Georgia Council on Developmental Disabilities

**Quarterly Council Meeting**

**October 17-18, 2019**

**Atlanta, Georgia**

**M I N U T E S**

Present: Becky Brightwell, Tom Connelly, Mark Crenshaw, Brian Dowd, Theresa Heard, Debbie Hibben, Nandi Issac, Dana Lloyd, Heidi Moore, Brenda Munoz, Evan Nodvin, Madeline Petrone, Mitzi Proffitt, Zo Stoneman, Ron Wakefield, Lynn Walker

1. **Announcements**

The following announcements were made by Chairperson Mitzi Proffitt.

* 1. The ARC Georgia has changed the name of the Tomorrow’s Leaders to the Dawn Alford Tomorrow’s Leaders. The change was made to remember Dawn Alford
  2. January Council meeting is January 9-10 and will be held at the Evergreen Marriott.
  3. GCDD will host Judy Heumann on Tuesday October 29th at 11:00 a.m. at the Friends Meeting House in Decatur.
  4. A moment of silence was held in memory of Dawn Alford

Mitzi Proffitt reported that the Governor’s office is working on new appointments for GCDD but have not finished at this point. She announced that she would not be reappointed. In January, members will elect a new chairperson and thus it is time to elect the Vice-Chairperson and Executive Committee. Eric Jacobson will send out a nominations packet in the coming weeks that will include the responsibilities of each position and the qualifications for holding a position. The current Executive Committee will review those who submit their names and present a slate at the January meeting.

1. **Alison Barkoff**  .

Alison Barkoff provided an update about what is happening on the national level and what is happening in Georgia that has a national perspective. She reported that funding for Money Follows the Person has been approved through 2019 but advocates are working on a 3 or 5 year funding cycle. She also spoke about doing a webinar concerning the State’s HCBS Setting Rule and encouraged the Council to explore if the Department of Community Health has submitted an extension for implementation of the Electronic Verification system.

1. **Waiting List**

Devon Orland from the Georgia Advocacy Office presented on the report she published for the GCDD about the declining number of people on the waiting list and how the departments were determining who was eligible for services and placed on the waiting list. Attached is a copy of the draft report. It was suggested that the next step will be to present the report to DBHDD and DCH Commissioners. Eric Jacobson reminded members that they will vote on the report on Friday and should discuss and get questions answered.

1. **Legislative Agenda**

Alyssa Lee introduced herself and Kayla Rodriguez (Policy Intern). Dr. Lee suggested that we should be asking about the disability spin in all major pieces of legislation rather than creating separate disability related legislation. She presented new ideas for the GCDD public policy program including categorizing legislation/budget issues by health and Wellness, Housing, Transportation, Education, Employment and Budget. Dr. Lee suggested that GCDD needs to expand outreach for Advocacy Days and make sure each day has a Bill associated with the day, for instance Grace’s Law or House Bill 511 (Transportation)develop and support legislative issues as we move forward. I want you to pay close attention to how we are trying to expand the coalition of organizations that we are working with toward common goals. Finally, she proposed an Advisory Committee That would meet to review legislation as it arose during the Session.

1. **Supported Decision Making**

Members and staff adjourned to attend s symposium on Supported Decision Making being hosted by the Georgia Advocacy Office.

Friday October 18

1. Old Business
   1. Consent Agenda Issues
      1. Minutes and Graphics from the July meeting,
      2. Fiscal Report
      3. Program Report

**Tom Connelly made a motion to adopt the consent agenda. Nandi Issac second the motion. Council members voted unanimously to adopt the consent agenda.**

* 1. Waiting List Report

**Madeline Petrone made a motion for the Council to adopt the Wailing List Report and provide a copy to the commissioners of DBHDD and DCH. Council members voted unanimously to adopt the Waiting List Report.**

* 1. Legislative Agenda

**Nandi Issac made a motion to adopt the new legislative agenda. Evan Nodvin seconded the motion. Council members voted unanimously to adopt the legislative agenda format.**

* 1. Advocacy Days

**Debbie Hibben made a motion to implement advocacy days with at least three themes: Grace’s Law, Transportation (HB 511) and funding for Inclusive Post Secondary Education. Theresa Heard seconded the motion. Council members voted unanimously to adopt the themes for Advocacy Days.**

* 1. Advisory Committee

**Evan Nodvin made a motion to create an Public Policy Advisory Committee that will meet to discuss legislation and budget issues that arise during the Session. Nandi Issac seconded the motion. Council members voted unanimously to create a Public Policy Advisory Committee.**

1. **Cultural Diversity**

Maria Pinkleton presented on what she learned while participating in an Administration on Community Living yearlong study on cultural and linguistic competency. She will gave us an update on the Story Telling project. One of the issues that arose from this presentation was why the GCDD would use a hotel that is located in Stone Mountain Park which as a racist history.

1. **Agency Updates**

Ron Wakefield (DBHDD), Brian Dowd (DCH), and Lynn Walker (DHS) gave updates on what is happening at their agencies.

1. **Travel**

Lisa Eves reminded members about travel guidelines and how to get reimbursed in a timely manner. Staff will be putting the travel request and reimbursement forms on the GCDD website.

1. **Adjourn**