

WV DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES COUNCIL  
Quarterly Meeting  
July 23, 2019  
The Blennerhassett Hotel, Parkersburg, WV  
MINUTES

Members present: Kenneth Accord, Doug Auten, Rhonda Blosser, Steve Brady, Cali Brill, Lesley Cottrell, Delmar Davis, Julie Dial, Nora Dillard, Marc Ellison, Dawn Embry-King, Tonya Eve, Lynsay Frye, James Gallaher, Susan Given, Richard Hammons, Susan Loudermilk, Kristin O'Neal, Jacqueline Proctor, Pam Roush, Tara Roush, and Jon Sassi

Members absent: Brandy Beery, Patty Combs, JaQue Galloway, Wanda Proffitt, Rebecca Stone, Matthew Wink, and Sheila Zickefoose

Staff present: Christy Black and Steve Wiseman

Staff absent: Linda Higgs

Guests: Cami Williamson, DHHR Bureau for Children and Families and Emily Hopta, DHHR Secretary's Office

**Call to Order, Welcome:** Lynsay called the meeting to order.

**Introductions/Announcements by Members:** Lynsay invited everyone to introduce themselves, then asked for any announcements.

**Mission Statement Reminder:** Tonya Eve read the *Mission Statement*.

**Public Comments:** None

**Approval of April 23, 2019 Meeting Minutes:** Susan Given moved, and Kristin seconded the motion to approve the Minutes. **Motion carried.**

**New Business**

**Approval of FFY 2020 Budget:** Steve Wiseman gave a brief update on the FFY2019 budget and discussed the proposed budget for FFY2020 handed-out at the meeting. Steve stated that we are currently under budget. The Council did not carry-out an employment study and a toolkit project that were planned. We did start a couple new grants, however. Steve recommended the following amounts for

2020 per budget category: Personal Services \$200,200; Current Expenses \$85,000; and Grants & Contracts \$614,000. This totaled a budget of \$899,200 for FFY2020. He explained that there are adequate appropriations from the Federal Administration on Community Living to cover the upcoming budget. He did remind the Members that starting with the Federal 2020 funds, Councils will have two years to obligate and use those funds rather than the three years Council have had for the last several decades. **Delmar moved, and Jacqueline seconded** the motion to approve the FFY2020 budget in the amount of \$899,200. **Motion carried.**

**Approval of Designated Stipends:** Pam reported out for the Designated Stipends workgroup. Other members of the workgroup were Jon Sassi and Steve Brady. Designated stipends are to assist people with developmental disabilities and/or family members with costs to be able to attend workshops. The chart with funding recommendations were included in Members' packets.

**Pam moved, and Tara seconded** the motion to approve stipends for The Arc of WV, People First Annual Conference - \$9,000. **Motion carried. Lynsay abstained.**

**Pam moved, and Tara seconded** the motion to approve stipends for The Arc of WV, People First Youth Annual Conference - \$3,000. **Motion carried.**

**Pam moved, and Jacqueline seconded** the motion to approve the Autism Society of WV - \$6,000. **Motion carried. Marc and Julie abstained.**

**Pam moved, and Delmar seconded** the motion to approve stipends for the Bureau for Behavioral Health, Families Conference - \$5,000. **Motion carried. Steve Brady abstained.**

**Pam moved, and Tara seconded** the motion to approve stipends for the Fair Shake Network - \$2,500. **Motion carried.**

**Pam moved, and Delmar seconded** the motion to approve stipends for the Mountaineer Autism Project - \$1,000. **Motion carried.**

**Pam moved, and Richard seconded** the motion to approve stipends for the WV SenseAbilities Project, BEST Teams Training - \$2,000. **Motion carried. Dawn Embry-King abstained.**

**Pam moved, and Susan Given seconded** the motion to approve stipends for the SenseAbilities Project, Family Engagement Day - \$2,000. **Motion carried.**

**Rhonda and Dawn Embry-King abstained.**

**Pam moved, and Rhonda seconded** the motion to approve stipends for the WV SILC, Youth Leadership Forum - \$3,000. **Motion carried.**

**Approval of Renewal Grants:** Steve Brady reported out for the Grant Review Workgroup. Other Members of the workgroup were Doug Auten, Susan Given, Brandy Beery, Pam Roush, and Jon Sassi. The chart with funding recommendations and workgroup Members' comments were included in Members' packets.

**Steve moved, and Richard seconded** the motion to approve the Arc of the Mid-Ohio Valley People First of WV grant in the amount of \$79,480. **Motion carried.**

**Steve moved, and Tara seconded** the motion to approve the Fair Shake Network Cross-Disability Advocacy grant in the amount of \$25,000 with the stipulation that the organization applies for grants and seeks corporate sponsors. **Motion carried.**

**Steve moved, and Delmar seconded** the motion to approve Mountain State Centers for Independent Living State Plan Support grant in the amount of \$100,000 for a nine-month period. Steve Wiseman explained that this would move the grantee to the State fiscal year and permit the Council to have adequate time to re-allocate any expiring funds not spent by MtSCIL by June 30<sup>th</sup>. **Motion carried.**

**Steve moved, and Tara seconded** the motion to approve the Community Access, Inc. State Plan Support grant in the amount of \$230,000. **Motion carried.**

**Approval of New Grants:** Steve Brady reported out for the Grant Review Workgroup. The chart with funding recommendations and workgroup Members' comments were included in Members packets.

**Steve moved** the motion to fund the City of Saint Albans On Purpose Project in the amount of \$49,620 with stipulations. After he listed those stipulations, **Delmar seconded the Motion.**

Following a lengthy discussion regarding the proposal and the stipulations identified by the workgroup, **Steve withdrew the motion.**

More discussion ensued about the need for buy-in from the city of Saint Albans, whether-or-not the proposal would duplicate current services and providers' obligations, the unknown about how many, if any, people with developmental disabilities would actually be engaged in community improvement activities, and if this type of a project has been carried-out elsewhere in the country.

Members stated that they liked the intent and general plan of the proposal, but there were several unknowns. It was suggested that the proposal be funded at a lower amount. Members felt several stipulations were necessary to increase the likelihood for this to be a successful demonstration project.

Following the discussion, **Steve moved**, and **Marc seconded** the motion to approve the grant in the amount \$49,620 with the following stipulations: The Council must have at least joint ownership of all products; The grantee must have the Council's permission to share results, recommendations, etc. with policymakers and others; The Council must approve any sub-contracts by the grantee; The grantee must form a local Advisory Board which includes someone from the City Council and a person with a developmental disability from Saint Albans, two business people which could include one from the Chamber of Commerce or a civic organization, and a parent; The grantee must articulate a clear plan for evaluation of success in meeting goals other than the number of activities, products, and dissemination; The grantee must develop a clearer Statement of Work with clear activities/outputs for year one; and The grantee must provide letters of agreement to participate from Advisory Board members (out-of-state consultants) listed, and provide a clearer explanation of their participation. **Motion carried.**

**Approval of State Plan Update:** Steve Wiseman reviewed the proposed State Plan updates that were previously emailed to Members and were included in Members' packets. No substantial changes were being proposed. The staff did not recommend changing any goals. The staff proposed changing objectives and shared the information with the Executive Committee prior to the Council meeting. The date for Objective 3.1 will be kept as 9/30/2019. **Tara moved**, and **Pam seconded** the motion to approve the State Plan update as presented. **Motion carried.**

**Nominating Committee Report:** John reported on behalf of the Nominating Committee. The committee recommended Kristin O'Neal fill the remainder of the term of one year for Chairperson left by Angie Breeden. Angie resigned due to her intent to pursue other opportunities that would create a conflict of interest. **Jon moved**, and **Julie seconded** the motion to appoint Kristin O'Neal to the position of Council Chair. **Motion carried. Kristin abstained.**

Jon reported on behalf of the Nominating Committee the recommendation of Sherrill Hoffman to fill the vacated term that ends June 2022. Sherrill is the parent

of a child with a developmental disability and a PIP graduate. She resides in Mason County. **Jon moved**, and **Delmar seconded** the motion to submit Sherrill Hoffman's name to the Governor's Office as a recommendation for Council member. **Motion carried.**

### **PIP Workgroup**

Rhonda reported on behalf of the Partners in Policymaking Workgroup. Rhonda spoke on recruitment activities. She stated that 35 applicants were approved for the Council's Partners in Policymaking program. It is set to begin in September. Notes from the June and July workgroup meetings were included in Members' packets.

### **DD Act Partners Update**

Susan Given gave an update on Disability Rights of WV. She stated that due to difficulties with the final product from the contractor they decided to halt the Parent Advocacy Videos for now. However, Disability Rights of WV has been working with Rooted in Rights to produce other videos that they are sharing on social media. They currently have videos on seclusions and restraints, employment, housing, and assistive technology. They are getting ready to produce a video on voting rights and supported decision making. Disability Rights of WV's new social security representative payee program is now accepting referrals. Susan stated a series of due process hearings have been filed due to complaints of disability discrimination having been filed on behalf of some Kanawha County students. Susan stated her hope to get some relief for students in that county. Unfortunately, they get similar calls daily and there is not enough time nor money to handle all these cases.

Lesley gave an update for WVU CED. Lesley stated that American Association on Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities will be holding a conference in Pittsburgh on June 1-4, 2020. She described this national conference and noted that it is often very informative for professionals and families alike. She also noted that the several disability partners are collaborating to establish a statewide disability conference that would lead into this national conference. The state conference will have tracks and hopefully be held in April of 2020. If Members have any comments, questions, or would like to get involved, please contact Lesley, Steve, or Susan for more information. Lesley also stated that under the area of health and wellness area of emphasis, the CED has focused on three areas: adaptive physical activity, nutrition, stress reduction. The CED has completed a physical activity toolkit and will be asking if individuals are interested in trying

them to see how usable they are. The product is for children and adults. Lesley asked Members to contact her if they are interested in trying a toolkit. The CED is also working on more training simulations for providers. The next simulation will be focused on a dental visit.

### **Presentation**

Susan Given, Director of Disability Rights of WV showed the Council the video *Bottom Dollars* that was produced by Rooted in Rights. It focuses on the issue of some people with intellectual and other disabilities being paid less than minimum wage. Susan gave a brief presentation and led a discussion on sub-minimum wages for people with disabilities.

In WV there are 7 Community Rehabilitation Programs that paid 267 people less than minimum wages in 2018. Members shared on their views on this and the possible effects on people with developmental disabilities if the Department of Labor sub-minimum wage Certificates were to end. It was suggested that a law be enacted to prevent students from being placed in sub-minimum wage jobs when they leave high school.

It was stated that the Council has supported the end of sub-minimum wage certificates.

**Members comments/concerns:** None

**Adjourn:** Tara moved to adjourn the meeting.