



DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES PLANNING COUNCIL

MINUTES

December 7, 2009

10:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.

ARIZONA STATE CAPITOL – Eighth Floor Conference Room
1700 West Washington Street
Phoenix, Arizona 85007

A general meeting of the Developmental Disabilities Planning Council (DDPC) was convened on December 7, 2009 at the State Capitol Eighth Floor Conference Room, 1700 West Washington, Phoenix, Arizona 85007. Notice having been duly given. Present and absent were the following members of the DDPC.

Members Present

Stephen Tully, Chair	John Eckhardt
Karla Phillips, Vice Chair	Hayden Hanna
John Black	Joyce Millard Hoie
Barbara Brent	Will Humble
Susie Cannata	Edward Myers
Richard Carroll, Teleconference	Charles Ryan
Colette Chapman	Rhonda Webb
Leslie Cohen	
Monica Cooper	
David Copins	
David Cutty	

Staff/Guests Present

Patti Cordova, Interim Executive Director
Roberta Blyth
Marcella Crane
Ashley Starr
Sheryl Matney, ITACC

Members Absent

Colette Chapman
Greg Devorce
Tim Martin
Elmer Saufkie
Paul Suedkamp
Asim Varma

A. Call to Order: Welcome and Introductions

Chairman Tully welcomed everyone to the Developmental Disabilities Planning Council (DDPC or Council) meeting. All members introduced themselves. Chairman Tully introduced Beth Kohler Lazare, Policy Advisor for the Department of Health; also introduced was Christina Estes-Wherther as Policy Advisor for Human Services. On behalf of Governor Brewer Ms. Lazare extended her thanks to all Council members for their dedicated membership and for their

ratification of the State Plan at the previous meeting so that Arizona could continue to receive federal monies that assist the disabled community.

B. Approval of Minutes

The September 22, 2009 minutes were reviewed. No changes were offered. A motion was made by John Black to approve the minutes. Motion seconded by Charles Ryan. Motion carried.

C. Report from Interim Executive Director

- Patti Cordova introduced the new DDPC staff. Marcella Crane is the Contracts Manager and will oversee contracts for the Council; Roberta Blyth is the Fiscal Manager overseeing all spending of the federal grant; and Ashley Starr is the Executive Secretary II that will assist with all office administration and support to staff and Council activities
- Staff has currently been charged with cleaning and re-opening of the office. The location of the office was kept and a 12 month lease was signed, to include a 10% lease discount. At this time, all phones and computers are up and running. The official date of the opening of the office will be December 14, 2009. Please feel free to stop by the office we are located at 3839 N. Third Street, Suite 306, in Phoenix.
- As was previously mentioned, the old Council's website does not exist and at this time, we have established a link of the DDPC information on the Governor's website, at www.azgovernor.gov/DDPC. All information pertaining to the membership of the Council, Council agenda's, minutes, public meeting notices, and other documents will be posted on this website until the new Executive Director and Council makes a decision to stay with the Governor's website or contract out for services. It was noted that the website should be user friendly to those who have a developmental disabilities and if possible, to route the old website to the current one.
- A Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the Department of Economic Security (DES) has been drafted. This MOU outlines the roles and responsibilities that each has in terms of what the Council functions are and what DES does to support the Council as the Designated State Agency (DSA). The MOU must go through a formal review process, and is currently under review by DES.
- Included in the December 7 meeting packet is a list of Council member's term's for serving on the Council. Council members will either serve one, two or three year terms that must be staggered. Questions were asked regarding Council member re-appointment. Patti Cordova notified the Council that no re-application process is necessary. The Governor's Office for Boards and Commissions will make the re-appointment(s). Each Council member serves at the pleasure of the Governor and therefore changes may be made.

D. Phoenix Magazine and Letter to the Editor

Chairman Tully stated in the Council packet is the Phoenix Magazine article depicting the negative consequences of sun-setting the old Council, to include the lack of support and services for people with developmental disabilities. Chairman Tully responded to the article with a letter to the editor stating Governor Brewer took immediate action to reconstitute the Council so that the state would not be at-risk of losing federal dollars. Please see the response letter also included in the meeting packet for additional points.

E. Executive Director Recruitment

The Department of Administration released the DDPC Executive Director job posting resulting in over 130 applications. The applicants have been categorized by qualifications, and on Thursday, December 17th, seven of the most qualified applicants will be interviewed. A panel has been established to conduct interviews including, Chairman Tully, Susie Cannata, Joyce

Millard Hoie, Will Humble and Rhonda Webb. The Council is expecting to have a new Executive Director in January 2010.

F. National Association of Councils on Developmental Disabilities (NACDD) Conference/Business Meeting Report-Out

Will Humble, Interim Director for the Department of Health Services (DHS) and Charles Ryan, Director for the Department of Corrections (ADC), were in attendance of the NACDD annual conference in October 2009. Mr. Ryan, and Mr. Humble found the conference to be extremely beneficial. Other states were very aware that the previous Council was dissolved and now reconstituted many of which offered their support to Arizona's DDPC. Also mentioned was an Executive Director training that will be held in October 2010, and the association dues have been paid in full.

G. FY2010 Budget Cut Impacts

Will Humble, DHS, Barbara Brent, DES, Developmental Disabilities Division (DDD), and John Black with Arizona Health Care Cost Containment System (AHCCCS) spoke about the state budget impacts to their agencies. State agencies are in a hiring freeze and still awaiting feedback from the Governor's Office on what further budget reductions will be in place for the remainder of the fiscal year. Specific points made by each representative include:

- DHS: The most impacted DD related program is The Children Rehabilitative Services (CRS). This service assists children with disabilities and approximately 800-1000 families have been impacted.
- DES: The agency has experienced a 31% reduction in general funds for FY 2009. There has been an increase in families requesting assistance with AZ Long Term Care Services (ALTCS). Approximately 100 DDD staff have been laid off, and total staff laid off from work at DES is approximately 800. Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) funds are also at risk of been decreased. 85% of DES's budget is contracted out for children, adult and family services.
- AHCCCS: Staff levels have been reduced by approximately 7%. ALTCS satellite offices have been closed, thus requiring families to drive to the larger metropolitan offices to apply for services. Families requesting AHCCCS services are impacted by the long waiting period for paperwork processing.

H. Reviewing the Council Budget

Roberta Blyth, Fiscal Manager for the DPPC presented a summary on remaining and spent FY 2009 funds. Roberta stated that the carry-forward of federal fiscal year (FFY) 2009 grant funds from FFY 2009 to FFY 2010 was \$888,503. The total grant award for FFY 2010 is \$1,342,091 and \$302,510 has been received from the Department of Health and Human Services. Roberta gave a high level overview of important grant regulations. These requirements include:

- At least 70% of the grant allocation must be used for Council related activities.
- No more than 30% of the grant allocation can be used for administrative activities
- Up to 5% or \$50,000 may be used by the Designated State Agency, the Department of Economic Security to provide support to the Council
- At least 25% of total grant expenditures must be matched by non-federal sources in either cash or in-kind. There are some exceptions to this match requirement.
- Grant funds must be obligated by the end of the following year in which the funds are allocated. FFY 2009 grant funds must be obligated by September 30, 2010.

An overview of FFY 2009 expenditures was given, including administrative expenses and Council related activities.

Lunch

A short break for Council members and public members was provided. Lunch was served during the meeting for Council membership and guests. The meeting resumed upon all members receiving their lunch.

I. The Arizona State Plan

Patti Cordova presented a short power point presentation highlighting the purpose for reviewing the current DDPC State Plan for 2007-2011, what the outcomes should be, and the seven areas of emphasis currently identified. Council members were asked to review each area of emphasis goals and objectives and decide to retain, amend or not retain any part of the state plan. Assisting the Council members in this process was Sheryl Matney, Project Manager for Information and Technical Assistance for Councils on Developmental Disabilities (ITACC).

1. Area of Emphasis – Employment

Goal: All Individuals with developmental disabilities will have the choice to acquire, retain and advance in paid employment with benefits consistent with their interests, abilities and needs, including supported employment or self-employment in integrated settings in the community.

DDPC Comments: Amend Goal.

Objective 1: By 2011, 100 individuals with developmental disabilities with the most significant barriers to employment will have jobs with employers as a result of the implementation of best practices.

DDPC Comments: Amend. Project is partial completed. Leslie Cohen provided updates.

Objective 2: As circumstances dictate, the GCDD will advocate for the RSA/VR program to receive the state funding needed each year to access the full amount of federal funding available to Arizona for employment supports and services.

DDPC Comments: Amend. Objective should be more of a focus on advocacy and education.

2. Area of Emphasis – Education

Goal: All individuals with developmental disabilities from birth up to the age of twenty two will have full access to free and appropriate public education which includes all of the supports necessary to allow for equal participation within their community.

DDPC Comments: Retain Goal.

Objective 1: Schools will receive the state funding needed each year to provide special education services to students with developmental disabilities.

DDPC Comments: Do not retain, project is complete.

Objective 2: By 2011, 500 students with developmental disabilities, parents and/or family members representing three unserved and underserved populations of the state will utilize information they receive about their rights, responsibilities and protections under federal and state special education laws and regulations to advocate for special education services and supports.

DDPC Comments: Do Not Retain. Another entity is charged with providing this service; duplicative.

3. Area of Emphasis – Housing

Goal: All individuals with developmental disabilities will have unrestricted opportunities and choice for inclusive community living.

DDPC Comments: Amend Goal.

Objective 1: By 2011, five single family home developers in Arizona, including one developer that serves at least one un-served or underserved community, will incorporate visibility and universal design concepts in their planning and development efforts.

DDPC Comments: Do Not Retain.

Objective 2: By 2011, 1000 people with developmental disabilities and/or their family members will be informed of and access Arizona's affordable, accessible rental housing search services offered by Socialserve.

DDPC Comments: Council would like to revisit this objective. How to measure 1000 people, the amount of resources spent and what are the next steps? More information is needed to determine next steps.

4. Area of Emphasis – Health

Goal: All individuals with developmental disabilities will have access to and use of coordinated health, dental, behavioral health and other human and social services, including prevention activities, in their communities.

DDPC Comments: Retain Goal.

Objective 1: By 2011, all Medicaid-eligible ALTCS adults with developmental disabilities will have access to preventive dental care services.

DDPC Comments: Amend. Emergency dental care is still available; may be beneficial to pilot a project with a dental group to train dentists on how to provide dental service to people with developmental disabilities.

Objective 2: DES, Division of Aging and Adult Services is supporting the GCDD to support the participation of individuals with develop. disabilities in the planning and implementation of the Arizona Aging and Disability Resource Center, which is a web-base clearing house to help Arizona's seniors etc...

DDPC Comments: Council would like to revisit this objective; Barbara Brent volunteered to gather relevant information and report back to the Council.

Objective 3: By 2008 two hundred students graduating from Arizona medical schools and healthcare professionals will have the information that they need to provide services to individuals with developmental disabilities.

DDPC Comments: The objective has been met. The Council may want to look into expanding this goal.

5. Area of Emphasis – Transportation

Goal: All individuals with developmental disabilities will have choice and options for safe, affordable, reliable and coordinated transportation services for work, school, medical and personal needs.

DDPC Comments: Retain

Objective 1: By 2011, 25 individuals with developmental disabilities and family members, including 15 from unserved and underserved communities, will be supported to actively participate in existing groups to access current transportation needs for people with developmental disabilities and identify and implement solutions that address the needs of individuals with developmental disabilities statewide.

DDPC Comments: Amend. Affecting Policy; Move to Quality Assurance Emphasis; Too broad of an objective. Dial-A-Ride costs are up; Bus routes have been cut.

6. Area of Emphasis - Quality Assurance

Goal: The service system will be fully responsive to individuals with developmental disabilities.

DDPC Comment: This goal must be centered on self advocacy.

Objective 1: By 2011, the State of Arizona will develop and implement a standardized training and curriculum for direct support professionals serving people with developmental disabilities, which seeks to further professionalize the field of direct support.

DDPC Comments: Retain; ongoing objective with support from AHCCCS and DES.

Objective 2: By 2011, 500 individuals with developmental disabilities and/or their families or guardians of individuals with developmental disabilities will direct and have control over the individualized budget and services that they receive from the DES/DDD.

DDPC Comments: Amend.

Objective 3: By 2010, the Self Advocacy Coalition (SAC) of Arizona will be a non-profit organization and independently financially sustained.

DDPC Comments: Amend. As of March 2009 the SAC is a 501(c)3 / nonprofit. Per Sheryl, all SAC's need to be self sufficient without Council funding.

Objective 4: By 2011, 50 people with developmental disabilities, including individuals from unserved and underserved communities, will be active participants in cross-disability and culturally diverse leadership coalitions, as well as locally-based boards and commissions, such as housing boards and youth leadership coalitions.

DDPC Comments: Amend.

Objective 5: By 2011, the State of Arizona will ensure that day treatment and training programs funded by the DES/ DDD are monitored for compliance with health and safety standards.

DDPC Comments: Do not retain.

7. Area of Emphasis – Community Supports

Goal: All individuals with developmental disabilities will be valued participating members of their community and will have access to the full range of community services and supports.

Objective 1: By 2011, 50 individuals with developmental disabilities will receive supports to transition out of secure care settings and will remain in the community for a minimum of two years without re-offending.

DDPC Comments: This is not a reasonable objective; do not retain.

Objective 2: By 2008, 500 first responders will have the information that they need to support people with developmental disabilities in emergency situations.

DDPC Comments: Need to review further; not sure if project was complete.

Objective 3: By 2011, all people with developmental disabilities who have the capacity to vote will be afforded the opportunity to do so.

DDPC Comments: Amend.

Objective 4: By 2010, 200 people with developmental disabilities and their family members will access an established full service network, including legal professions, that is qualified to provide the information and support necessary to prepare for the life transitions that take place as people age.

DDPC Comments: Do not retain.

Objective 5: By 2010, 100 individuals with developmental disabilities and their families will receive emergency planning resources and training through the efforts of the GCDD through a partnership with U.S. Dept. of Homeland Security/FEMA, First Responders, and any other like organizations and agencies.

DDPC Comments: Amend. Link up to other county websites; this currently being done.

Objective 6: By 2010, 500 individuals with developmental disabilities and their families will be made aware of the resources that are available to assist them in maintaining quality of life during these tough economic times, and as a result of the cuts to services that they may be experiencing due to the budget crisis.

DDPC Comments: Not Discussed.

Objective 7: By 2010, the GCDD, in concert with DD Network, will facilitate a minimum of three developmental disabilities stakeholder meetings comprising but not limited to: the directorship of the lead disability advocacy organizations in AZ with the intent to brainstorm and collaborate on initiatives to ensure effective responsiveness to the emerging needs of individuals with developmental disabilities.

DDPC Comments: Not Discussed.

Objective 8: By 2010, the GCDD will partner with an additional 40 agencies and organizations on projects and activities that help to improve the quality of life for individuals with developmental disabilities and their families.

DDPC Comments: Not Discussed.

8. Cross Cutting Goal – This is not an Area of Emphasis, but is required

Goal 1: Members of the General public and policymakers statewide will be educated about the issues impacting the lives of individuals with developmental disabilities and be informed about the Council's initiatives.

Goal 2: Individuals with developmental disabilities and their family members, statewide, will receive tools and supports that they need to participate in the legislative process.

Goal 3: Individuals with developmental disabilities and their family members, statewide, will have access to all relevant information that they require in a format that is sensitive to their individual needs.

DDPC Comments: Not discussed.

J. Schedule Future Meetings

The next DDPC meeting is scheduled for January 25th, 10:00 am to 2:00 pm. Meeting location and an agenda will be forthcoming. Also mentioned, scheduling Council Meetings on a more long term basis.

K. Call to the Public

Chairman Tully made a call to the public. Comments were taken from Ms. Rebecca Phifer, Ms. Karen Van Epps, Ms. Trisha Jones, and Ms. Margaret White.

- Rebecca Phifer: Ms. Phifer is a San Simon resident, and stated that she was a former Council Member and community liaison. She mentioned that there is currently no Council

representation for District Six. She also briefly mentioned the Partners in Policymaking leadership training program as a good means for individuals to learn.

- Karen Van Epps: Would like more support for families, and advocacy group in areas that are not able to advocate on their own behalf.
- Trisha Jones: Prior Council member, notified the Council of her background/experience, and offered her assistance/expertise to the Council.
- Margaret “Midge” White: Prior Legislative Liaison would like to see the Council work on projects related to legislative advocacy. Ms. White offered her welcome and distributed invitations to an upcoming event being held December 11th and 12th, 2009 serving artists with disabilities at the Az Arts Collective Gallery.

L. Adjournment

Edward Myers moved to adjourn the meeting. David Cutty seconded the motion. With no further discussion, the motion passed.

Dated the 16th Day of December, 2009
Developmental Disabilities Planning Council