



**Maryland Developmental
Disabilities Council**

**Council Meeting Minutes
Thursday, December 9, 2021**

Present:

- Angie Auldridge
- Damon Briggs
- Carmen Brown
- Kalani Brown
- Jamal Cannady
- Laura-Sun Cefaratti
- Brent Debnam
- Scott Dennis
- Lisa Derx
- Harold Gomes
- Elizabeth Hall (Representing Carol Beatty)
- Kathy Hargett
- Teresa Herbert
- Jarred Jones
- Meghan Jones
- Amanda Lay
- Jed Miller
- Rebecca Oliver
- Irene Souada
- Teri Sparks
- Maureen van Stone
- Bernie Simons
- Russell Young

Absent:

- Kay Han
- Karenn Jones
- Dee Sapp
- Ronetta Stanley
- Liz Weintraub

Staff:

- Anastasia Collins
- Rachel London
- Shawan Pearson
- Christy Russell

Guest

- Leah Katherine Saal, Loyola
University of MD

Meeting called to order at 3:35 p.m. by Kalani Brown, Council Chairperson.

Welcome and Introductions – Kalani Brown

- Kalani welcomed everyone; the Members of the Council, the newly hired Director of Grant Management and Reporting, Anastasia Collins, and guest speaker Leah Katherine Saal, Loyola University of Maryland

Public Comments

- No public comments

Approval of Minutes – Kalani Brown

- M/S/P to approve the September 23, 2021 minutes.

Council Chair Report – Kalani Brown

- Reviewed the new plain language resources included in the meeting packet, including:
 - Council Brochure
 - Council By Laws
 - Public Policy Priorities

All documents are on the Council's website

- Announced the March 2022 meeting will be virtual

Executive Director Report – Rachel London

- The Council and DD Coalition continue to meet weekly with Secretary Schrader of the Maryland Department of Health (MDH), his team, the Developmental Disabilities Administration, and Secretary Beatty of the Maryland Department of Disabilities. The focus continues to be on making sure people and families receive the services and supports they need as all of the flexibilities that were granted because of COVID.
- The Council, in partnership with MDH, completed a toolkit in plain language about COVID and COVID shots. The fact sheets will be translated into 6 different languages and will be available on the Council's website.
- Legislative session starts January 12, 2022. The Council partnered with House and Senate leadership and staff to develop plain language guidelines about how they will work during session, including updated COVID guidelines.
- Staff completed interviews for the Director of Policy Initiatives position.

2017-2021 5 Year State Plan Overview and Wrap-Up – Rachel London

- Outcomes from the 2017 – 2021 State Plan shared.

4th Quarter FFY21 Final Budget Report – Christy Russell

- Quarterly budget reviewed. No questions, comments, or concerns.

Presentation by- Dr. Leah Katherine Saal, Loyola University of Maryland

- Dr. Saal provided an overview of the Online LEAD Program Regional Pilot for Fire/Emergency Medical Services (EMS) personnel. The online training curriculum was created

to increase the knowledge of Fire and EMS personnel throughout Maryland on how to effectively interact with people with developmental disabilities. The LEAD model uses Self Advocate Educators to guide and implement the training.

2022 Public Policy Priorities – Rachel London

- The Council’s 2022 Public Policy Priorities are based on the 5 year State Plan and used to inform legislators about the Council’s priorities and outcomes. It will be sent to all 188 legislators at the beginning of the legislative session and shared with other stakeholders throughout the year. It will be posted on the Council’s website.

Meeting Adjourn @ 5:35p.m.