

FINAL

NC COUNCIL ON DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES

www.nccdd.org

Quarterly Council Meeting Minutes Hilton, Greenville, NC & ZoomGov

November 9, 2023

MEMBERS PRESENT: Dawn Allen, Katherine Boeck, Rep. Terry Brown, Jr., Carol Ann Conway, Danielle Matula (for Yvonne Copeland), Kelly Crosbie, Bryan Dooley, Jonathan D'Angelo, Myron Gavin, Joshua Gettinger, Tony Hall, Carol Ann Hudgens, Gary Junker, Aldea LaParr, Charlrean Mapson, Will Miller, Karey Perez, Anna Ward (for Joseph Piven), Rebecca Putnam, Marjorie Serralles-Russell, Bethany Smith, Donna Spears, Amy Eaton (for Carla West).

MEMBERS ABSENT: Senator Sydney Batch, Rhonda Cox, Rep. Zack Hawkins, Brendon Hildreth, Virginia Knowlton Marcus, Tocarra Osborne, Nessie Siler, Dale Stephenson, Peggy Terhune, Sandra Terrell

STAFF PRESENT: Pam Hunter Dempsey, Cora Gibson, Chris Hendricks, David Ingram, Irlanda Ruiz, La'Quadia Smith, Melissa Swartz, Talley Wells, Shar'ron Williams, Philip Woodward, Letha Young

CONTRACTORS/GUESTS PRESENT: Kenneth Bausell, Rylan Carlson, Beverly Colwell, Caryn Cook, Adam Combs, Dreama McCoy, Pablo Puente, Devika Rao, Ginger Yarbrough

WELCOME AND ATTENDANCE

Bryan Dooley, NCCDD-Chair, welcomed the members. Bryan asked any Council member with a potential conflict of interest regarding items on the agenda to identify the specific conflict for documentation in the minutes and recuse, as necessary. He thanked the members for their participation on Thursday.

Donna Spears conducted the roll call.

APPROVAL OF COUNCIL MINUTES

Donna Spears asked for approval of the August Council meeting minutes. A copy of the minutes had previously been made available to Council members.

MOTION: Carol Ann Conway made a motion to approve the August 2023 minutes. Katherine Boeck seconded the motion. The motion was approved by unanimous vote.

NEW MEMBER AFFIRMATION

Judge Carolyn Thompson conducted an affirmation to the Council and the State of North Carolina for the following newest Council members and alternates: Yvonne Copeland, Carol Ann Hudgens, and Ginger Yarbrough. Donna Spears, Jon D'Angelo, Marjorie Serralles-Russell, Danielle Matula, Amy Eaton, Dr. Charlrean Mapson, Dr. Junker, Bethany Smith, and Kelly Crosbie.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Talley Wells, Executive Director of NCCDD provided an update of the Council's activities since the August 2023 Council meeting. First, Talley shared that the Council presented at and/or engaged in several meetings which are as follows: Secretary Kinsley and DHHS Leadership on Workforce Shortage (Presentation); NC Provider's Council (Presentation); NC APSE Conference (Presentation) and the PACID Conference in Chapel Hill on 11/15/23.

Talley then shared updates on the Council's work relating to the following taskforces:

- NC Caregiver Council
- All Ages/All Stages
- EJEC (Essential Jobs, Essential Care)
- Work Together NC

Talley also updated on the following:

- NC Budget (Passed)- Medicaid Expansion (Starting Up)
- Historically Black Colleges and Universities Inclusive Postsecondary Education – Initiative Start
- ALP-NC Train the Trainer – Additional Efforts/Trainings Started
- Disability Leadership Network – Initiative Start
- Community Living Mini-Grants Released, Applied for & Awarded (7)
- Proactive Approaches to Justice RFA – RFA Developed
- Guardianship Health Proposal - Developed
- Policy Data Proposal - Developed
- The Council said Goodbye to Dr. Tamira White
- Interviews Started for Systems Change Manager Position
- Worked on Potential Revisions to State's NCCDD Statute(s)

Finally, Talley shared a brief schedule of upcoming events for the Council, which are:

- December Winter i2i Conference: Competitive Integrated Employment
- Reentry Initiative Presentation in December at NADD Conference
- Mini-Grants – Work Initiating
- Upcoming Requests for Applications (Proactive Approaches to Justice)
- Media Relations Request for Proposals (RFP) Posted in Late 2023
- Learning More on Federal Budget and its Impact on NCCDD FY 2024 Budget

FINANCIAL REPORT

Bryan Dooley gave a brief report on the financial status of the Council. A copy of the report had previously been made available in advance of the Council Meeting. Shar'ron Williams additionally reviewed the information with Council members on Wednesday, giving a brief report and *Question and Answer* session in each committee meeting.

NC DHHS UPATE

Kenneth Bausell gave a brief update on Medicaid Expansion. Kenneth mentioned that more North Carolinians can get healthcare through Medicaid due to the federal matching rate (FMAP) on state healthcare expenditures. Kenneth also shared information about services NC Medicaid covers as well as an overview of the Medicaid Expansion Tool Kit, other related Medicaid Expansion resources and Medicaid Expansion outreach efforts (e.g., Medicaid Essentials Public Outreach, Family Planning Flyer, ePASS Demo, etc.), and Medicaid Expansion.

LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

Representative Terry Brown, Jr. gave a brief legislative update sharing information on:

- Innovations Waiver Slots – Funding for Additional 350 Individuals with I/DD (\$10 Million, Recurring)
- Competitive, Integrated Employment (\$5 Million, Recurring)
- Career Pathways Support for Students with Intellectual Disabilities – Funds for Regional Supp. Network
- Medicaid Expansion
- Short Session Discussions: Additional Funds Opening Up to Consider for I/DD Needs and Efforts
- Short Session Efforts/General Discussions/Bill Discussions Start in January 2024

PUBLIC COMMENT

Adam Combs, Co-Founder of NC Direct shared information about Waypoint Adventure. Adam stated that Waypoint runs a variety of different outdoor adventure programs focused on making them accessible to people with disabilities. Waypoint's mission is challenging people with disabilities to discover their purpose, talents, and strengths so - in addition to supporting individuals in going out having fun again - Waypoint provides fully accessible adventure programs like hiking, kayaking, and rock climbing. Waypoint also supports organizations and individuals in designing such programs. Adam stated that Waypoint Adventure believes that when you think about Waypoint's mission statement and discover your purpose, talents, and strengths - you also discover peace.

Dr. Joshua Gettinger and Dr. Rebecca Putnam talked about and MAHEC, Vaya Health, and Dr. Putnam's upcoming Poster Presentation on 'A Collaborative Consultative Model for Enhancing the Care of Adults with Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities Within the Framework of Enhancing Resident Education' at the American Public Health Association's National Conference. Dr. Gettinger and Dr. Putnam provided an overview of the Problem, the MAHEC Consultative Clinic, the Clinic's Goals, and the Current State (Through may 2023) – sharing that the IDD clinic has been open since 2017, reviewed the clinic's referral sources and numbers, and outlined that the clinic teaches doctors how to collaborate and work with adult patients who have developmental disabilities.

Carol Ann Conway shared with the Council that there are individuals with I/DD who may not earn a living wage, benefit from the Council's efforts, and/or proceed to gain full restoration of guardianship. Carol outlined two stories of individuals/families in crisis to remind the Council of this population and their needs and varieties of experiences. Carol described a Wake County Family in crisis, with no DSP in the last 6 years despite possessing services through the Innovations Waiver and leading to guardian job loss and potential homelessness. As a result, the individual and family are seeking an ICF and/or PRTF Placement. Carol then described another individual in need who's family connected with a Senator, discussed their needs, and received an emergency waiver alongside more services and supports than Carol states are needed.

Kay McMillian thanked the Council for the Conference Fund's Speaker Fees for the 2023 Youth Leadership Forum. Kay also shared information on a housing issue that she experienced, with Kay's HOA informing Kay that Kay's over-3-Year use of an Accessible Parking Spot was no longer allowed, as the HOA does not permit long-term use of Accessible Parking stating that someone else might need to use it. Kay invited the Council to share ideas on resolving the issue outside of the Council meeting.

Bethany Smith provided the Council with an update on Bethany's recent experiences and issues with the healthcare and LME/MCO system in NC and healthcare system in Denver, Colorado.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Bryan Dooley requested the presentation of committee reports. Please refer to the committee minutes for a detailed description of each committee's work.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

The Executive Committee members met on August 21, September 18, and October 16, 2023. Copies of the minutes were made available to Council members and Bryan Dooley asked members to review the minutes. Ryan Rotundo also announced as a reminder that the minutes are also posted on the NCCDD website.

MOTION: Bryan Dooley made a motion on behalf of the Executive Committee for:

The 2024 NCCDD standing committee chairs as follows; Tony Hall for Financial Asset Development, Charlrean Mapson for Community Living, Marjorie Serralles-Russell for the Public Policy Education Committee, and Donna Spears for Advocacy Development Committee.

Will Miller seconded the motion. The motion was approved by majority vote.

FINANCIAL ASSET DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

Committee Chair Tony Hall presented the Financial Asset Development Committee report. He thanked all committee members and staff and gave a brief update on the discussions from the Wednesday meeting, including the initiative updates that were presented to the committee.

COMMUNITY LIVING COMMITTEE

Dr. Charlrean Mapson, D. Min. Chair presented the Community Living Committee report. She thanked all committee members and staff and gave a brief update on the discussions from the Wednesday meeting, including initiative updates that were presented to the committee. The following motions were presented on the floor for Council consideration:

MOTION: Charlrean Mapson, D. Min. made a motion on behalf of the Community Living Committee to authorize NCCDD to release a Request for Applications (RFA) for a three-year *Proactive Approaches to Justice for People with I/DD* initiative. NCCDD's staff, with final approval from the Executive Committee, will have the authority to determine the following information to add to the draft RFA that the Community Living Committee received on November 3rd:

- The release date and due date;
- The funding amount with a required 25% minimum non-federal match;
- Add measurable outcomes beyond numbers trained and any language relevant to this;
- Information regarding the RFA process, itself, such as clarification within the RFA as to what constitutes a completed application in order to ensure that applicants will submit complete, rather than incomplete, applications.
- Information requiring a gap and availability analysis during the first year of the initiative to see where the needs are for training and what those needs are to try to meet these needs in the second and third years of the initiative.

Katherine Boeck seconded the motion. The motion was approved by unanimous vote.

MOTION: Kay McMillian made a motion to authorize NCCDD to fund a sole-source initiative with UNC Cares (also known as the Center for AGing Research and Educational Services) for up to \$25,000 using funding from the (SCPH) Expanding the Public Health Workplace within the Disability Network: DD Councils program award (P.L. 117-2 and P.L. 116-131 - Federal Fund # 2201NCSCPH-00) made available by the Administration for Community Living (ACL) in 2022 to be spent by September of 2024, and as needed, from NCCDD's Federal Fiscal Year 2023 and/or Federal Fiscal Year 2024 funds from the ACL between now and September 30th, 2024 focused on educating individuals, agencies, and organizations across North Carolina about the new Guardianship Rights law (Senate Bill 615 signed into law by Governor Roy Cooper on September 28th, 2023) and healthcare decision-making rights.

Donna Spears seconded the motion. The motion was approved by majority vote.

ADVOCACY DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

Committee Chair Aldea LaParr presented the Advocacy Development Committee report. She thanked all committee members and staff and gave a brief update on the discussions from the Wednesday meeting, including initiative updates that were presented to the committee.

PUBLIC POLICY EDUCATION COMMITTEE

Committee Chair Marjorie Serralles-Russell presented the Public Policy Education Committee report. She gave a brief update on the committee's activities and on the discussions from the Wednesday meeting. The following motion was presented on the floor for Council consideration:

MOTION: Majorie Serralles-Russell made a motion on behalf of the Public Policy Education Committee to direct the North Carolina Council on Developmental Disabilities (NCCDD) to draft a short-term, six-month, \$25,000 data initiative through either a Request for Application or, if necessary and appropriate, a Sole Source. The Public Policy Committee recommends that NCCDD, after drafting the Data Initiative Proposal, discuss it with leaders at DHHS, particularly at the Division of Health Benefits and the Division of Mental Health, Developmental Disabilities, and Substance Use Services. NCCDD then would bring the proposal to the Executive Committee for final approval. The anticipated end date of the Data Initiative is September 30, 2024, though those details are requested to be outlined in the Data Initiative Proposal that receives ultimate review through the Executive Committee.

Donna Spears seconded the motion. The motion was approved by unanimous vote.

NEW BUSINESS

Bryan Dooley invited members to make nominations from the floor for the one Vice-Chair position being vacated by Ryan Rotundo. He explained that members nominated have the option to accept or decline the nomination and if accepted, make a speech to the members. Bryan thanked Ryan Rotundo for his service as Vice-Chair and for his time served on the Executive Committee. There was one (1) accepted nomination(s) for Vice-Chair and the motion occurred as follows:

MOTION: Bryan Dooley made a motion after nomination, acclamation, and unanimous consent, to approve Jon D'Angelo as Vice-Chair, for a 2-year term, January 1, 2024 until December 31, 2025. The motion was approved with unanimous consent.

Bryan Dooley invited members to make nominations from the floor for the one Secretary position being vacated by Donna Spears. He explained that members nominated have the option to accept or decline the nomination and if accepted, make a speech to the members. Bryan thanked Donna Spears for her service as Vice-Chair and for her time served on the Executive Committee. There was one (1) accepted nomination(s) for Vice-Chair and the motion occurred as follows:

MOTION:

Bryan Dooley made a motion after nomination, acclamation and unanimous consent, to approve Bethany Smith as Secretary, for a 2-year term, January 1, 2024 until December 31, 2025. The motion was approved with unanimous consent.

OLD BUSINESS

No old business.

ADJOURN

MOTION: Bryan Dooley, Chair, asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting. Debra Farrington made a motion to adjourn the November 2023 Council meeting. Katherine Boeck seconded the motion. The motion was approved by unanimous vote.