

IOWA DD Council

Preparation, Participation, Power

DD Council Meeting Minutes, November 12, 2020

Attendees:

Council Members

Alecia Balduf	Al Fagerlund
Kelley Rice	Rob Fisher
Mark Schneider	Judy Warth
Rob Roozeboom	Hugh Kelly
Kristine Dreckman	Roxanne Cogil
Brady Werger	Kitty Hedderich
Carol Cross	Thomas Mayes
Jean Willard	Amber Gale
Jane Hudson	Al Fagerlund
Kristen Aller	
Mark Smith	
Paula Motsinger	
Jean Willard	

Staff

Lindsay Leonetti
Brooke Lovelace
Bill Kallestad

Members Absent

Jason Goulden

Members of the public

Connie Faneslow
Marissa Eyanson
John McCalley
Lisa Yunek
Julie Bergeson

Call to order:

Council Chair Dreckman called the Iowa Developmental Disabilities Council (DD Council) meeting to order on November 12, 2020 at 10:30 a.m. via Zoom. A quorum was established after introductions.

Agenda Item/Approval of Minutes and Agenda: Motion to approve the September 10, 2020 minutes by Werger, seconded by Fisher. Motion passes. Motion to approve November 12, 2020 agenda by Aller, Seconded by Fisher. Motion passes.

Agenda Item/Department of Human Services (DHS) update: Marissa Eyanson, Division Administrator, Mental Health and Disability Services shared information about current DHS initiatives and projects as well as efforts to build community based services. DHS has a strategic plan in order to ensure that individuals have the right services at the right time while receiving the best care possible. DHS does understand that there are issues with continuum of care, as well as geographic issues and systematic capacity issues.

Discussion from Council members:

Schneider said one of the largest barriers is the lack of transportation in rural areas. Is this part of the DHS plan? Eyanson: DHS is addressing this barrier and improving a lot of the supports DHS has in place. Roozeboom asked about details of the strategic plan. What are the next action steps? Eyanson said that DHS has to do a gap analysis to get to a better understanding of geographic need. That is the first task in learning about need so that DHS gets an accurate picture of where they are. Fisher asked about family members being host homes for people with disabilities. Eyanson is going to meet with him and better understand his situation. Roozeboom also asked why family members aren't chosen more often when it appears they know the individual the best and are an obvious choice. Eyanson suggested engaging the

council in a discussion at a later date about family care giving and inviting people from DHS who have more expertise in this matter. Hudson asked about the completion of the Supports Intensity Scale plans from Woodward and Glenwood. Eyanson to get the Council a report on those assessments as they are completed. Hudson asked about the exact number of people who may have transferred and Eyanson said she will share the information with the Council at a later date. Hudson asked about who is really paying for this daily rate for the State Resource Centers and would like confirmation sent to the Council that MCOs are paying. Hudson also asked about the DD council funding the Positive Behavior supports. This item was tabled in the last meeting and Hudson questioned why are we paying professionals to get trained when they should already be trained and at the same time not funding more services for people who are transitioning. Eyanson said that the need is vast and is very important. DHS is trying to widen the net to get the people trained because it's very valuable. Dreckman shared that more information about this project will be shared later in the Council meeting. Cogil said that Covid has made it hard to have a community integration plan and do it safely. She asked what the temporary solution for community integration is during Covid. Eyanson: During this time community integration has moved forward and the expansion to telehealth has been a great tool for this. DHS is working to make sure that telehealth is available after Covid. Warth shared that she is in support of family members being care providers because of the benefits that can provide. Warth also asked how the DD Council can support DHS and the initiatives they have. Eyanson said to share with people what the Council is doing with their networks and legislators; a big component is accurate data that is shared by professionals and family. Eyanson encouraged the Council to email her to share successes and stories about what they are working on. Eyanson also directed members to the DHS website that has the strategic plan including success stories.

[Agenda Item: Make Your Mark! Virtual Conference Review:](#) There were many challenges that the conference encountered this year, but we found new ways to be successful and help people connect with important info. Werger shared that the conference was very good and was a great resource for him. It was especially helpful because there were more people with disability who shared their experience. Feedback on the sessions and conference was very positive overall and included valuable information for possible future virtual events. The sessions are now all closed captioned and are working on translating sessions into Spanish and will share the sessions on the ID Action website when done.

[Agenda Item/ Legislative preview:](#)

With the elections taking place this year, one in six legislators will be new legislators. Session will start on 1/11. Campbell and Kallestad are working on a "Meet Your Legislator Day" instead of having the Council host a Day on the Hill. Campbell and the DD Council be hosting monthly call-ins again in 2021 during the session. These discussions and calls really helped get some legislation in front of legislators last session, including the adult changing table bill and people with disabilities being organ donor's bill. Some other issues that will likely be discussed are telehealth, mental health funding complex needs, a possible Iowa Department of Public Health and DHS merger, economic recovery, and redistricting the state. Campbell went over how to use features that are available on the infoNET website such as the Grass Root Action Center.

[Agenda Item/ Executive Committee Report:](#)

Lovelace discussed the 2019 and 2020 budget. The council will be meeting with DHS accounting to ensure the final budget 2019 expenses. We are over obligated for 2019, but Covid has affected many of

the projects that the DD Council has in progress. If projects spend all of the funds, then the 2019 funds will roll over to 2020. There is approximately \$402,000 of 2020 funds that needs to be obligated.

Potential new Projects:

DHS Person Centered Positive Behavioral Support Leadership Program Proposal: This agenda item was approved by the EC at the September meeting. It was then discussed and then tabled so more information could be provided in today's meeting. There is a \$10,000 budget. Lovelace said that this is just one tool to help providers build capacity. There are a number of providers and organizations that will benefit from this training. Willard asked if there are other funds besides DD Council's funds being used to fund this training. Connie Faneslow with DHS said no, no direct funds from other organizations. The funds from the DD Council are used for the contractor that provides this training and technical assistance through DHS. Willard expressed concern about MCOs and DHS are receiving training for this when she feels those organizations should be using their own resources for this training. Warth asked how we are engaging people with disabilities in this. Lovelace said this training is just one tool out of many to help individuals with disabilities to transition and live in the community. Motsinger said that DHS found that staff training is lacking and workers have expressed that they are not trained to deal with the more complex behaviors. The goal of this project is to train individuals on how to deal with these behaviors and how to train others in their organization. It has created a state leadership available to help people remain in the community once they transition. Fisher asked if any training has taken place for family caregivers. Faneslow said that the training has not taken place yet, but they would be willing to have this available for family members. Mayes said that there is a definite need out there to fund this project. Mayes seconded to approve this. Warth and Motsinger abstained. Fisher opposed. Motion passed.

Employment Transformation Grants - These grants are similar to the grants we gave last year. This year we are changing the amount of the individual grants to \$25,000. Timeline is shorter with the projects and contracts will begin in February and end in September. The EC met in October to approve this. Aller seconded to approve and motion passed.

Recruiting and Retention project with Center for Disabilities and Development Update: This is a contract with the UCEDD to work with up to four Supported Community Living providers to provide an innovative way to hire and retain direct service providers. The budget for this project is \$129,400. The providers contracted with will also agree to transition at least two individuals living in one of the two State Resource Centers (Woodward and Glenwood) by September 30, 2022. Aller seconded to approve this project. Motioned passed. Fisher opposed. Warth and Motsinger abstain. Motion carried.

2021 Legislative Priorities – Kallestad commended council members Fisher and Werger for their advocacy they have done with their local and state representatives and that this type of advocacy is so important for the council so that leaders know who the DD Council is and the kind of work that we do. Kallestad said it is now time for the Council to shape out priorities for 2021. Kallestad asked for volunteers to meet in December to help draft the legislative priorities, and schedule events with the legislators so that we can get the ball rolling. Fisher, Aller, Werger and Fagerlund volunteers to be on the committee (Cogil may join as well) Cogil suggested having an action item list and also making telehealth a priority. Kallestad will also make the opportunity to be on the committee available for those who left the meeting early.

Upcoming Council meetings: Council meetings will be held via Zoom until at least May 2021, and Council will reevaluate the Covid situation to see if we will hold in person meetings at that time. The

council have to have a July meeting because there will be issues that will need to be voted on. The November meeting will be held on November 4, 2021. Leonetti to send calendar for 2021 meetings.

Agenda Item/ Review of State Plan Draft Goals, Objectives and

Activities: Dreckman asked the council members to read all emails and information that will be sent out about the State Plan in the coming months. It is important for the Council to research and be informed of the decisions that will need to be made. Pieces of the State Plan will be emailed starting next week in order to get feedback on each goal and activities.

Objective One: Increase the number of lowans with Disabilities and family members who engage in the civic and political decision-making process.

Discussion: Aller asked for clarification on what a S.M.A.R.T Goal is. Lovelace shared that the acronym stand for Smart, Measureable, Achievable, Relevant, Time-Based. Lovelace said that the monthly legislative calls need to be added as an activity.

Objective Two: Increase the number of lowans with Disabilities including young adults, and their family members, that lead and mentor others and take on leadership roles in projects that increase the inclusion of people with disabilities in community living.

Discussion: Lovelace noted that young adults are now included on this goal. Lovelace also noted that it is important for people with disabilities to be on boards and communities at any level, e.g. City Councils and other boards/commissions that are not necessarily disability focused. Another part of this goal is to have an individual with a disability who would work for the ID Action project as a staff person/intern.

Objective Three: Increase the number of lowans with disabilities that successfully advocate for their own health care needs.

Discussion: This is a new objective, and was found to be important to those who were surveyed. Willard shared that Title V Would be happy to partner with this goal.

Dreckman reiterated that there will be emails and resources to aid members in their decisions being shared in the coming months.

Council Updates: Werger shared that he meets every Monday with a group and all members have a disability. Werger shared that he directed the other members to the Council if they have any questions about advocacy.

Kelly is participating in a planning committee for a self-advocates conference for Iowa and other neighboring states. They will have an event in August of 2021.

Public comment: Lisa Yunek shared with the Council via the chat box: "We do need the continuum that is provided for in the strategic plan and Iowa Code. I know of a rare instance where a person has failed 5 times in the community and the family is begging to have him returned to Woodward. He is complex and community providers keep using medication to control his behavior. His health has deteriorated. Sometimes - we have to let people choose the institution (where he succeeded in this case.) It can't be a one way street. Community providers say they don't have enough staff to provide the agreed upon plan but the State Admin Code says community providers have to provide enough staff to support plans. So...what's up with that?"

Public Comment: Marsha Fisher: shared that she feels that family being providers is an important issue and to continue that care. They recently were notified of a change to their case manager and the change has been a difficult transition. She hopes that cases can be more individualized.

Move to adjourn by Werger second by Kelly. Adjourned at 2:23.