**FINAL**

**NC COUNCIL ON DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES**

**www.nccdd.org**

**Quarterly Council Meeting Minutes**

**Virtually**

**August 8-9, 2024**

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Dawn Allen, Kat Boeck, Rep. Terry Brown, Beverly Colwell (For Carol Ann Hudgens), Carol Ann Conway, Rhonda Cox, Jon D'Angelo, Bryan Dooley (Chair), Corye Dunn (For Virginia Knowlton-Marcus), Amy Eaton, Myron Gavin, Deb Goda (For Debra Farrington), Tony Hall, Brendon Hildreth, Gary Junker, R.V. Kuser, Aldea LaParr, Charlrean Mapson, Danielle Matula (For Yvonne Copeland), William Miller, Sarah Richardson (For Karey Perez), Ryan Rotundo, Marjorie Serralles-Russell, Bethany Smith, Kathie Smith, Donna Spears, Dale Stephenson, Madhav Swaminathan, Sandy Terrell, Ginger Yarbrough (For Kelly Crosbie)

**MEMBERS ABSENT**: Sen. Sydney Batch, Keith Carney, Joshua Gettinger, Rep. Zack Hawkins, Kay McMillan, Tocarra Osborne, Joe Piven, Rebecca Puttman, Peggy Terhune, Rep. Zack Hawkins

**STAFF PRESENT:** Pam Dempsey, Chris Hendricks, Juanita Hooker, David Ingram, Irlanda Ruiz, LaQuadia Smith, Melissa Swartz, Talley Wells, Shar'ron Williams, Philip Woodward, Letha Young

**CONTRACTORS/GUESTS PRESENT:** Racine Allen, Amy Baustert, Closed Captioner, David Clap, Beth Field, Tara Heasley, Jill Hinton, Cameron Kempson, Mark Lewis, Dave Owen, LaCosta Parker (For Sandy Terrell), Sarah Potter, Jen Randle, Danielle Szafir

**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.

Bethany Smith conducted the roll call.

### APPROVAL OF COUNCIL MINUTES

Bethany Smith asked for approval of the May council meeting minutes. A copy of the minutes had previously been made available to Council members.

**MOTION:**  Carol Conway made a motion to approve the May 2024 minutes. Marjorie Serralles-Russell seconded the motion. The motion was approved by unanimous vote.

**DIRECTOR’S REPORT**

Talley Wells, Executive Director of NCCDD first thanked Kerri Eaker, posthumously, for her years of service as a council member, her impact on improving the state for individuals living with I/DD and their families and asked for a moment of silence in Kerri Eaker’s honor.

Talley shared information on the council’s activities and important events since May, as follows:

* + Listening Session with 14 legislators and 22 individuals with I/DD and family members speaking in partnership with I/DD Legislative Caucus and Meet the Need. Over 120 attendees at the General Assembly.
  + Bipartisan press conference on House Bill 1003 lead by NCCDD Council Member Representative Jack Hawkins. NCCDD Vice Chair and Policy Education chair had the opportunity to speak at the press conference
  + Talley mentioned meetings with Lieutenant Governor Mark Robinson and with Attorney General Josh Stein’s leadership.
  + Council Chair Bryan Dooley was invited to give a speech about the 25th Anniversary of the Olmstead Decision (a decision of the United States Supreme Court) at the White House. Talley mentioned that it is state law that the Americans with Disabilities Act history is taught in our schools.
  + Staff member, Dr. Melissa Swartz presented the councils work on Initiatives at the NACDD conference
  + Proactive Approaches to Justice RFA Applications Reviewed
  + Developed New RFAs/Initiative Proposals
    - HBCU RFA
    - ALP-NC Leadership 1 Year
    - Meet the Need Year 4
  + Developed Initial Proposals
    - Training/Network Next Steps for Leadership Graduates
    - Plain Language
  + Continued Work on:
    - Guardianship
    - Mini-Grants
    - Supported Living Guidebook
* New Five-Year Communications RFA Started

**NC DHHS UPDATE**

Dr. David Clapp, NCDHHS Deputy Director of Behavioral Health/IDD at NC Medicaid, updated on the state's benefits expansion to 600,000 new individuals. He discussed concerns transitioning individuals from 1915(b)(3) to 1915(i) and assured collaboration with CMS for a seamless transition. Dr. Clapp then addressed questions from attendees.

**The transition from 1915(b)(3) to 1915(i) refers to the shift from:**

* 1915(b)(3): A Medicaid waiver program providing home and community-based services (HCBS) for individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities (IDD).
* 1915(i): A state plan amendment allowing states to provide HCBS to individuals with IDD, offering more flexibility and streamlined administration.

**OKLAHOMA COUNCIL WAITLIST EXPERIENCES**

Jennifer Randell, Oklahoma Council Executive Director, Amy Baustert, Oklahoma DDS Deputy Director of Programs, and Mark Lewis, DDS Deputy Director of Finance, provided an update on Oklahoma's waitlist elimination progress. Amy Baustert shared key details on the efforts to address the waitlist.

* Waitlist Elimination Progress
* Cohort Timeline
  + Services and Eligibility
* Future Plans

Mark Lewis discussed the following:

* Funding the waitlist elimination plan

Amy Baustert then addressed questions from attendees

**LEGISLATIVE UPDATE** Representatives Brown gave a brief legislative update sharing information on the upcoming long session, potential changes in legislature representation, and recommendations on successful advocacy strategies for individuals living with I/DD leading into the long session.

### PUBLIC COMMENT

Danielle Szafir, from UNC-Chapel Hill (UNC) Department of Computer Science discussed an investigation UNC is conducting over Zoom to review methods of making data more accessible for people with I/DD. Danielle mentioned that individuals interested in participating would need to commit 1-hour of time to join in an interview and discussion - and provided contact information for those interested in engaging in the discussion/investigation.

Michael McGilton, LCSW, updated the Council on some of the potential positive impacts and successful strategies to consider in providing psychotherapy with individuals living with intellectual and/or other developmental disabilities, using Michael's lived expertise to inform the analysis. Note: Michael stated that the information he shared is also included in a paper that Michael wrote on this topic.

**FINANCIAL REPORT**

Talley Wells 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.

**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 April 15, May 20, and July 17, 2024. Copies of the minutes were made available to Council members and Talley Wells asked members to review the minutes and reminded council members that the minutes are posted on the NCCDD website.

**ADVOCACY DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE**

Committee Chair Donna Spears presented the Advocacy Development Committee report. She thanked all committee members and staff and gave a brief update on the discussions from Thursday’s meeting, including initiative updates that were presented to the committee. The following motions were presented to the Council on behalf of the Advocacy Development Committee:

**MOTION ONE-ALP-NC**

Danielle Matula made a motion for the NCCDD to -

Pursue sole-source funding with CenterED Resources to engage in and implement the Ability Leadership Project of North Carolina (ALP-NC) initiative for a period up to 1-year in the amount of up to $120,000 with required minimum of 25% non-federal matching funds up to $40,000, with an expected start date of January 1, 2025 and an expected end date of December 31, 2025. Staff will consider all suggestions made by Council members when developing the sole-source ALP-NC initiative’s *Scope-of-Work* and receive ultimate approval to enter into a sole-source contract with CenterED Resources through Executive Committee. The Council also provides authority to the Council staff to investigate the costs and changes in *Scope-of-Work* that would support the ALP-NC initiative in utilizing NCCDD’s Customer Relationship Management software solution(s). In addition, Council staff will have authority to amend the start and end dates, if necessary.

Kat Boeck seconded the motion.  The motion was approved by unanimous vote. One (1) individual abstained.

**MOTION TWO – LEADERSHIP TRAINING**

Aldea LaParr made a motion for NCCDD to –

Direct NCCDD staff to investigate and report back to the Executive Committee, for ultimate decision-making, the pros and cons involved in 1) utilizing a sole-source contract, 2) using temporary solutions NCCDD-managed staff, or 3) developing and releasing a competitive request for application (RFA) draft - in ultimately engaging in a time limited (7-Months) effort/initiative, not to exceed $50,000 with $16,667 in non-federal matching funds, if permitted, advancing the Council’s interests in supporting development of a network of trained advocacy leaders.

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

**MOTION THREE – PLAIN LANGUAGE**

Rhonda Cox made a motion for NCCDD to -

Direct Council staff to explore Plain Language, including -but not limited to- training organizations, individuals with I/DD, and family members of individuals with I/DD on 1) Plain Language, 2) rules and regulations requiring use of Plain Language, and 3) utilizing and/or creating teams of Plain Language reviewers who are individuals with I/DD.

Tony Hall seconded the motion**.** The motion was approved by unanimous vote.

**COMMUNITY LIVING COMMITTEE**

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 Thursday’s meeting, including initiative updates that were presented to the committee.

**MOTION ONE – MHTA CONTINUATION FUNDING**

Donna Spears made a motion to -

Approve continuation funding to the Mental Health Transformation Alliance (MHTA) for the NCCDD initiative entitled Meet the Need NC in an amount up to $150,000 per year with required minimum of 25% non-federal matching funds (minimum of $50,000), for Year 4 (of up to 4) beginning October 1, 2024 and ending September 30, 2025.

Will Miller seconded the motion**.** The motion was approved unanimous vote. R.V. Kuser recused due to a conflict of interest as a subcontractor of Mental Health Transformation Alliance/LAND.

**MOTION TWO – RFA AWARD**

Carol Conway made a motion to -

Accept the RFA Application Review Committee’s recommendation to approve funding to the Interaction Advisory Group in response to the RFA for Proactive Approaches to Justice for People with I/DD in an amount up to $110,000 per year with required minimum of 25% non-federal matching funds (minimum of $36,667), for Year 1 (of up to 3) beginning October 1, 2024, and ending September 30, 2025. An award to the Interaction Advisory Group is conditional based on the following contingencies:

**Contingencies:**

1. The Interaction Advisory Group will waive any fees to access the training portal during Year 3 or any year of this three-year initiative.
2. The Interaction Advisory Group will do outreach to diverse populations, including North Carolina's Hispanic and Latino I/DD community and North Carolina's black, indigenous, and people of color (BIPOC) I/DD community.
3. The Interaction Advisory Group will perform an effective pilot training in one or more concentrated areas of need that will become a model that can be used statewide.

Corye Dunn seconded the motion**.** The motion was approved by unanimous vote.

### FINANCIAL ASSET DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

Juanita Hooker presented the Financial Asset Development Committee report. She thanked all committee members and staff and gave a brief update on the discussions from Thursday’s meeting, including the initiative updates that were presented to the committee.

**MOTION ONE – HBCU IPSE PLANNING INITIATIVE RFA**

Charlrean Mapson made a motion, as amended, to -

Approve NCCDD staff to release the Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCU) Inclusive Postsecondary Education (IPSE) Planning initiative Request for Applications (RFA), in the amount of up to $60,000.00 for the first contract period (termed Year 1 [of 4]) for 6 planning and development months, with required minimum of 25% non-federal matching funds ($20,000). The initial 6-month funded project begins no sooner than April 1, 2025, and ends no sooner than September 30, 2025. All additional contract periods (Years 2 through 4) will be a full calendar year and approximate up to the expected amounts and as close to the timelines as possible. A possible fifth year could be allowed, if both parties agree, at $100,000 if a non-federal match of $100,000 is obtained to show sustainability. The dates and financial amounts would be as follows:

* Year 1 (of 4) – 6 Months: April 1, 2025 – September 30, 2025
  + Up to $60,000 in federal funds (NCCDD)
  + Estimated $20,000 in non-federal matching funds (25% Cost-Share)
* Year 2 (of 4) – 12 Months: October 1, 2025 – September 30, 2026
  + Up to $120,000 in federal funds (NCCDD)
  + Estimated $40,000 in non-federal matching funds (25% Cost-Share)
* Year 3 (of 4) – 12 Months: October 1, 2026 – September 30, 2027
  + Up to $200,000 in federal funds (NCCDD)
  + Estimated $66,667 in non-federal matching funds (25% Cost-Share)
* Year 4 (of 4) – 12 Months: October 1, 2027 – September 30, 2028
  + Up to $200,000 in federal funds (NCCDD)
  + Estimated $66,667 in non-federal matching funds (25% Cost-Share)
* Possible Year 5 of 5 if approved by all parties up to $100,000 if initiative can obtain a $100,000 non-federal match to show sustainability of initiative.

In addition, Council staff will have authority to amend the RFA while taking into consideration all of the Council’s stated recommendations or concerns as well as to extend the due-date for applications and related start-date and related end-dates, if necessary.

Myron Gavin seconded the motion, as amended**.** The motion was approved by unanimous vote. Anna Ward recused due to holding a leadership role on the PSEA on behalf of the UCEDD.

**DD NETWORK PARTNER & STATE AGENCY UPDATES**

Corye Dunn provided an update Disability Rights North Carolina’s activities in the past few months. also provided the report via e-mail to the Council.

Anna Ward of the Carolina Institute for Developmental Disabilities (CIDD) gave a brief update of the CIDD’s activities. Anna also provided the report via e-mail to the Council.

Kathie Trotter of the Div. of Employment & Independence for People with Disabilities (EIPD) gave a brief update of EIPD’s activities with included the name change. Kathie also provided the report via e-mail to the Council.

**NEW BUSINESS**

**MOTION ONE – 2025 COUNCIL MEETING DATES**

Ryan Rotundo made a motion -

For the Council to approve the following Executive Committee recommended 2025 Quarterly Council meeting dates:

* February 6th & 7th 2025: Virtual
* May 2025: 1st & 2nd – Hybrid @ on the East Coast [With Ultimate Approval of Specific Location from the EC]
* August 2025: 14th & 15th – Hybrid @ Raleigh-Cary Hilton
* November 2025: 6th & 7th – Hybrid @ Raleigh-Cary Hilton

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

### OLD BUSINESS

No old business.

### ADJOURN

**MOTION:**Marjorie Serralles-Russell, Vice Chair, made a motion to adjourn the August 2024 Council meeting. Kathie Smith seconded the motion. The motion was approved by unanimous vote.