



Maryland Developmental Disabilities Council

EMPOWERMENT • OPPORTUNITY • INCLUSION

March 4, 2019 Council meeting
Columbia, Maryland

Table with 4 columns: Present, Absent, Staff, Guests. Lists names of attendees and those who did not attend.

AGENDA

Kalani Brown called the meeting to order at 3:45 pm by welcoming everyone.

Welcome and Introductions - Kalani Brown

Kalani Brown welcomed everyone. The following guests introduced themselves: Sylvia Jones; Adrienne Mallinson; Ed Kowalski; Tom Quindlen; and Ms. S Yu.

Approval of Minutes

M/S/P to approve the December 4, 2018 Minutes.

Grantee Presentation – Abilities Network Project Act, Morgan Horvath

Morgan Horvath, Director of Project ACT, presented “Child Care: Building Capacity through Technical Assistance” to Council members. The presentation outlined the goals, objectives, activities, and outcomes associated with the Council grant.

Highlights of the grant included:

- 106 childcare providers completed the full STAR technical assistance program model representing 40 closed cases.
- 17 providers completed a partial model (unable to schedule all TA sessions) and represent 6 cases closed.
- 46 child care directors received coaching to reinforce that their participation is necessary in order to create or change a policy or procedure to become more inclusive.

As a result of this grant, an estimated 140 children with disabilities have benefited from the technical assistance provided. When the presentation ended, Morgan took questions from Council members. Much of the discussion focused on the success of the grant. Additional questions focused on the lack of participating providers in rural areas (specifically Southern MD and the Eastern Shore). Morgan shared with the Council that marketing and recruitment took place in these regions as it did in other regions of the state. Julie Randall, a Council member with ties to the Southern Maryland, offered to provide assistance to Project Act if future grants were targeted to this specific region of Maryland.

Committee and Work Team Reports

Executive Committee Funding Report – Brent Debnam

Small Grants Update:

Activity since last Council meeting:

- 7 applications received since last Council meeting
- 6 request were forwarded to the Executive Committee for review
- 2 of these requests were approved and \$7,000 of total funding was awarded since the last Council meeting

Small Grants Summary:

These two small grants have funded costs to support the 2019 MD Youth Leadership Forum, and provided funding to expand ACRE training into rural areas of Maryland for professionals working in employment services for people with disabilities. Since the beginning of the fiscal year, 5 grants have been funded for a total of \$17,869.

Education and Training Event Sponsorship Update:

Activity since last Council meeting:

- The Executive Committee reviewed 3 event sponsorship proposals
- 2 of these requests were approved for a total of \$5,500

ETES Summary:

These two ETES awards sponsored the 2019 UMD Disability Summit and the 2019 Honestly Autism Day event. Since the beginning of the fiscal year, 2 Education and Training Event Sponsorships have been funded for a total of \$5,500.

Conference Participation:

The Council has not received any funding requests this year. ..

Leadership Development Work Team Update – Teresa Herbert

Grant updates since last Council Meeting:

The Arc Maryland, Partners in Policymaking (PIP):

- 68 applications were submitted for PIP.
- 30 applicants were selected and the class roster was finalized.
- 1 selected applicant had to pull out in the days prior to the first session lowering the total number of PIP class members to 29 (20 family members and 9 people with developmental disabilities).
- Three sessions have taken place thus far, including one that included participation at DD Day at the Legislature.
- Overall the project is progressing well, and milestones are being met
- Council staff have been engaged with designing sessions, choosing speakers, selecting participants, and other activities as was required as a condition of the grant.
- Additional sessions will take place in the quarter ahead and future updates will be provided at the next Council meeting.

Parents' Place of Maryland, Eastern Shore LEADers:

- 14 parents were selected for the upcoming LEADers training series.
- Relationships were built with Latino and Haitian families as a result of outreach and recruitment efforts by Parents' Place. As a result, a "pre-LEADers" training curriculum for Spanish-speaking families is being developed for the fall which will increase the total number of families overall being supported.
- Overall, the grant is progressing well. In the second quarter, additional training sessions will be conducted and PPMD will begin to measure progress toward outcomes related to: increased awareness of community and statewide leadership opportunities, and increased understanding of the special education process.

Self-Advocacy Work Team – Brent Debnam

Grant updates since last Council Meeting:

People on the Go of Maryland, Enhancing Advocacy and Public Policy Work Grant:

- POG added the following topics to their public policy platform for the 2019 legislative session: healthcare, patient care, dual diagnosis and preventive care, DDA services with regard to self-directed services, and the supported decision making model.
- POG received X# applications for new board members.
- 18 advocates attended the December POG quarterly meeting.

- POG staff are collaborating with cross-disability organizations to shape public policy. They have representation on 3 workgroups, 1 committee, and 1 advocacy network offering input on public policy issues such as: legislative language for a supported decision making bill, recommendations to DDA for improving hiring and retention of direct support professionals, and complex communication needs for individuals with disabilities.
- POG provided a two-part training for parents and family members regarding advocacy and communication skills. These trainings targeted increasing advocacy and awareness in Hispanic Communities in Montgomery County.
- Overall, the grant is progressing well and POG is on track to meet all the objectives of this grant.

New Membership Recommendations – Brent Debnam

The Membership Committee interviewed eight people and is moving to forward the names of five people to the Governor for appointment - two people with developmental disabilities and three family members.

m/s/p to forward the names of all 5 people to the Governor for appointment.

Their terms will begin July 1, 2019. The Membership Committee still plans to recruit and interview for someone from Western Maryland.

Dinner Break

State Plan Update – Brian Cox and Amanda Lay

Brian Cox shared the following information:

\$135,000 – Must be obligated by 9/30/2019
+270,000 – Must be obligated by 9/30/2020
 \$405,000

\$ 405,000
 - 100,000 – set aside for year 2 of PIP
 \$ 305,000 - remains to be obligated

Amanda presented a motion from the State Plan Work Team to fund new initiatives totaling between \$175,000 and 215,000. If all are approved, \$90,000 to \$130,000 will still remain for additional initiatives.

The State Plan Work Team considered the ideas generated at the December Council meeting, and recommended the Council invest in all of the following priorities in 2019-2020.

1. Fund Person Centered Planning (PCP) guide and training for people with developmental disabilities and family members. (\$75,000 - \$100,000)
2. Fund a 4th round of TIP (Transforming and Improving Practices) grants. (\$50,000)
3. Stipends for people with developmental disabilities to support them to participate in training law enforcement. (\$5000)

4. Fund Parents' Place of Maryland to train parents of children with disabilities to effectively serve on local Interagency Coordinating Councils and Special Education Citizens Advisory Councils. (\$10,000)
5. Translate Council publications and materials into other languages. (\$5,000-\$10,000)
6. Expand the Council's Expectations Matter awareness campaign. (\$10,000-20,000)
7. Additional funds for graphic design, printing, and translation into Spanish for the user-friendly ABLE guide.(\$20,000)

m/s/p to approve funding for all these initiatives.

Legislative Session Status Report – Rachel London and Brian Cox

Pictures and highlights from DD Day at the Legislature were shared. Council members watched a brief video to commemorate the 10th anniversary of the closure of the Rosewood Center which was presented at DD Day.

Priority bills were discussed. Council members were referred to the Legislative Reports in the packets for more information about priority bills and bills the Council is monitoring.

Executive Director and Staff Reports – Brian Cox

Brian C. referred everyone to the status report in the packet and focused the discussion on in-house projects and evolving partnerships with the American Academy of Pediatrics and Abilities Network. An update was provided on the following:

- The Council is co-sponsoring a conference for siblings of people with disabilities with the DC DD Council on March 30;
- *Planning Now* is available online and in English with a limited number of hard copies available too. The Spanish version will be posted to the website soon.;
- Our e employment and meaningful day publication, *What Matters*, is being finalized;
- There was a delay with the development of the ABLE guide. We are now working with a new writer and the guide should be complete this summer; and
- The DDA informational sheets are final and being translated into Spanish. They will be widely distributed when completed. Copies were provided to Council members.

State Agency and Sister Agency Reports

Jill Pierce – Department of Rehabilitation Services

- Scott Dennis was appointed as the new director of DORS.

Carmen Brown – Maryland State Department of Education

- During the legislative session, MSDE did not take positions on any legislation, but did discuss the operational and fiscal impact, if information was requested.
- The Division of Early Intervention and Special Education Services continues to implement the strategic plan.

- Work has started for the study of special education services as required by legislation. MSDE contracted with WestEd to complete the study.

Jed Miller – Office of Family and Community Health Services, Maternal and Child Health, Maryland Department of Health

- There is a survey of new moms currently being implemented.
- This version of the survey incorporates questions related to disability and will guide the development of interventions.

Carol Beatty, Secretary – Maryland Department of Disabilities

- Christian Miele is the new deputy secretary. He has a sibling with a disability.
- Chelsea Hayman is the new director of housing policy and programs.
- Lori Markland is the new director of the Maryland Technology Assistance Program.
- MDOD is currently recruiting for an accessibility coordinator to coordinate with DoIT and DGS to provide technical assistance to ensure all State information technology is accessible to people with disabilities.
- The work of the Ethan Saylor Alliance continues to provide grants. The current contract with Loyola is focused on training people with developmental disabilities and working with police departments to use people with developmental disabilities as trainers. A grant was recently awarded to The Arc Maryland to work with first responders.

Christine Schoenberger – Maryland Center for Developmental Disabilities

- An announcement about the MCDD's summer learning series will be released soon.

Roseanne Hanratty – Maryland Department of Aging

- The Department was awarded a grant from the Administration on Community Living (ACL) to develop a business case for the No Wrong Door System using data and research.
- The Department will be working with ACL to expand national efforts and build on the national model of transition from hospital settings to increase positive outcomes for people in Maryland.
- The grant focuses on people living in Cecil, Baltimore, and Frederick counties, as well as the Eastern Shore.

Teri Sparks – Disability Rights Maryland

- Adrienne Mallinson is the new managing director of the developmental disabilities unit.
- DRM just released a report about their work in prisons to stop administrative segregation and isolation.

Brian C. shared that he would be retiring from the Council effective September 1 and would ensure a smooth transition. Kalani Brown announced that a Search Committee was formed to recruit a new Executive Director. Members include Brent Debnam, Russ Young, Kay Han, Amanda Lay, and Kalani.

Adjourn