



# GCCDD COUNCIL MEETING

April 18-19, 2013



## WELCOME

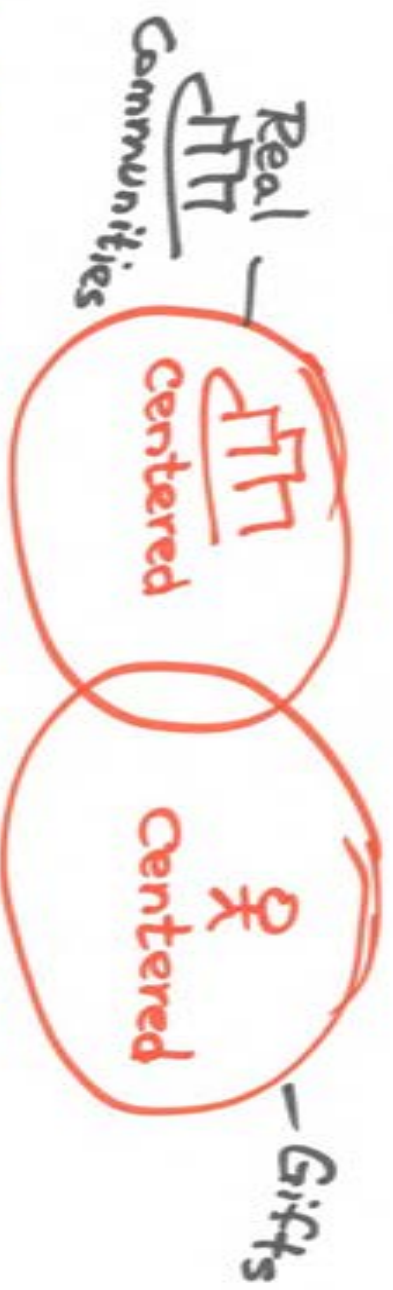
Hot Spot - 29020287

Next Council Meeting  
July 18-19  
Atlanta

MAD 22

Annual Report

Real  $\frac{1}{11}$  DVD



Make travel requests to go to events → Purposeful Learning Opportunities  
(Airline, Parking, car, meals lodging (reimburse))

### CONSENT AGENDA

...documents

- minutes
- budget report
- project report


Read in Advance

9/12/13  
12/13  
13/13  
Don't spend too much time

Motion: Tom Connolly  
2nd: Ruby Moore

Vote: Passed  
Unanimously

FRIDAY -



Group Photo today just before lunch individual photos, too

DBHDD Advisory - Mitzi serves on it

- communication doesn't work
- "Big" Titles
- customer service
- self directing ... they make it harder
- choice in Fiscal Agents New
- Use Jargon - I listen and watch
- These are open meetings
- ~~we~~ need to speak up
- Mitzi will be liaison with GCDD/<sup>DBHDD</sup> Advisory

DISABILITY DAY AT THE CAPITOL



# UPCOMING EVENTS

May 1st - Budget/Policy - Atlanta

July 7-10 - NACDD TA

Washington, DC

May 15-16 KY - 2 Day Event

Foundations - Real TH

- \* Bruce Anderson
- \* DeAmon Hargis
- \* Caitlin / Cheri
- \* TH Builders from GA

Community of Practice  
Other Councils coming together

## INTRODUCTIONS

TH Dan Crimmins  
CLD - GSU

TH Teresa Johnson  
Walton Co  
Parent  
Parent Mentor

Went to DC - learned about Policy talked to legislators

TH Caitlin Childs  
GCDD staff  
Real TH

TH Teresa Heard  
Parent of 13 yrd old  
work for Easter Seals  
went to DC - New info

TH Cheri Pace  
GCDD staff  
TH organizing Geek

TH Teresa Brenner  
Self advocate  
blind since 17  
Learning about budgets  
appreciate accessible info

TH Kylie Moore  
Self advocate  
work for non-profit  
very involved

TH Dottie Adams  
GCDD staff  
Family Support  
Geva

♀ Geniece McCoy  
Augusta

Parent  
2 sons with autism  
Chair of Regional Board  
Partners in Policymaking Grad. 2003  
Spoke to legislators Quincy Murphy  
& Senator Davis

♀ Josetta Akhras  
Santanton

- Parent advocate
- support group
- on regional board
- wounded warriors

♀ Colleen Pirkle  
Hall Co.

Project Search Instructor

- shyest student learned to advocate
- she was treated rudely at DMV
- wrote a letter to complain
- got a personal response

♀ Lisa Newbern

Down Syndrome Association  
Atlanta Play Groups  
Supporting New Parents

♀ Valerie Suber

PR - Making a Difference Magazine  
Annual Report  
Website  
Media Relations - Social Media (4)

Debbie Reagin

DOE  
Debbie Gay's Proxy  
Lives in Milton  
Participated in Real IT there  
Korean Coalition / Clarkston

Sharon Strandberg

Parent of 2 who had IERs  
Dad was a special ed teacher  
Contracts / Grants Manager  
Behind the scenes work to  
get payments

Tom Connolly  
from Albany

self advocate  
wrote article about  
Eagle scout  
Welcome

Farah Chapes

CHOA & Marcus  
Government Affairs  
DOE Marketing / Autism

 Haunt the halls of the  
Capitol

Evan Nodvin

34 yr old - self advocate  
Disability Day - Introduced  
in MAD Magazine - Famous Now  
Governor  
(5)

Leslie Hale

Intern - UGA  
Graduating in 3 weeks

D'Arcy Robb

Public Policy Director

Dave Zilles

Legislative Assistant  
to D'Arcy

Jason Bearden

Family Advocate  
Provider - Highland Rivers  
CSB  
NW Georgia

Gary Childers

GCDD CFO 

Ruby Moore

GAD ... sister organization  
DD Network

- Session - Nursing Home Bill of Rights  
[?] Way to get in the door was to  
talk about returning veterans

- Employment  
- Children's Freedom Initiative  
National Agenda

♀ Mitzi Proffitt  
Bullock County

Parent of 18 year old  
P2P - 29 counties  
DBHDD Advisory Council  
★ Key Interest - Post Secondary Transition

♀ Debbie Hibben  
Henry County

- Parent of 17 yr old daughter with Down Syndrome
- Post secondary transition
- part time teacher
- family support

# LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

♀ D'Arcy Robb

Public Policy Calls

2 year session  
Bills are still alive

No Change in DOT #  
Budgets 2013 / FY 2014  
19.9 Billion

↑ Economy

- Education
- Medicaid
- DOT
- etc

Why Unlock Waiting List

7000 ♀ Need  
waivers

\* Got 20 ICWP \*

Tried to get 50,000 housing subsidies  
Didn't get in the final budget

- Provider Cut was eliminated
- Senior cuts were minimized
- DOJ - full support

Post SECONDARY

KSU - GCDD funded

Legislature - added \$100,000

Collaborative effort

Butch Miller - Champion for us!

Other Bills

\* Family Care Act - Didn't Pass

\* Awa's Law - Insurance/Autism

Being reviewed in a non-legislative committee

\* Protection of Vulnerable Adults - passed

\* Bed Tax - hospitals - Passed



# \* Medicaid Reform

- time limited study committee passed HB107
- Legislative standing committee - passed

# \* Nursing Facility Arbitration

Concerns - families/consumer at disadvantage  
 No oversight - No appeal - binding

## DISCUSSION ABOUT AVA'S LAW

Concern about the word "consequences"  
 Genieve

Medical vs Social Model  
 Caitlin Honor Voices of Qw/Autism

in support of ABA  
 Dan Teresa J Farah

Where is the scientific rigor to say ABA is harmful?

# Evidenced Based Practice

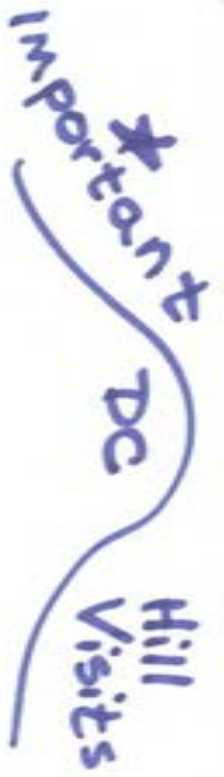
Sometimes it is coming from adults with autism

Some Q do bad things under the name of ABA (electric shock)

At what age can you make your own choices? (9)

GCDD didn't take a position on Awa's Law

# FEDERAL UPDATE



- Hear Real Stories
- Keep them grounded

 3 Budget Proposals

- \* House
- \* Senate
- \* President

Convention - Rights of People w/ Disabilities

US hasn't ratified

International Treaty - gives ADA protections around the



Need to hear from GA - swing votes

May come up again by JULY

## ACTIONS

May use Veterans as a touch stone

✓ E-Mail

✓ Phone Calls

⊘ Letters/ Snail Mail take too long

# REAL 5TH COMMUNITIES UPDATE

What gives life meaning?

Family  
Friends  
Girl Friend  
Life Purpose

Who is in your life?

- Family
- Service providers
- Other people with disabilities
- friends / community members

(#s can be disproportionate if living a segregated service life)

## RELATIONSHIP BUILDING

### FOUNDATIONS OF REAL COMMUNITIES

- \* ABCD - Asset Based Community Development
  - Mobilize Grassroots efforts
  - Broad inclusive Participation
  - What already exists - to build on

## \* PERSON CENTERED SUPPORTS

- Identifying R's Gifts/Talents

## \* Purposeful Learning

- What's Working?
- Appreciative Inquiry
- Shared learning
- Reflection

Non-Disability organizations are more effective in this work!

## RETREATS

Curiosity  
What things are working?  
Why?



Making it better for Everyone  
(outside disability - broader)


Active Participation - Using R's gifts  
Providing supports so they can  
Participate

## Build

HTH - Collective Action. Collaboration  
Create Cultural Change (12)

Shared Learning - active citizenship  
reflection - experiential

## COMMUNITIES

- Gwinnett Timebank - No longer part of Real ATL
- they plan to continue their efforts
  - we love the time bank  IDEA  
Needs to involve broader ATL

Clarkston - International ATL Garden  
Partnership w/ Global Growers  
Refugee Family Services  
11 countries represented

 Ribbon Cutting  
Coming up

Mixed Greens - Savannah

Forsyth Park Farmers Market  
Green chair project - intentional space  
for conversations and storytelling  
Little Green Wagon - engage Kids

Centenary Church - Macon ... where ALL means ALL!

Revive the neighborhood & the congregation

Reaching Listeners - with youth (??'s insights)

Engage neighbors ... what are their gifts? [R]

Make connections

Paid Reaching Connectors - 5 hr wk

Interests

Help ♀ use their gifts

Community Dinners

They found other funding sources

## KOREAN COALITION

1st Generation Families

See Possibilities

Person Centered Plans

Circles of Support

Circles of Circles (150 ♀ came)

Media Coverage - Korean Newspaper

Korean Festival

✳️ GIFTS

GCDD offers:

- \* <sup>W</sup> for a IT Builder ... to seed <sup>V</sup> ideas
- \* Technical Assistance ... coaching
- \* Training
- \* Learning Journeys ... to go see things bonding experience
- \* Retreats... Reflect... capture learning
- \* Connecting Resources

## EXPANSION

... want to add 3-5 new ones

Going to host 3 workshops for  
♀ who might be interested

(Macon... Albany... Atlanta)

Applications - July 1st

Staff Visit

IT... selections made

Contracts in place by Oct 1st

# Youth Summit

\$20,000

NOFA - Notice of Funds Available  
(similar to an RFP - Request for Proposal)

\* Fund an organization to put on a statewide youth summit for kids ages 14-22 with/without disabilities

\* To support youth-led 4th projects

Application submitted on DD Suite... want applicants to be creative... don't want to be too prescribed

1 hour conference call where

♀ can ask questions

Will post answers on our website



## COUNCIL MEMBERS

to review proposals & serve on Selection Committee

1. Tom Connelly
2. Colleen Pirkle
3. Teresa Heard
4. Mitzi Proffitt
5. Kylie Moore

GIVING GCDD \$ OUT .... FEDERAL \$

## Ethics



- ... supports our mission
- ... without conflict of interest
- ... objective process
- ... formal access to answers to questions
- ... criteria for selection decisions
- ... contract negotiations / signatures

- Payment
- Oversight
- evaluation

Grants Vs

Procurement

- Exceptions
- ... Coalitions
  - ... Under \$25,000
  - Independent agreement

25% Match

SEQUESTRATION CUTS

\$2,067,000 left  
Between now-Det 1st

FEDERAL \$  
DD Councils  
Cut 4.47%  
\$95,000 cut

President asked for level funding for 2014 ... will have to wait and see what happens

GA 3% cut this year  
We get minimal state \$

We can take the cut because we aren't expanding Real (PI) until next year & we haven't used CFI money

# Post SECONDARY

↑ to 3-4 Colleges

\$100,000 From Legislature

→ \$50,000 to KSU

→ \$50,000 to South GA College  
(GA Southern?)

\$110,000 from DBHDD

→ \$46,000 to support KSU (pay Mentors)

→ \$75,000 for 2 other BREAK DOWN Colleges  
- \$30,000 for 2 colleges  
- \$15,000 for technical assistance  
(consortium)

## BUDGET AMENDMENT

\* Strategic plan for self advocacy is not going to be used this year

## Additions:

⇒ \$15,000 added to Employment First Georgia

⇒ \$67,000 added to Post Secondary  
\$20,000 for other college  
\$47,000 TA - build future  
expansion and  
sustainability

⇒ \$20,000 added for DSP Certificate Program ... to tell their story ... capture lessons learned

⇒ Ruby Moore

wanted to go on the record to say ... Find a way to give staff a bonus ... they are working their butts off

⇒ Eric  
Eric acknowledged the staff but said it would be hard to get that through.

# GIFTS / TALENTS

Dottie shared materials from  
Bruce Anderson on gifts

Talents of:

Head  Knowledge you have  
& can share

Hands  Physical things  
you can do

Heart  Passion - what  
you care about

WISDOM  Aha Moments

PASSAGE  some struggles  
tough times

 Positive abilities  
you gained as a result of  
your struggles

FRIDAY

Handouts

- \* Travel Request
- \* Evaluation
- \* Article: Korean Coalition

Watched Real 517 DVD

Copy of DVD is in back of the Annual Report... share it with others

## ELECTION OF EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Governor appointed members... includes agency reps

Advisory Members... aren't Governor appointed - serve 2 year term - can't vote

We do have a quorum

**Nominees on Ballot:**

Mitzi Proffitt - chair

Tom Connelly - vice chair

Lisa Newbern - advisory rep

At Large:

Josette Akhras

Geniece McGoy

} vote for 2 of 3

Ballots were counted. There was a tie between Josette and Teresa H... Members revoted ... and the elected slate is as follows:

Chair: Mitzie Proffitt

Vice chair: Tom Connelly

Advisory Rep: Lisa Newbern

At Large: Geniece McCoy  
Josetta Akhras

Vote on Amended Budget Proposal



Motion: Christine Fleming

2nd: Tom Connelly

Vote: 1 Abstention (Dan Crimmins)


Otherwise vote was  
Unanimous to accept  
Amended Budget

# Public Policy


Engagement... Working together


 Ideas - Interests


Asked for input about what worked

 Calls - 1 x wk during the session  
things Move so fast

Trip to DC - Hill Visits

 D'Arcy has an open door  
when it comes to ideas...  
let her know what you are  
thinking

 Teresa B.  
Calls were good for  
♀ who can't travel

 Teresa J  
Minutes from calls were  
very helpful... couldn't be  
on calls due to work  
but wanted to stay  
informed.



👉 Mitzi Can we share these minutes?

Yes... Public info... we want to be transparent.

👉 Teresa - would like a Master List of what GCCD Members are doing

👉 Dan Maybe a 1x month email of what is going on when legislature isn't in session  
or an ad hoc call if needed

During "off season" there are things happening... Prep for bills... getting things ready

Great time to have conversations with your legislators when they are back home

Capitol Impact - tracks relationships

Members also have access to National Alerts

## EDUCATION about Public Policy

- talking to legislators
  - "telling your story"
  - having a game plan
- Info in Multiple formats, please

Do it as Part of next Council Meeting ... Interactive / Participative

- Being Prepared
- How to be recognized / noticed in a good way
- Building long term relationships (legislators & their staff)  
Get to know their gatekeeper!
- Maximize off season
- How can you relate to them?
- Tour of the Capitol
- How to call them off the floor

Be: \* confident

\* cordial

\* persistent

\* active

\* balanced ... they work for you

You can be upset about an issue

But Not with the person... You don't want to be labelled as extreme.

Be a RELIABLE Source of INF

Don't make up answers ....

Let them know you will find out the answer to their question ....

Always follow-up ...

Keep DiArcy informed about your legislator communications  
... Ask for her help

Use short/direct emails to legislators  
educate them

Hard to always have timely info  
on hearings / locations / times

Important to try to understand  
opposing positions

Sample letters / emails would be  
helpful... could copy/paste...

But Do Personalize it!

The closer to the vote... they  
are making Piles & counting #s  
of who is FOR or AGAINST

Appearance... wear comfortable shoes

Feel confident... you are a

Constituent & you vote... Your

"Realness" is something the  
power lobbyist don't have

## MEDIA

May want to include some Media education components, too.

- ... want specific point
- ... we have fingers in a lot of things
- ... the story
- ... clarity
- ... elevator speech

You may have an opinion on an issue as an individual but you are also a member of GCDD. Represent the GCDD position if you are wearing that "hat".

## AVA's LAW (continued)

Appreciated respect for differing opinions.

Want to try to understand both sides

Autism focus... why not other developmental disabilities?

Don't pit disabilities against each other

Need clarity ... different definitions of ABA - confusion

Creates controversy

Need education for general public, legislators, & ourselves as Council Members

Push is access to services for Kids

Are there other ways to language it?

May never agree on ABA

Federal level says "Behavioral Health Therapies"  
avoids using ABA wording

35 states have something similar

Gather info / compare / find common on insurance & other laws

Executive Committee reviews written evals... please complete them

Geniece

Liked D'Arcy's report Provides me focus Discussion good

Sharon

Food D'Arcy's Update Agree that circular seating would be better

Josetta

Legislative Update Circular tables would be better

Tom

Hearing thoughts Achievements Future Events Hotel Proximity - A+ Notes Creative Eric's leadership

Colleen

Passion of the Group

Dan

5 years on Council Reconnect to Mission Respect Notable!

Valerie

D'Arcy's Update Real TH Expansion Discussion Photos / Directory coming Want feedback on magazine and Annual report

Evan

Super Friendship

♀ Mitzi

- warmth here
- New, excited
- common bond
- can disagree
- Gifts... find them out
- D'Arcy - fab job
- Hotel ++
- Like saving \$ by meeting at 2 PT

♀ Ruby

- New Leadership
- Cohesion
- Do meetings well
- Saving \$ for programs
- Activities - on point
- Would like more on gifts

♀ Deborah H.

want to come back to core gift

worked for me  
Down Syndrome  
i was a  
PIP Grad

Evan & his Mom were mentors for me  
How did we get appointed?

... maybe legislator recommendation?  
organization " " " ?  
previous application?

♀ Teresa

Meet New "Teresa Brigade"  
Dinner on our own personal level  
Bond = team work



♀ Teresa  
H Passion  
Statewide Vision  
Trip to DC  
Commonalities we  
Share  
Go on trips/learning  
journeys

♀ Teresa  
B. rested in pm  
Hotel - awesome

Advisory - appreciate  
See cohesion in group  
want to share that with  
other groups  
"Agree to Disagree"  
♀ get along

♀ Cheri  
Core gifts  
getting to know ♀  
Move tables around  
Use comfy chairs

♀ Caitlin  
Get to know you  
Share  
Get involved w/ real life

♀ Kim  
Appreciate  
feedback on  
accommodations  
Put it on eval  
form  
Do more on gifts  
DiArcy informative  
Real life

♀ Dottie  
Long Day  
More breaks  
Cohesion  
Having surgery  
will be out a  
few weeks

♀ DiArcy  
warmth-cohesion  
thanks for  
productive  
discussion  
Gift of Passage  
Real life

👋 Lisa

Amazing group  
Opportunities offered  
Real 171  
D'Arcy... on board  
DDay T-shirts - set  
aside ones for Council  
Members Next year

👋 Gary

New leaders  
Congratulations  
Get your  
reimbursements  
in

👋 Eric  
J.

New leadership team

➡ in a  $+++$  direction

Channel thoughts/ideas  
to executive committee  
Staff serve as support  
we never stop

Policy... new process

Real 171 - Bringing  $\$$  together

Roles - what do you want to  
learn

July - Strategic Planning

Let him know about upcoming  
events

Drive home safely!