

# IOWA DD Council

Preparation, Participation, Power

## DD Council Meeting Minutes, September 10, 2020

### Attendees:

#### Council Members

Alecia Balduf	Al Fagerlund
Kelley Rice	Rob Fisher
Mark Schneider	Judy Warth
Rob Roozeboom	Jason Goulden
Kristine Dreckman	Roxanne Cogil
Brady Werger	Kitty Hedderich
Carol Cross	Thomas Mayes
Jean Willard	Amber Gale
Jane Hudson	Al Fagerlund

#### Staff

Lindsay Leonetti  
Brooke Lovelace

#### Members Absent

Kristen Aller  
Hugh Kelly

#### Members of the public

Connie Faneslow	Mike Hoenig
John McCalley	Jill Avery
Lisa Yunek	
Julie Bergeson	

---

### Call to order:

Council Chair Dreckman called the Iowa Developmental Disabilities Council (DD Council) meeting to order on September 10, 2020 at 10:04 a.m. via Zoom. A quorum was established after introductions.

Agenda Item/Approval of Minutes and Agenda: Motion to approve June 11, 2020 minutes by Werger, Balduf seconded. Minutes approved. Motion to approve September 10, 2020 agenda by Balduf, seconded by Warth. Minutes approved.

### Agenda Item/ Executive Committee Report:

Derecho Relief Grants: Council member Werger explained what led him to recommend the idea for grants to assist people who have been affected by the derecho. The EC approved funding for 10 -\$1,000 grants and have awarded \$6,250.00 for items such as food, cleaning items, generators, and other items.

The purchase of a webcam for the council office was approved by the EC in August and will be installed in the Council office in time for the November Council meeting.

2021 budget: Lovelace shared the 2021 budget for the council. Lovelace explained what has changed from last year's budget. Also added, was \$20,000 for grants so that the council has funding in case projects are proposed during the year. Smith seconded. Budget is approved.

Executive Committee Vice Chair and one additional member: Council member Elyn Holton-Dean resigned on August 25th leaving the EC with the need for a Vice Chair. The EC recommended Werger to be Vice Chair, Mayes seconded. Motion passed. The EC also recommended to approve Kelly as an EC member at large. Seconded by Willard. Motion passed.

Review of 2020 financial statement: The Council had no questions on the 2020 financial statement.

Department of Human Services Positive Behavioral Support Project - This is a “train the trainer” program and 21 individuals have completed the training. DHS is asking for an additional \$10,000 to receive additional technical assistance needed for this program. Hudson voiced concern that this project does not focus on the individual, and instead focuses on trainers. She asked how this project actually helps transition people from the State Resource Centers into the community and how many are served. Hudson shared that she would like to identify individuals who want to transition and suggested that the project should focus on being the first point of contact with those individuals to see what supports they need in order to transition successfully. Dreckman suggested that the Council can ask DHS to submit a report about this project. Hudson motioned that the council table this agenda item until the November meeting. Schneider seconded. Mayes opposed. Motion passes. Hudson also motioned that DHS share a report, prior to the November Council meeting, that details the DHS Community Integration Plan and the progress made so far. Mayes seconded. Motion approved. Lovelace did share that the project plans to start in November, and the Council cannot mandate DHS to give us a report.

Upcoming meetings: The November Council meeting will be held via Zoom.

## Review of State Plan Executive Summary from our last meeting

Advocacy Goal: Balduf suggested that we need training on how to better make our meetings more inclusive and person-centered such as training for self-advocates on how to be advocates and participate in meetings. Werger said that for the Community Ambassador Program they had Wendy Olinger help do training on how to lead and be effective meeting participants and suggested that we contact her to help with a training such as this. Warth said Youth Leadership Academy may be able to be replicated. This was a project with supported by the Council and implemented by the Department of Human Rights and the Center for Disabilities and Development Dreckman suggested a training to help people with developmental disabilities be successful at being boards and commissions members. Cross suggested we make this a topic at the Make your Mark! Conference. Mayes feels that training on mentorship and training on leadership are two separate things; complementary but different. Willard suggested that training on how to be an ally on boards and committees would be useful. Fisher shared that he is a volunteer for several organizations and would be willing to be a mentor.

Targeted Disparity Goal and rural Iowa: Motsinger shared that rural Iowans have a tough time in getting reliable internet service and suggested sending Hotspots to help people connect who live in rural Iowa. Lovelace shared that some organizations who received the Covid-19 grants were able to send some hotspots out to individuals. Lovelace agreed that there is definitely a need for this.

System Change Goals: Motsinger spoke about the Intellectual Disability Waiver and the shortage of providers across the state who do psychological evaluations. The evaluations are what holds up the process. More advocates are needed to help with legislation and push for funding to buy down the waitlist.

Transportation: Cogil shared that transportation is an important issue, and even more so in rural areas. It is especially difficult on evenings and weekend. How can the Council help bridge that gap? Fisher shared that he uses taxis as a form of transportation, but that there is no way to request a taxi with a ramp. A service or app would be very useful.

State Plan Development and next steps: EC has draft objectives and goals they will meeting about soon. The aim is to review the State Plan in the November meeting.

## Update on Summer and Future Projects

IABLE Webinar: A webinar was held in August in partnership with the Department of the Treasury, and August was "Able Month". Anyone can access the webinar on the council website or here: [IABLE webinar](#). Balduf was a panelist on this and shared her experience.

Iowa Compass Social Check-ins: The DD Council worked with Iowa Compass from the University Center for Excellence on Developmental Disabilities after they received a grant from FEMA to help with the COVID Recovery Iowa program for people with DD. A post card was sent out to the Iowans with Disabilities in Action network informing them of the COVID Recovery Iowa Program. Iowa Compass is also calling Iowans with Disabilities in Action network to discuss COVID and its impact on them. Compass is realizing how valuable this type of social check-in is and they are receiving more money to keep this going.

Social Isolation Discussion with Lisa Heddens: Heddens, who is a former State Representative and currently a Story County Supervisor, shared her experience about how she is socially isolated from her adult son who has a disability. She talked about how to deal with social isolation with a family member and how to connect with them. Werger shared his experience with his grandfather and how they communicated during isolation.

Make your Mark! Conference Update – MYM is going on now virtually during the noon hour. There are 4 sessions left. You can find more information here: [Make Your Mark! Conference](#)

Voter trainings - Kallestad has been conducting voter trainings virtually. Upcoming trainings are with Autism Society on 10/24 and Department of Education will be coming up during the 2nd week of October. Voter education grants are available to people who want to conduct voter education events in their communities.

National Disability Employment Awareness Month (October) activities: The Council is developing a video showcasing people working and has invited the Governor to participate in a meeting to show the video and have a discussion with employers and employees. After the election, we plan to host a legislative breakfast with state legislators.

**Youth Leadership Academy Project:** This was held August 4-7, and a graduation ceremony was held on 8/18. These were 90 minute virtual sessions. The Department of Human Rights, DD Council, and Center for Disabilities and Development conducted the training sessions. Topics were goal setting, self-determination, civic engagement, leadership, social networking and mentoring. Six students participated in the project. Warth said this was a very valuable experience for her and the students, and was fun to watch the progress of the students. Lovelace said that we will keep this project going because it falls in with the State plan.

**Council Updates:** Fisher feels that the Governor should mandate masks in the State of Iowa. He wrote a letter to her asking her to mandate masks. He is asking the Council to write a letter on behalf of the DD Council asking for a mask mandate. Motion made by Fisher to have the DD Council write a letter in support of a mask mandate, seconded by Smith. Roozeboom, Balduf, and Werger opposed. Mayes, Willard, Warth, Dreckman and Motsinger abstained. Motion passed.

Cogil shared that Epilepsy Conference is October 31st and will be held virtually.

**Public Comment:** None

Motion to adjourn by Werger, seconded by Balduf. Meeting adjourned at 2:05.