



Maryland Developmental Disabilities Council

Council Meeting Minutes Thursday, June 22, 2023

Present:

Angie Auldridge, Richard Bauernschub, Damon Briggs, Carmen Brown, Lucy Caltagirone, Laura – Sun Cefaratti, Laura Chavez-Luna, Amanda Disteffano, Staci Forrest, Kay Han, Kathy Hargett, Jarred Jones, Karenna Jones, Meghan Jones, Tiffany Joseph, Kim McKay, Dr. Sohail Qarni, Dee Sapp, Teri Sparks, Maureen van Stone, Kate Szymanski, Liz Weintraub, and Russell Young

Absent:

Kevin Armstrong, Kalani Brown, Meeka Caldwell, Scott Dennis, Harold Gomes, and Bernard Simons

Staff:

Dr. Stephanie Dolamore, Rachel London, and Shawan Pearson

Guest:

Sophie Ehrich, KKI Intern, Jessica Lawmaster, Kindred

The meeting was called to order at 3:32 p.m. by Dee Sapp, Council Chairperson.

Welcome and Introductions – Dee Sapp

- Dee Sapp welcomed everyone and led introductions of Council Members and Staff to new members and visitors.

Public Comments

- No public comments

Approval of Minutes – Meghan Jones

- M/S/P to approve the March 13, 2023 minutes.

Chair Report – Dee Sapp

- The Chair thanked the Council Members that are leaving for their years of service.
- The Chair reviewed the Council Meeting Schedule for 2024.

Executive Director Report – Rachel London

- Staffing update: Anastasia Collins, our Director of Management and Reporting, has resigned. Stephanie and Rachel will manage the grants until further notice.
- We have hired Chris Rogers to serve as the Director of Engagement for the Council. Chris will start at the end of July.
- The funding for Federal Fiscal Year 2024 (10/1/23-9/1/24) will be decreased. The percentage of the decrease has not been determined. We will provide an update of the percentage when it is released from the Federal Government.
- The Motor Vehicle Administration Driver's plain language instructions and written test manual project are complete. In addition, there will be 12 different translations of the driver's instructions and the written test manual. The resources are scheduled for release in the fall, 2023.

Kindred Consulting Presentation – Jessica Lawmaster

- Jessica summarized the survey results with the Council. This included:
- Council members and staff feel respected. Jessica shared this is a very valuable starting point for continuing our work together as a Council.
- Council members and staff want more opportunities to share and learn about each other. Jessica asked for feedback from Council members on what kind of opportunities would be helpful to learn more about each other.
- Council members and staff have many ideas about what diversity means. She reviewed how the results will help develop a diversity statement. This work will be led by the Diversity Work Team.

Diversity Work Team Update – Kay Hahn

- The RFP on Cultural Brokering in Maryland is a major part of the 5-Year State Plan. The two important elements that the RFP should fund are:
 - This work will support selected communities in Maryland that meet our targeted disparity objective in the state plan.
 - This work will train and empower one or more Culture Brokers on how to assist the selected communities with decreasing barriers and increasing access to resources.
 - The Culture Brokers will be the trusted partners hired by an organization to connect information and resources to the individuals with developmental disabilities and their families in the selected community.
- The Diversity Work Team will review the applications. The RFP is for \$150,000 for up to 3 organizations to increase access resources in selected communities.

- M/S/P to approve the RFP on Cultural Brokering.

2nd Quarter FFY 2023 Budget Report – Rachel London

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

Meeting Adjourn at 5:24 p.m.