



Colorado Developmental Disabilities Council
Council Meeting Minutes
May 24, 2017



ISSUE:

1. Welcome/ Mission Moment
2. Minutes of March 15, 2016
3. ED Report
4. Chair/Vice-chair voting
5. Budget Report
6. Planning & Grants Report
7. Legislative & Public Policy Update
8. Adjournment

DISCUSSION:

1. Council convened at 12:15 pm by Ed George.
2. Opening video: “Here is to the Crazy Ones”
3. Robert Lawhead presented examples from personal experience related to accommodating and assisting with gaining employment in appropriate environments. How taking the time to look at each individual on a case by case basis, positive results and impacts can be made.
4. Quorum present: Review of minutes. Lisa Franklin wanted comments removed from her explanation of attending the Association for Positive Behavior Intervention Supports. Motion to approve minutes as amended made by Lisa Franklin, 2nd received from Robert Buzogany.
5. ED Report presented by Marcia Tewell. Presentation of Director selected names for appointment to Council. New Council appointments recommended are: Alicia Eakins, Kristin M. Erby, Julie V. Schleusener, Paulette J. Steinhoff, Deborah M. Williams.
6. **Claire Dickson** provided status update of Waiver Redesign Council. Current changes in implementation are undergoing form re-writes, and are expected to be completed before the end of the year. **Shannon Secrest** added that the waiver rewrite will be used as a template for the Childrens Waiver to be re-written based on new adult waiver forms and program.
7. **Rob Buzogany** conducted Chair and Vice-chair election to designate new Council Chairperson and Vice-chairperson. 10 ballots received. Shanon Secrest elected Chairperson, Jeanette Cordova elected Vice-chairperson. Question regarding quorum for election brought to attention of Executive Director and Robert Buzogany. Election results approved and finalized by Executive Director.
8. 2017 Disability Policy Seminar:
Lisa Franklin provided information about interaction with Rep Coffman’s aids. Ms. Franklin obtained direct email for Congressional aid to maintain communication and provide information about Healthcare changes, Medicaid cuts and the impacts to the citizens of Colorado. Also had the opportunity to speak with Congresswoman Degette, who was very informed and understood the impacts the changes would have on Colorado. “Stories make you memorable.”
Jessica Howard: the diverse people and discussions presented at the seminar was informative and gave positive direction for communication and information sharing between seminar attendees and hill visits when advocates were in contact with congressional aids and offices.

Ms. Howard identified that some aids were well versed in subjects and regional differences, but that others were less than prepared for the information presented.

Robert Buzogany: spoke with different representatives and found that each office had some people who were versed in the subject matter, and others who seemed a little lost in trying to keep up with the information being presented. All offices seemed interested and attentive to everyone, and made efforts to understand as much information as possible.

Deon Gillespie: "The Latest in Messaging and Data for Advocacy", presented by Rebecca Vallas, Managing Director for the Poverty to Prosperity Program at the Center for American Progress. She was formerly a legal aid attorney.

Broader message: In the last election, voters were not voting for what we are now faced with. The majority of those of us who voted were not looking to expand tax cuts for the rich and never realized that Medicaid, SSI and related programs and policies would ultimately be on the chopping block.

Key Point: Congressional offices keep track of contacts, emails, letters and in person meetings. These keep a tally and total regarding different subjects, and that the representatives do in fact pay attention to those counts and totals.

Marcia Tewell: presented for herself and Sarita Reddy. The seminar was informative, provided for networking and sharing of best practices. There were continued sharing of tips and hints for talking with Senators and Representatives to provide the best information that will be retained by the aids and congressional offices for policy advancement.

9. Budget report: Mackenzie Helton presented and explained the current status of the 3 separate grants being tracked by the office. Identified some places where money will have to be shifted from one grant year to another to prevent overspending grant funding from one year to the next. Travel to attend the 2017 Disability Policy Seminar will probably be shifted to FFY2016 to offset the travel expenses for the fiscal year.
10. Planning & Grants: Susan Fager presented current updates about Grant programs. Provided dates and schedules for Grantee events for Council members to attend and review how programs being funded are working.
11. Public Policy: Robert Lawhead updated Council on changes to Public Polic Committee meetings changing to one meeting a month outside of Legislative session. New action alerts will be going out as events unfold and new updates from the Congressional Budget Office (CBO) are released. Discussions about continued contact with Legislators and monitoring of Senate actions surrounding on AHCA would be maintained and information sent to Council as events happen.
12. Adjournment at 3:57 PM.

**NEXT COUNCIL MEETING: July 26, 2017;
Daniel's Fund, 101 Monroe Street, Denver, CO 80206**

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No Action Items this Council Meeting

Those in attendance: Jessica Howard, Ed George, Sarah Metsch, Peggy Spaulding, Lisa Franklin, Willie Wade, Shanon Secrest, Claire Dickson, Rob Buzogany, Deon Gillespie, Anuska Ullal (GTM, Left at 12:45pm), Corey Mineo (GTM, dropped off at 1:15pm)

Those absent: Senator Irene Aguilar, Mellisa Umphenour, Melissa Mannix, Jennie Munthali , Sarita Reddy, Barb Ramsey, Harold Wright, Sandra Friedman, Jeanie Benfield, Jeanette Cordova, Gina Herrera, Patricia Henke,

Staff Present: Marcia Tewell, Robert Lawhead, Mackenzie Helton, Susan Fager, Seth Downs

Guests: Mark Wester (OCAI), Angela Maramba (B&C Liaison), Shelly Dill (CDLE), Brooke Vandervelder, Alicia Eakins