owner of property, or corporate shareholder (before the shares of the corporation are not based on any national or regional stock exchange).

ELECTED OFFICERS:
In addition to abstaining from voting in the situation described above, you must disclose the conflict.

APPOINTED OFFICERS:
Although you must abstain from voting in the situation described above, you are not prohibited by Section 112.3143 from otherwise participating in these matters. However, you must disclose the nature of the conflict before making any attempt to influence the decision, whether orally or in writing and whether made by you or at your direction.

IF YOU INTEND TO MAKE AN ATTEMPT TO INFLUENCE THE DECISION PRIOR TO THE MEETING AT WHICH THE VOTE WILL BE TAKEN:
You must complete and file this form (before making any attempt to influence the decision) with the person responsible for recording the minutes of the meeting, who will incorporate the form in the minutes. (Continued on page 2)

CG FORM 8B - 09/11/2015
Revised by Nabors Gibling Nickerson P.A.

Nabors Gibling Nickerson P.A.

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Violations of Conflict of Interest

- If an undisclosed conflict of interest occurs, the matter may be presented to the Executive Committee for review.
- The affected member will be given an opportunity to address the Executive Committee before it renders a determination.
- The Executive Committee's determination may be appealed to the Council.

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Code of Ethics

- Cannot solicit or accept gifts (anything of value) intended to influence your vote/judgment.
- Cannot accept any compensation/payment given to influence a vote.
- Cannot do business with one's agency.

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gstewart@ngnlaw.com'. The logo for Nabors Giblin & Nickerson P.A. is in the bottom right corner."/>

Questions?
Please direct questions to
Greg Stewart gstewart@ngnlaw.com

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Aging Generations' Expectations in Developmental Disabilities

**2026 Summit
Power of Connection**



1

"This speaks to The Power of Connection that goes beyond what this Community of Practice was expected to be. Having the resources, the collaboration, the friendships, and the partnerships made all the difference."

Karenne Levy, President/CEO MacDonald Training Center, Tampa, Florida



2

AGEDD Mission:

Maximize the independence, well-being, and health of older adults, people with disabilities and their families and caregivers. Promote strategies that enable people to live in their own communities.



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Participants

Total of 61 Participants

- 16 FDDC Aging Caregiver Task Force, Executive Committee Council Members & Staff
- 5 MLDA Staff
- 3 Federal Speakers
- 3 Partners in Policymaking
- 34 Communities of Practice Members
 - 14 - I/DD Network
 - 20 – Aging Network

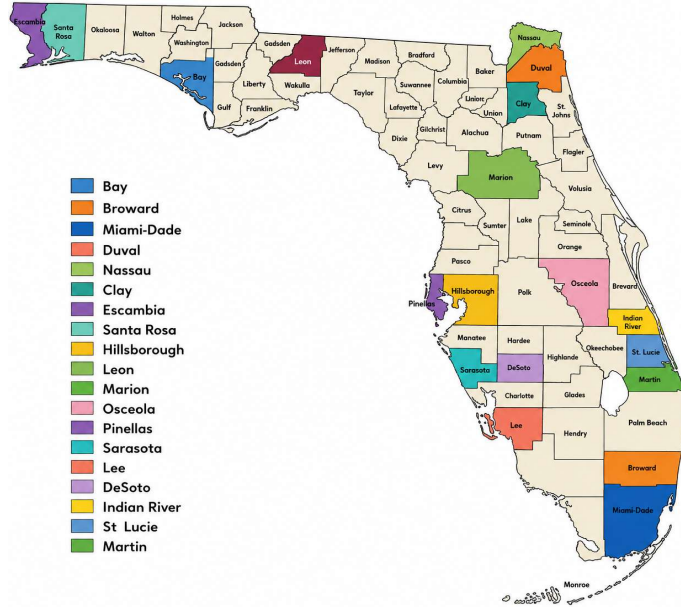


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Communities of Practice

- Duval
- Broward
- Miami-Dade
- Bay
- Treasure Coast
- Escambia & Santa Rosa
- Pinellas
- Leon
- Osceola
- Marion
- Sarasota & Lee



5



Rebecca Hines, Ph.D.

Newly appointed Administration on Disabilities Commissioner, Dr. Rebecca Hines

She urged attendees to “look for the **natural connections** within your community.” She emphasized collaboration, inclusion, and cross-system partnerships.



6



David Jones

Director of Intellectual and Developmental Disability at the Administration for Community Living (ACL)

He highlighted the **Caregiver AI Prize Competition** as a national initiative supporting innovative, ethical AI solutions to reduce caregiver burden and strengthen the direct care workforce.

The competition offers up to \$2.5 million in prize funding across two tracks focused on caregiver support tools and workforce support innovation.



7



Serena Lowe, PhD

Director of the Bridging the Aging and Disability Networks (BADN) project for the National Association of Councils on Developmental Disabilities

Serena Lower shared examples of what other state DD Councils are doing to bring together these two networks. There were several examples that have promise for implementation in Florida.



8

Plan for Implementation

Miami-Dade Community of Practice

Key goals:

- Planning a local AGEDD Summit in Miami-Dade County
- Creating bilingual caregiver support groups through ARC
- Opening existing support groups to AGEDD caregivers
- Increasing collaboration through executive leadership meetings.
- **Implementation:**
 - Surveys
 - Executive meetings
 - Expanded support programming with existing community partnerships
 - Potential funding sources (Health Foundation of South Florida)



Priorities:

- Caregiver support groups
- Parent-to-parent training
- Guardianship education
- Exploitation prevention for older and disabled adults
- Expanding respite services, including emergency respite options.



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Plan for Implementation

Clay, Duval, and Nassau Community of Practice

Key Goals

- Expanding vocational and day program opportunities
- Improving emergency preparedness
- Hostin community and town hall trainings
- Strengthening connections between providers, families, and caregivers

Continued Collaboration

- Referrals
- Community trainings
- Caregiver support groups
- Congregate meals
- Respite services
- Eligibility assistance



Exploring

- New areas – Cross-system navigation
- Childcare support groups
- Community Trainings
- Building trust within service systems

Implementation

- County-based town hall meetings
- Surveys
- Community outreach
- Promotion through senior centers
- Social media
- Existing service networks



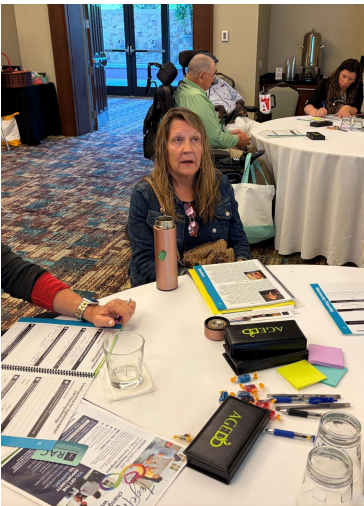
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CLOSING ACTIVITY



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Most Common Learning Outcomes



- Participants learned more about caregiver-focused Aging services
- Increased understanding of APD, iBudget, and IDD eligibility systems
- Awareness of respite, case management, housing, and support programs increased
- Participants recognized the lack of coordination between Aging and IDD systems
- Knowledge expanded regarding referral processes and access points such as the Elder Helpline



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Shared Resource Needs

- Specialized respite care for caregivers of adults with IDD
- Housing and long-term care planning resources
- Caregiver education and navigation assistance
- Cross-training between Aging and IDD providers
- Consistent access to information and support groups
- Technology and in-home support services



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Community Impact Highlights



- Communities strengthened collaboration between Aging and IDD providers
- New task forces and partnerships were developed
- Cross-sector relationships improved referrals and coordination
- Awareness increased regarding supports available for aging caregivers
- Participants identified opportunities for integrated housing and expanded respite services



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Recommendations & Future Priorities

- **Expand** respite and caregiver support services
- **Strengthen** communication and data-sharing between systems
- **Increase** outreach and education for aging caregivers
- **Develop** sustainable community partnerships
- **Promote** person-centered and family-centered approaches
- **Continue** Communities of Practice and cross-training opportunities



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Overall Takeaway



- **Strengthen** collaboration between Aging and IDD systems
- **Increased** awareness of resources
- **Highlighted** the urgent need for coordinated caregiver support, respite services
- Long-term **planning** for aging caregivers and adults with IDD.

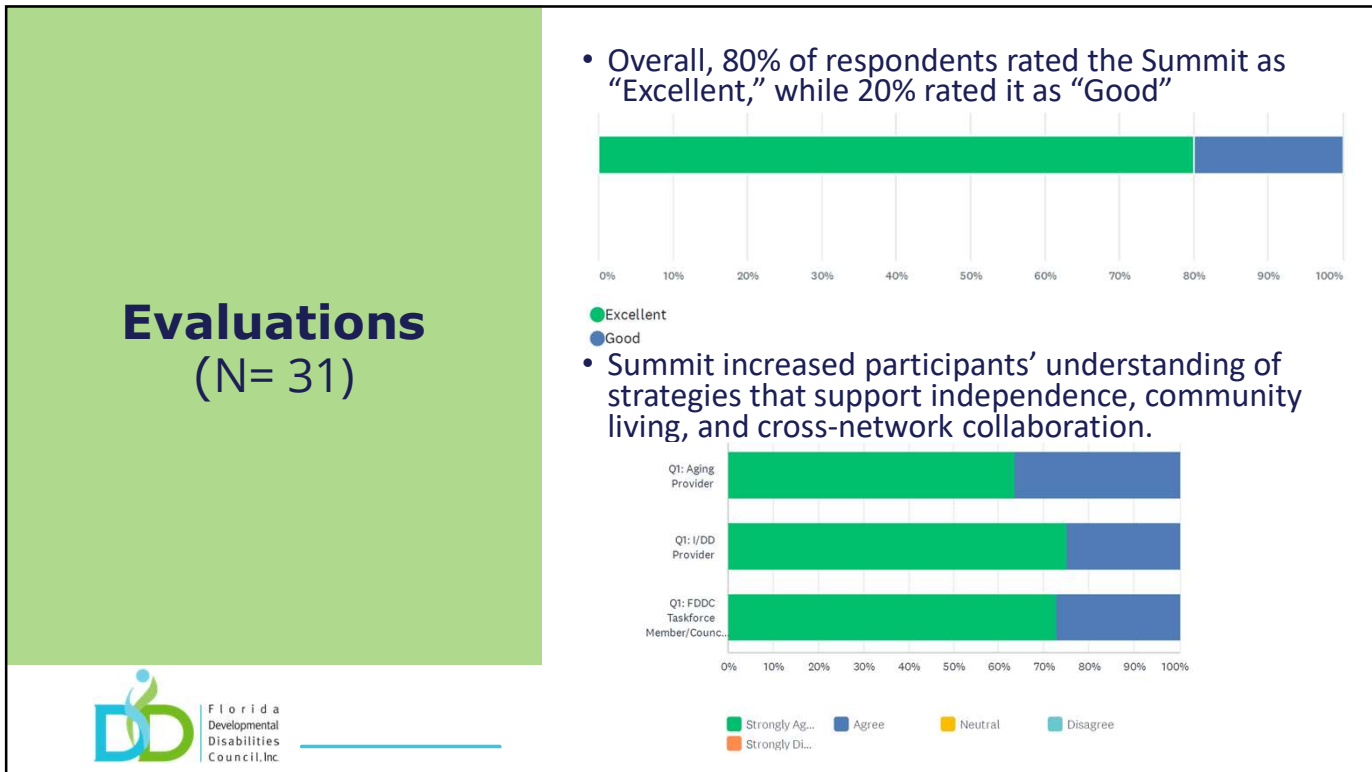


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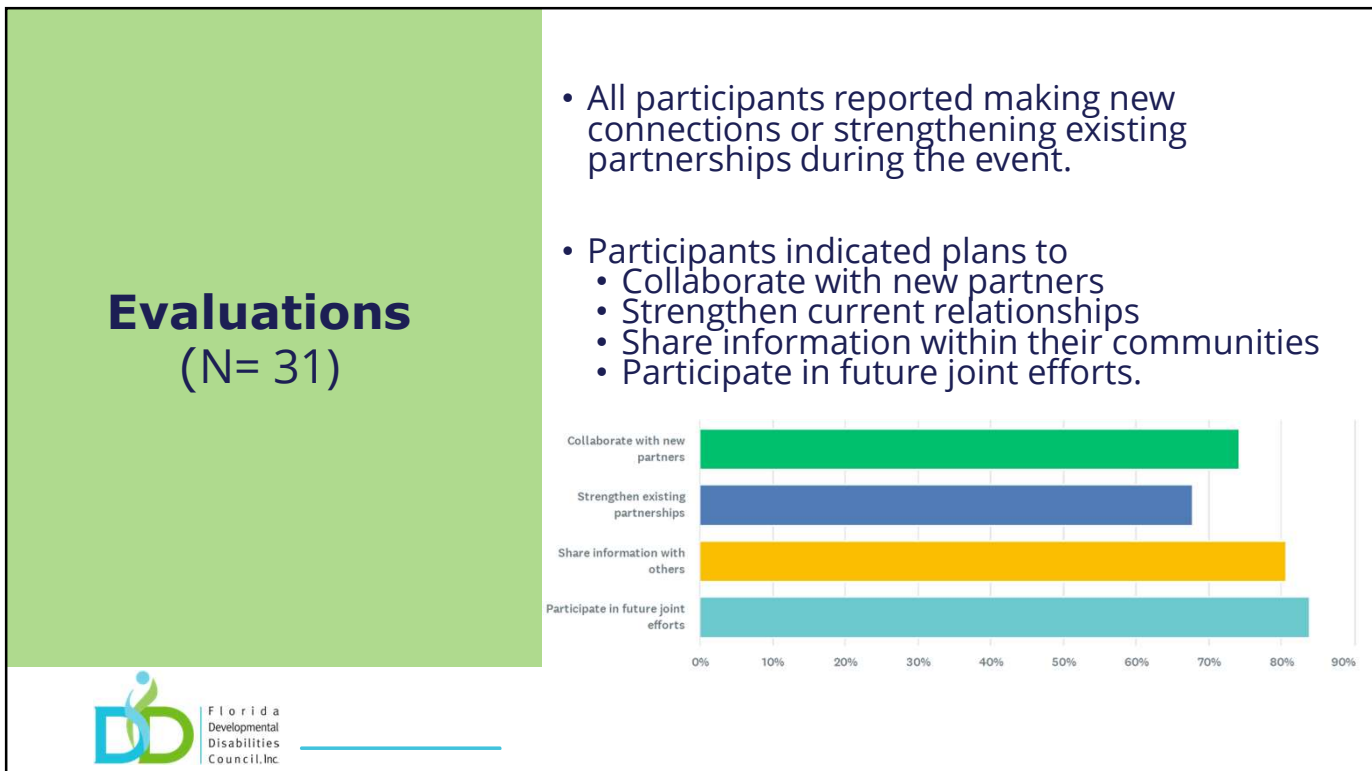


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“This project is provided by the Florida Developmental Disabilities Council, Inc., supported in part by grant number 2501FLSCDD from the U.S. Administration for Community Living(ACL), Department of Health and Human Services (HHS), Washington, D.C. 20201 aspart of financial assistance awards totaling \$4,438,490 with 100% funded by ACL/HHS. Grantees undertaking projects with government sponsorship are encouraged to express freely their findings and conclusions. Points of view or opinions do not, therefore, necessarily represent official ACL policy and do not necessarily represent the official views of, nor an endorsement, by ACL/HHS or the U.S. Government.”

Evaluation




<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/ageddsummit>



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Building the Access to Services through Knowledge (ASK) Resource Hub: What We Have, What We Need, and What Comes Next

Presentation to Council

Diane Beaver, Mathematica
May 21, 2026




1



Today's Presentation

Today, we will cover:

1. **Why the ASK Resource Hub is needed**
2. **Our work to date**
3. **How content is organized**
4. **Examples of ASK content**
5. **What we have learned and next steps**



2



Why the ASK Resource Hub is Needed

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Why ASK is Needed

- Caregivers of people with I/DD often must navigate many systems at once.
- Information exists, but it is often **fragmented, hard to understand, or difficult to act on.**
- **Research suggests people need help with:**
 - Early intervention and school services
 - Medicaid, waiver services, and health insurance
 - Decision-making support options and guardianship
 - Employment, volunteering, and post-secondary planning
 - Housing and in-home services
 - Financial and estate planning
 - Long-term care planning
 - Social connection
 - Caregiver support



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ASK Resource Hub Vision

- **The ASK Resource Hub is intended to help caregivers and people with I/DD:**
 - Find trustworthy information, vetted by lived experience
 - Understand complex systems in plain language
 - Compare options
 - Learn from realistic family stories
 - Identify next steps
 - Connect to the right resources and supports
- **ASK is not just a list of links:** It is being designed as a guided resource system that helps families move from questions to action.

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Access to Services through Knowledge (ASK) Information and Resource System



I/DD = intellectual or developmental disabilities.

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From Research to Resource Hub

ASK content is built from multiple inputs:

- Caregiver interviews and focus groups
- Existing Florida resources
- Resources from other states
- Subject matter expertise
- Feedback from Content Advisory Group
- User testing and quality assurance feedback

Goal: Create content that reflects real caregiver questions and connects people to practical next steps.

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Our Work to Date

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Mathematica's Role

- **We have helped translate research and lived experience into usable content for the ASK Resource Hub by:**
 - Reviewing caregiver interview and focus group findings, produced by our partner, the NADD
 - Identifying common questions, barriers, and decision points
 - Researching existing resources
 - Soliciting ideas and feedback from the experts on the ASK Content Advisory Group
 - Developing content modules and case study stories
 - Supporting user testing and quality assurance efforts
 - Helping organize content for the future website

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Year-by-Year Activity and Progress

Year 1 (April- Dec 2024):

- Analyzed data from NADD's first year of research.
- Developed 5 journey maps and 5 user personas.
- Shifted from journey maps and user personas to roadmaps and case study stories.

Year 2 (Dec 2024- Sept 2025):

- Analyzed data from NADD's second and third years of research.
- Created sitemaps that define the content structure of the ASK website.
- Identified additional content modules needed.
- Delivered 27 modules across multiple domains, with embedded vetted resources.
- Developed six caregiver case studies to show how families navigate systems and make decisions.

Year 3 (Sept 2025- Sept 2026)

- Supported NADD in user testing activities
- Developed an additional 20 content modules.
- Created additional case study stories.
- Developed mock-ups of landing pages to visualize website navigation.

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What Has Changed Since Last Council Update

Since the last Council presentation, ASK has moved from early content concepts to a more developed resource system.

Key changes include:

- More content has been drafted across more topic areas, including early intervention, education, decision-making supports, financial planning, employment, volunteering, social connection, diagnosis, behavioral health, and supports and services.
- The content types are clearer and more consistent. ASK now uses a defined set of module types, including explainers, decision aids, roadmaps, mindmaps, case study stories, and resource links.
- Case study stories have become more connected to the content. Stories are being used to show how families make decisions across systems, rather than standing alone as separate examples.
- The project has shifted from creating individual modules to thinking about the full user experience. We are now focused on how families move between topics, compare options, and identify next steps.
- The current content plan makes gaps easier to see. Major areas for remaining content development include health insurance, housing, Medicaid and waiver navigation, transportation, respite, crisis planning, provider access, and appeals or denials.

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Content Module Creation Progress

We have developed ~40 content modules, covering major life areas, including:

- Early Intervention
- Education
- Decision-Making Supports
- Asset Management / Financial Planning
- Employment and Volunteering
- Social Connection
- Supports and Services
- Behavioral Health
- Diagnosis


We have not built content yet for:

- Housing options
- Specific supports and services
- Health insurance
- Support coordination

(See the Appendix for a full list of built modules and recommendations for future modules)

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How Content is Organized

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Content is Organized into Module Types




Explainers

Break down complex topics into plain language.




Decision Aids

Help families compare options and think through what may fit their situation.




Roadmaps

Show step-by-step processes for navigating systems or transitions.



Mindmaps

Help users explore flexible or non-linear options.



Case Study Stories

Show realistic caregiver experiences across systems and life stages.

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Content Modules are Organized by Domain, Family Stories, and Life Stage

Information by Topic
Select a topic below to explore the associated resources.

1 Diagnosis Learn how to recognize developmental delays, get an evaluation, and connect to early intervention services.	2 Education Explore school options, special education supports, and transitions from early learning through adulthood.	3 Employment Learn about job training, vocational rehabilitation, and employment opportunities for people with IDD.
4 Financial Understand available financial benefits and programs that help cover daily and long-term needs.	5 Health Insurance Compare insurance and waiver options to learn how coverage addresses your family's healthcare needs.	6 Housing Discover living options from independent to supported settings and what services are available in each.
7 Legal Learn about guardianship, supported decision-making, and long-term planning for your loved one's future.	8 Services and Supports Find information about behavioral health services, long-term care services and other supports.	9 Social Connection Find ways to build peer connections, family support networks, and inclusive community relationships.
10 Asset Management Learn how to manage and protect assets while maintaining eligibility for important benefits and supports.		

Family Stories
Use the links below to explore stories of other families and caregivers of people with IDD.



Helena and Thom
Helena is helping her son Thom prepare for high school and encouraging him to build social skills and connections as he grows.



John, Brittany, and Luna
After their toddler Luna's recent IDD diagnosis, John and Brittany are learning about Early Steps and community supports to help her development.

Explore more family stories →

Information by Life Stage
Prefer to explore by life stage? Select one below to find resources that relate to it.

Early Childhood 0-5 years old	Childhood 6-12 years old	Teens and Young Adults 13-25 years old	Adults 26-49 years old	Older Adults 50+ years old
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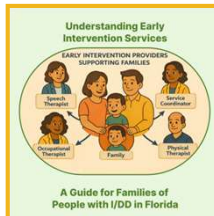
Content by Domain



Example Domain: Early Intervention

ASK helps families understand early intervention from first concern through school entry.

Example modules:



Understanding Early Intervention Services in Florida
([Mindmap](#))



Finding the Right Supports: How John and Brittany Navigate Early Intervention Services for their daughter, Luna
([Case Study](#))



Early Intervention to School Entry
([Roadmap](#))



Child Find
([Explainer](#))

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Questions Answered by Early Intervention Content Modules

These, and the other content modules in the domain, help families answer:

- What is early intervention, and how do I know if my child may need it?
- How can families move from concern to evaluation to services?
- What services are available for children under 3?
- What happens after a child turns 3 and ages out of Early Steps?
- How can families use early learning programs and disability services at the same time?
- What role do Medicaid, CMS, and APD play in early intervention?
- When do families use private therapy, and how does it fit with public services?
- How can families pay for childcare while also addressing developmental needs?
- What kinds of community activities can help a young child with I/DD build skills?

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Content by Life Stage

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ASK Connects Concepts by Life Stage

A person may come to ASK with one question but may need information across several related topics. For example, a parent planning for a teen's transition out of high school may start with education-focused content, but may also need information about:

- What changes legally when a young person turns 18, including the transfer of educational and decision-making rights
- Decision-making supports
- SSI and Medicaid
- Employment and post-secondary options
- Long-term financial planning
- Social connection after graduation
- Housing options or future caregiving plans

ASK is designed to show connections at life stages, instead of treating each topic as separate.

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Example Domain: Adulthood (26-49)

At this life stage, ASK helps adults with I/DD and their families navigate work, benefits, social connection, behavioral health, daily supports, financial planning, and longer-term decisions about housing and caregiving.

Employment and volunteering

- Using Employment Services
- Vocational Rehabilitation and Employment Roadmap
- Disclosing a Disability

Decision-making supports

- Choosing the Right Decision-Making Supports
- Guardianship Roadmap

Asset management and benefits-related planning

- Financial and Estate Planning for Families of People with I/DD
- Choosing the Right Financial Accounts
- Traditional Checking and Savings Accounts
- When Things Get Complicated: Jack Navigates an SSI Overpayment

Social connection and adult life

- Building Social Connections for Individuals with I/DD
- Building Your Circle: Resources for Caregivers of People with I/DD

Supports and services

- Getting a Formal Diagnosis
- Personal Care Services
- Behavioral Health Services for People with I/DD
- Managing 24/7 Care at Home in Florida — Mary Beth and Joshua

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Questions Answered for Adults

- How can adults with I/DD find, keep, or change employment?
- How can volunteering support skills, routine, and community connection?
- When should someone disclose a disability or ask for accommodations?
- How do wages affect SSI, Medicaid, and financial planning?
- How can adults use bank accounts, ABLE accounts, and trusts while protecting benefits?
- What decision-making supports may be needed in adulthood?
- How can families balance independence, safety, and rights?
- How can adults build friendships and social connection outside of school?
- What behavioral health or personal care supports may be available?
- What should families do during a behavioral health crisis?
- What does it look like to coordinate services for an adult with significant support needs?
- What future housing, caregiving, and long-term support plans should families begin considering?

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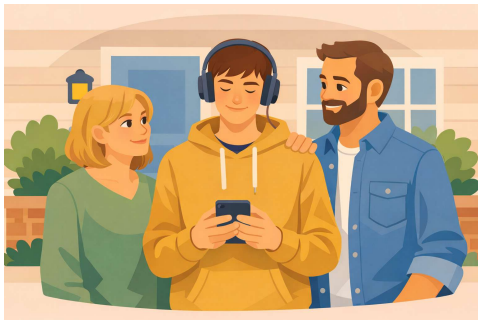
Content by Family Story

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Example Family: Jack, Kelly, and Rick



The family's stories cover:

- Navigating Age 18 Transition
- Getting a First Job
- Navigating Behavioral Health Services and I/DD
- Navigating an SSI Overpayment
- Considering Higher Education

Kelly and **Rick** are parents of **Jack**, a young adult with autism spectrum disorder and co-occurring behavioral health conditions.

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Questions Answered by Jack's Stories

Jack's stories help families understand:

- What changes at age 18 and how to prepare
- How to choose between work, college, and other adult pathways
- How VR, Project SEARCH, and other programs can support employment
- What to do when a first job is not the right fit
- How SSI, Medicaid, ABLE accounts, and wage reporting affect young adults who work
- What to do if an SSI overpayment happens
- How behavioral health and I/DD services can work together
- How to plan for college with accommodations, financial aid, VR support, and the right pacing
- How families can support independence without expecting a young adult to manage every adult system alone

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Examples of ASK Content

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Example Content in Practice

1. **Decision Aid**
 - [How to decide what type of school meets your needs](#)
2. **Roadmap**
 - [Early intervention to school entry](#)
3. **Case Study**
 - [Helena and Thom – Finding the right high school fit](#)



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| What we have learned and next steps



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What We Have Learned

- **ASK needs to move users from knowledge to action.**
 - Families need next steps, not just information.
- **One question often leads to several connected topics.**
- **Stories help users see how decisions and processes play out in real life.**
- **The site needs to support both planning and urgent problem-solving.**
- **ASK should link to trusted resources, rather than recreate everything.**
 - However, embedded links aren't always the most obvious way to direct people to important information.

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What Still Needs to Be Developed

Important remaining areas include:

1. Health insurance and waivers
2. Housing
3. Medicaid and waiver navigation
4. Transportation
5. Crisis planning and backup care
6. Appeals, denials, and service disruptions
7. Provider search and fit
8. More decision aids that help families choose a next step

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Looking Ahead

- **Project is moving on to Phase 3: the website build.**
- **Decisions will need to be made about:**
 - Landing pages
 - Content layout on landing pages
 - Connections between modules
 - Design and layout of modules
 - Style for imagery
 - Navigation
 - Specificity of linked resources
 - Use of artificial intelligence (AI)
 - Methods for keeping content up-to-date

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Questions?

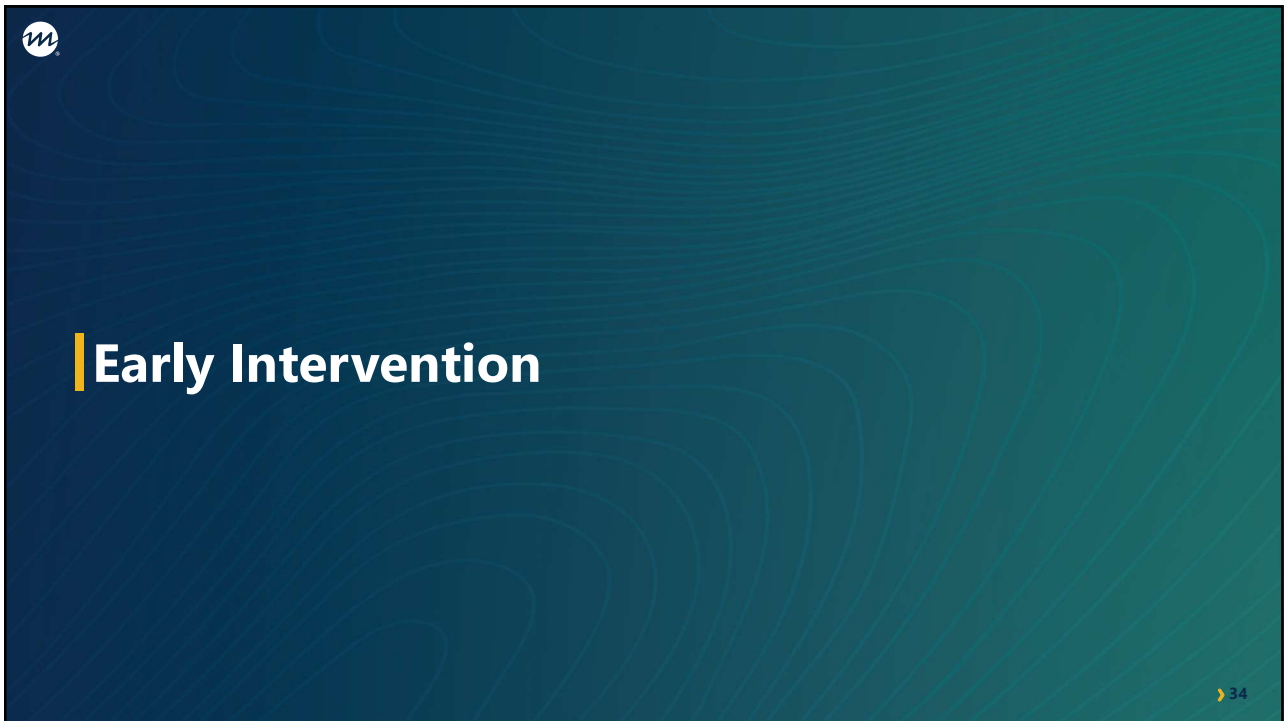


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Appendix: Completed and recommended module list



Early Intervention



Early Intervention Modules

1. Understanding Early Intervention Services in Florida: This is the main early intervention module. It gives families a big-picture overview of how early intervention works from birth to age 5 and compares major options, including Early Steps, Child Find, Early Learning Coalitions, Head Start and Early Head Start, Pre-K ESE, Medicaid/CMS/APD, private therapy, and community programs.

2. Finding the Right Supports—How John and Brittany Navigate Early Intervention Services for their daughter, Luna: This is a case study story showing how parents of a toddler with developmental delays used Early Steps, childcare, Early Learning Coalition supports, private therapy, and Child Find/Pre-K ESE to build a coordinated early intervention plan over time.

3. Early Intervention to School Entry Roadmap (Florida): This is a step-by-step roadmap from birth through kindergarten. It walks families through noticing concerns, referring to Early Steps, developing an IFSP, transitioning to Child Find and Pre-K ESE, choosing preschool options, and preparing for kindergarten.

4. Case Study: Ana, Luis, and Mateo: This is a case study story focused on an infant with significant medical and developmental needs beginning in the NICU. It emphasizes how families may need to navigate diagnosis, Early Steps, Medicaid, private insurance, language access, parent support, and medical complexity all at once.



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Early Intervention Modules (Continued)

5. Florida Early Steps Program (Birth to Age 3): This explainer focuses on Early Steps as the main early intervention program for infants and toddlers. It covers eligibility, what services are free, when insurance or Medicaid may be used, and how families get started.

6. Child Find (Ages 3–5): This explainer covers the Child Find process for children ages 3 to 5 who may need school-based evaluation and support. It explains how Child Find helps families transition from Early Steps to preschool or school-based services and how it connects to IEPs and ISPs.

7. Head Start & Early Head Start: This explainer covers free early learning and family support programs for eligible families with young children. It helps families understand how these programs differ from Early Steps and Child Find while also showing how they can be used alongside disability-related services.

8. Early Learning Coalitions (ELCs): This explainer describes how ELCs help families find and afford early childhood education and childcare, including inclusion supports for children with disabilities or developmental delays. It emphasizes ELCs' role in childcare referral, scholarships, inclusion coaching, and coordination with other providers.

9. Paying for Childcare through the School Readiness Program
This explainer focuses on the School Readiness subsidy as a way to make childcare more affordable for eligible working families. It helps families understand how childcare funding can fit alongside developmental and disability services.

10. Voluntary Pre-K: This explainer covers Florida's free VPK program and its different formats, including VPK Specialized Instructional Services for children with IEPs. It helps families understand VPK as an early learning option that may support school readiness and transition to kindergarten.

11. Using state systems for early intervention: This explainer focuses on Medicaid, CMS, and APD and how they support early intervention needs. It helps families understand the difference between broad health coverage, specialized care coordination, and long-term developmental disability supports.

12. Private Early Intervention Options: This explainer covers speech, occupational, and physical therapy and other private services families may use outside the public system. It helps families compare state-run and private options and think through cost, frequency, and fit.

13. Adapting Community Activities to Support Young Children with I/DD: This explainer highlights community-based activities such as story times, tot programs, sensory-friendly museum hours, YMCA programs, parent groups, and Special Olympics Young Athletes. It frames community participation as part of early intervention, not just an extra.

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Ideas for Additional Modules: Early Intervention:

- **Decision Aid:**
 - How to choose which early intervention options are right for you
- **Explainers:**
 - Building your child's support team
 - Early intervention in rural areas or places with provider shortages
 - What to do if you disagree with an evaluation or eligibility decision
- **Mindmap:**
 - How to pay for early supports beyond public programs
- **Case Studies:**
 - Navigating preschool choice with an IEP
 - Family whose child did not qualify right away

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Education

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Education Modules

1. K-8 ESE and IEP Planning Roadmap: This is a step-by-step roadmap for families navigating school-based disability supports in elementary and middle school. It walks families through evaluation, ESE eligibility, IEP development, consent, progress monitoring, annual reviews, and reevaluation.

2. High School Exceptional Student Education and Transition Services: This is a roadmap focused on high school transition planning. It covers when transition planning begins, how the IEP becomes a TIEP, diploma options, transition services, diploma deferral, Summary of Performance, transfer of rights at age 18, and movement into postsecondary options.

3. Choosing the right school for children with I/DD in Florida: This is the main school choice explainer/decision aid. It compares public schools, charter schools, private schools, and home education based on special education supports, therapies, environment, cost, transportation, and legal protections, and helps families think through what educational setting is the best fit.

4. Helena and Thom — Finding the Right High School Fit: This is a family case study focused on choosing a high school setting for a student with autism. It shows how one parent clarified goals, researched public, charter, and private options, considered scholarship support, visited schools, and ultimately chose a charter school that felt like a better fit.



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Education Modules (Continued)

5. Exploring post-secondary education options for young adults with I/DD in Florida: This is the main postsecondary decision aid. It compares Florida Postsecondary Comprehensive Transition Programs (FPCTPs), Inclusive Postsecondary Education (IPSE) programs, and traditional degree pathways with accommodations, helping families think about support needs, independence, and program goals.

6. Inclusive Postsecondary Education Programs: This explainer focuses specifically on IPSE programs. It describes what these programs are, who they are for, how they differ from accommodations alone, how to apply, and what kinds of supports and outcomes families can expect.

7. Paying for college: This explainer covers some of the major funding pathways that may help students with disabilities pay for college or postsecondary programs, including scholarships, FES-UA, and Vocational Rehabilitation.



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Ideas for Additional Modules: Education

- **Decision Aid:**
 - Using diploma deferral and extended transition services
- **Explainers:**
 - Differences between IEP, 504 plan, and informal supports
 - Inclusion, separate setting, and least restrictive environment explainer
 - Behavioral support at school
 - School discipline and disability rights
- **Mindmap:**
 - Diploma options
 - Career and technical education (non-college) post-secondary pathways
- **Case Studies:**
 - Family navigating an IEP disagreement
 - Student using extended transition services after graduation

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Asset Management

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Asset Management Modules

1. Financial and Estate Planning for Families of People with I/DD: This is the main long-term financial planning explainer/decision aid. It introduces the core tools families may use to transfer money or property while protecting SSI and Medicaid, including Special Needs Trusts, ABLÉ accounts, wills, and beneficiary designations, and explains when families should review or update their plans.

2. Dakota and Grant's Long-Term Financial Planning for Their Son, Daniel: This is a family story/case example showing how parents planning for a teen with complex support needs.

3. Choosing the Right Financial Accounts: This is a practical decision aid focused on daily money management. It compares checking or savings accounts, ABLÉ accounts, and Special Needs Trusts based on purpose, benefits protection, setup complexity, and ease of use, and encourages families to combine tools when needed.



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Asset Management Modules (Continued)

4. Traditional Checking and Savings Accounts: This explainer covers regular bank accounts and how they can support day-to-day money management, independence, and spending oversight. It also explains the risks that standard accounts can pose for people who rely on SSI or Medicaid and describes tools like spending limits, alerts, prepaid cards, and trusted contacts.

5. ABLÉ (Achieving a Better Life Experience) Accounts: This explainer describes ABLÉ accounts as a flexible savings and spending tool for disability-related expenses. It covers eligibility, contribution rules, qualified disability expenses, benefit protections, practical spending rules, and how ABLÉ accounts can fit into a family's broader plan.

6. Special Needs Trusts (SNTs): This explainer describes how Special Needs Trusts protect eligibility for means-tested benefits while allowing funds to be used to improve quality of life. It explains how trusts work, what trustees do, and the differences among first-party, third-party, and pooled trusts.

7. Wills: This explainer covers what a will does, why it matters, how wills work in Florida, and how they connect to planning for a family member with a disability. It also explains why families often need a will plus another planning tool, such as an SNT or ABLÉ account, to avoid harming benefits.

8. Beneficiary Designations: This explainer focuses on naming beneficiaries for life insurance, retirement accounts, and payable-on-death or transfer-on-death accounts. It emphasizes that beneficiary forms can override a will and that naming a person with I/DD directly can put SSI or Medicaid at risk.

9. When Things Get Complicated: Jack Navigates an SSI Overpayment: This is a case study about a young adult who unintentionally stopped reporting wages, resulting in an SSI overpayment. It shows how employment income, wage reporting, representative payees, repayment plans, and ongoing support affect financial stability and benefits.



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Ideas for Additional Modules: Asset Management

- **Decision Aid:**
 - How to choose a financial tool, based on your situation
- **Explainers:**
 - SSI, Medicaid, and asset limits
 - What happens when a person with SSA benefits starts working
 - Rep payee
 - Planning for gifts and inheritance
 - What to do with back pay, settlements, or unexpected money
- **Mindmap:**
 - Asset management by life stage- what matters and when
- **Case Studies:**
 - Family with modest income
 - Young adult starting work and learning to manage benefits

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Decision-Making Supports

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Decision-Making Support Modules

1. **Choosing the Right Decision-Making Supports: A Guide for Caregivers and People with I/DD in Florida:** This is the main explainer/decision aid. It walks families through supported decision-making, health care surrogate, power of attorney, guardian advocacy, and guardianship, and compares them by rights retained, setup, cost, and best fit.
2. **Dakota and Grant's Story with Daniel:** This is a family story/case example showing how parents of a teen with complex support needs considered different options, consulted community resources, weighed safety and independence, and ultimately combined guardian advocacy with supported decision-making.
3. **Guardianship Roadmap:** This is a practical, step-by-step roadmap focused on guardianship-related planning and action. It covers naming a guardian in a will, establishing guardianship for an adult, filing petitions, completing required plans and inventories, annual reporting, and appointing a successor or co-guardian.



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Ideas for Additional Modules: Decision-Making Supports

- **Decision Aid:**
 - What level of decision-making support is needed?
- **Explainers:**
 - Health care surrogate
 - Power of attorney
 - Guardian advocacy
 - Rights that may be affected by guardianship
 - Turning 18- What Changes
- **Mindmap:**
 - How to work with different entities (hospitals, doctors, banks, schools, landlords, service providers, and government agencies) depending on the level of decision-making support in place
- **Case Studies:**
 - Supported decision-making without court involvement
 - Full guardianship example

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Social Connection

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Social Connection Modules

1. **Building Community as Parents of a Child with I/DD — John and Brittany’s Story:** This is a caregiver story/case example focused on isolation after a young child’s diagnosis and the ways parents can begin rebuilding connection. It shows how Early Steps, parent groups, Facebook communities, Parent to Parent, and playdates can help caregivers feel less alone and more supported.
2. **Building Your Circle: Resources for Caregivers of Intellectual & Developmental Disabilities (I/DD):** This is the main caregiver-facing explainer. It encourages caregivers to build support through groups, events, one-on-one connections, existing family or community networks, mental health support, and respite, and it includes a worksheet to help caregivers identify supports and plan next steps.
3. **Building Social Connections for Individuals with Intellectual & Developmental Disabilities (I/DD):** This is the person-with-I/DD-facing or shared family explainer. It focuses on helping people with I/DD build social skills, strengthen existing friendships, and meet new friends through school, community activities, work, volunteering, and online spaces, with a worksheet for planning action steps.

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Ideas for Additional Modules: Social Connection

- **Explainers**
 - How to find inclusive social opportunities and how to adapt community activities
 - Supporting a loved one with building relationships
 - Social skills services and supports
 - Working with schools to address social isolation/bullying
 - Online friendship, social media, and safety
 - Social connections for people with high support needs
 - Supporting romantic relationships for people with I/DD
- **Mindmap**
 - How to find social connections as an adult through community participation, volunteering, work, technology, etc.
- **Case Studies**
 - Teen building connections through school and community activities
 - Adult with I/DD building community after school ends
 - Building friendships for a person with high support needs

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Employment/Volunteering

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Employment/Volunteering Modules

1. Using Employment Services: This is the main employment module. It helps families understand the major employment service systems in Florida across the lifespan, including school-based transition planning, Vocational Rehabilitation, Project SEARCH, Florida Postsecondary Comprehensive Transition Programs, APD-funded long-term supported employment, CareerSource, Ticket to Work, and community-based providers.

2. Vocational Rehabilitation and Employment Roadmap: This is a step-by-step roadmap focused on how people with disabilities move from Pre-ETS and transition planning into VR services, employment preparation, supported employment, job search, job acceptance, and job retention. It also includes Florida Postsecondary Comprehensive Transition Programs as one pathway connected to employment goals.

3. Volunteering Roadmap: This is a practical roadmap for creating a volunteer plan, identifying opportunities, applying, choosing a role, arranging supports, and beginning volunteering. It frames volunteering as a meaningful option for teens, adults, and older adults and includes concrete planning around transportation, accommodations, schedules, and benefit considerations.

4. Disclosing a Disability: This is a cross-cutting explainer on what disclosure means, why someone might choose to disclose, how disclosure works in school, college, work, healthcare, and personal settings, and how people can decide whether, when, what, and to whom to disclose. It is especially relevant to employment because it helps people think through accommodations, privacy, and self-advocacy in work settings.



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Ideas for Additional Modules: Employment/Volunteering

- **Decision Aid**
 - Employment vs. Volunteering
- **Explainers**
 - Social Security, benefits, and working
 - Supported employment
- **Mindmap**
 - Building work readiness (showing different skills, like time management, hygiene, and coping with stress, that are needed to be successful on a job)
- **Case Studies**
 - First job after high school
 - Navigating disclosure during job search and at work

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Supports and Services

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Supports and Services Modules

1. Getting a Formal Diagnosis: This explainer helps families understand what a formal diagnosis is, how it differs from screening and evaluation, when a diagnosis is needed, how to get one, and what kinds of services or programs it can unlock. It also emphasizes that many supports can begin before a formal diagnosis, especially in early childhood or school settings.

2. Personal Care Services (PCS): This explainer focuses on Florida Medicaid Personal Care Services as a way to get hands-on help with daily activities such as bathing, dressing, feeding, mobility, and related household tasks. It explains who may qualify, what "medical necessity" means, and how families apply through Medicaid managed care or fee-for-service pathways.

3. Managing 24/7 Care at Home in Florida — Mary Beth and Joshua: This is a family story/case example focused on an adult with significant support needs living at home with an aging parent caregiver. It shows the realities of managing round-the-clock care, waiver coordination, direct support professional staffing, medical appointments, transportation, and long-term worries about continuity of care.

4. Behavioral Health Services for People with I/DD in Florida: This explainer helps families distinguish between I/DD-related behavioral supports and mental health treatment, and understand how both systems may work together. It covers outpatient therapy and psychiatry, community-based behavioral health services, school-based supports, crisis services, and the Baker Act.

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Ideas for Additional Modules: Supports and Services

- **Roadmap**
 - How to apply for services
- **Explainers**
 - Medicaid and waiver program overview
 - Support Coordination
 - iBudget waiver
 - Positive behavior supports/services through I/DD
 - Durable Medical Equipment and Assistive Technology
 - Environmental Modifications / Home Modifications
 - Transportation
- **Mindmap**
 - Companion, Homemaker, and In-Home Support Services Mindmap
 - Nursing and Skilled Home Health Services Mindmap
- **Case Studies**
 - Waiting for the waiver (piecing together services)
 - Coordinating behavioral and I/DD services

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Health Insurance

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Ideas for Modules: Health Insurance

- **Decision Aid**
 - Choosing a Medicaid Managed Care Plan
- **Explainers**
 - Medicaid basics
 - Medicaid eligibility pathways
 - Using private insurance and/or Medicare alongside Medicaid
 - Transition from child to adult insurance
- **Mindmap**
 - Understanding health insurance options in Florida
- **Case Studies**
 - Managing insurance for a child with I/DD

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Housing

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Ideas for Modules: Housing

- **Decision Aid**
 - Deciding what living arrangement is right for your family
- **Explainers**
 - Adult Family Care Homes
 - Living at Home with Family
 - Support Living/Independent Living
 - Group Homes and Residential Programs
 - Assisted Living, ICFs, and Higher-Support Setting
- **Mindmap**
 - Housing options for adults with I/DD
- **Case Studies**
 - Choosing an adult living arrangement

Update on 5-Year Plan and Procurement

Sue Kabot
Chief of Programs

Monica Moya
Chief of Operations



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The 5-Year Plan

- The 5-Year State Plan will be submitted to ACL on August 15, 2026
- The goals and objectives are ready.
- Scopes of work for Year 1 are ready.



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The 5-Year Plan

- The template and directions for the Comprehensive Review and Analysis (CRA) was not distributed until May 18. Work will begin on finalizing the CRA this week.
- Year 1 allocations by goal was approved by the State Plan Committee yesterday, May 21.
- The 5-Year State Plan public facing document was approved, and Well Florida should have it ready by the May meeting.



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Procurement Schedule

A procurement schedule has been developed for the 2026-27 year: Year 1 of the new State Plan. The IFP and Bids are scheduled to be released in June and July 2026



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We will be releasing 1-
Invitation for Proposal

- **Access to Services web-based platform**
- A *Review Committee* will be onboarded to conduct the proposal reviews and select the best proposal based on price and quality.



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We Will be Releasing 3 Bids

- First Responder Training
- Aging Families Future Planning Toolkit
- Aging Families Technology



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6 Continuing Projects

- **Best Practices in Case Management**
 - Mathematica
- **Measuring Service Quality**
 - Mathematica
- **Behavior Therapist Shortage**
 - University of Florida
- **Dual Diagnosis Training**
 - National Association for the Dually Diagnosed
- **Partners in Policymaking**
 - Stacey Hoaglund
- **Florida SAN'D Fellows**
 - OMS

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4 PROJECTS BEING TAKEN IN-HOUSE FOR THE COMING YEAR

- PIP Alumni
- PIP Alternate Curriculum
- AGEDD Communities of Practice
- Researching Provider Solutions



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Developmental Disability Awareness Day Post-Event Summary

Presenter: Kimberly Galban-Countryman
Date: May 22, 2026



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Executive Summary

- **Event:**
 - 2026 DD Awareness Day & Dinner
 - February 9 & 10, 2026
 - Dinner @ Eve on Adams
 - DD Awareness Day @ Florida Capitol – 2nd Floor and Senate Portico
- **DD Awareness Day Attendance:**
 - Goal: 200
 - Total: 215
 - VIP Registrations – 46
 - Public Registrations – 112
 - Onsite Registrations – 43
 - Exhibitors – 14
- **Top Outcomes:**
 - Increased outreach
 - New exhibitors and new exhibitor guidelines
 - Luncheon



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Goals vs. Results

	Planned	Actual
Attendance	200	214+
Exhibitors	20	14
Partners	4	1
Attendee Satisfaction	Match or exceed last year's attendee satisfaction	Overwhelmingly positive feedback
Logistical Objectives	Preserve last year's standards for on-site operations and attendee flow	Goal met

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Operations & Logistics

- **Timing:**
 - Dinner Monday night at Eve on Adams
 - DD Day Feb. 10th from 9:00 am to 2:00 pm
 - Luncheon at noon at Senate Portico
- **Vendor/Partner Performance:**
 - RBOA
 - The Family Café
 - VCS Photography
 - Party Central Plus
 - APD Communications Office
 - Senate Rules Committee Office
- **Attendee Flow & Safety:**
 - Signage and maps worked
 - Plenty of time for movement to Portico and back



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Exhibitors

Institute for Quality Children's Services
Florida Association of Behavior Analysts
The Family Café
Special Olympics Florida
RESPECT of Florida
Medical Foster Care
FAAST
FL SAND & FL SAND Fellows
Florida Voices for Health
ABLE United
Disability Rights Florida
Sunrise Community Inc.
Florida Center for Students with Unique Abilities
Agency for Persons with Disabilities
Florida DD Council



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VIP Dinner



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Award Winners



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Highlights



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A special thank you to Director Bob Asztalos, Representative Allison Tant, and Jim DeBeaugrine for helping ensure DD Awareness Day was a huge success!

Q & A



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