

Financial Asset Development Committee (FADC)
DRAFT Minutes
November 3, 2022
10:00 am – 1:00pm
Hybrid meeting: Zoomgov Meeting and Boardroom

Committee Members Present: Dawn Allen, Katherine Boeck, Kenny Gibbs, Cheryl Powell, Rebecca Putnam, Nessie Siler, Donna Spears

Committee Members Absent: Rep. Terry Brown, Tony Hall, Dreama McCoy, Sandra Terrell, Sherry Thomas, Kathie Trotter, Carla West

Staff/Contractors/Guests Present: Beth Butler Fadel, Barton Cutter, Kelly Friedlander, Mary Hooper, David Ingram, Pat Keul, Pablo Puente, Ann Rodriguez, Jesse Smathers, LaQuadia Smith, Talley Wells, Tamira White, Shar'ron Williams

Introduction:

Cheryl Powell called the committee into session, conducted introductions, reviewed the agenda, and reviewed the August 2022 meeting minutes. Donna Spears made a motion to approve the August minutes, and Katherine Boeck seconded. Cheryl moved to initiative updates.

Initiative Updates:

NC Benefits Counseling Expansion Services Project: Pablo Puente from Service Source provided updates on how the initiative successfully completed year two of funding. The trainings that Service Source provide including a train the trainer model that focuses on all benefits that include federal and state benefits, ABLE accounts, the waiver, and food stamps. They have established 18 partners who have received the benefits counseling training. Year 3 for this initiative started October 1st, 2022. In year three they have hired an I/DD Work Incentives Counselor to do provide specific benefits counseling training to the I/DD community. This includes individuals who are considering work, transitioning out of sheltered work, or interested in learning more about how their benefits could be impacted with an increase in pay or hours.

Care Extender White Paper: Kelly Friedlander from Community Bridges Consulting Group presented updates on the Care Extender White Paper initiative. All the engagement around care extenders has been completed. The engagement included feedback and guidance from the Care Extender Advisory Group on the development of strategies for the successful implementation of Care Extenders. Engagement activities also included interviews with families, individuals, DD providers, healthcare providers, policy makers, and health plans. Community Bridges is now preparing the White Paper. It will be completed and shared with the Council on November 14th.

Employer Virtual Forum (EVF): This initiative concluded on September 30th, 2022. Pat Kuel, Beth Butler, and Barton Cutter gave the update. All the initiative activities were completed on schedule. 248 participants registered for the employer webinars held by Disability IN: NC. The topics of the webinars included dispelling myths about inclusive hiring practices and reasonable accommodations. All the webinars are available on Disability IN's website.

Competitive Integrated Employment Engagement: Ann Rodriguez and Mary Hooper from i2i Center for Integrated Health provided an update on the Competitive Integrated Employment Engagement activities. Diverse voices from the I/DD community, service providers, DHHS Leadership, and families were interviewed to inform a white paper i2i will produce with the findings. Some themes that emerged were: a general willingness to transition to competitive integrated employment, a need for more information around the transition, choice, equity, and a need for benefits counseling. i2i and the Council will facilitate a virtual information session on Monday, November 7th, 2022, from 4-6 pm. Capacity has been increased so all who are interested can now register to attend. Panelists include Dave Richard, Chris Egan, Ryan Rotundo, Nancy Baker, Jesse Smathers, Kathie Trotter, representatives from the Department of Health Benefits, and Disability Rights NC. The information session will be recorded and answers to questions will be made available after the session.

Discussion on Investment Proposals:

The committee engaged in productive discussion around the I/DD Services Champion RFA and the Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCU) Inclusive Postsecondary Education Project. The committee agreed that staff will need to update the deliverables to narrow the focus of the I/DD and Family employment opportunities to I/DD Care Extenders, Family Navigators, and Peer Mentors supporting individuals living with I/DD. Cheryl made a motion to revise the Self-Advocate and Family Employment Campaign Draft RFA in the amount of \$120,000 with required 25% minimum non-federal matching funds (i.e., \$40,000), approved during the May 2022 Council Meeting for creation, into a Draft RFA effort entitled I/DD Services Champion RFA. It was seconded by Donna Spears. The motion to go before the Council is a motion to direct the NCCD staff to release the Draft RFA regarding the initiative entitled I/DD Services Champion in an amount up to \$80,000 per year with required minimum 25% non-federal matching funds (\$26,666), for up to one year, starting within the time period of no sooner than February 1, 2023, and ending within the time period of no later than September 30, 2024. In addition, Council staff will have authority to extend the due date for applications, if necessary. Staff will consider all suggestions made by Council members when making any revisions before the release of the RFA.

Financial Update:

Shar'ron Williams presented and reviewed the NCCDD Fiscal Report. There were no questions from committee members.

Wrap Up:

Cheryl Powell provided reminders to the FADC. She reminded the members of the next quarterly meeting on February 2-3, 2023. Donna Spears made the motion to adjourn the meeting and it was seconded by Nessie Siler. The meeting was adjourned at 1:16 p.m.