Georgia Council on Developmental Disabilities

**Quarterly Council Meeting**

**DRAFT**

**July 18-19, 2013**

**Atlanta, Georgia**

Present: Josette Akhras, Jason Beardon, Tom Connelly, Dan Crimmins, Dorothy Harris, Renorta Heard, Deborah Hibben, Geneice McCoy, Kylie Moore, Ruby Moore, Lisa Newbern, Evan Nodvin, Mitzi Proffitt, Debbie Regan (Representing DOE), Zo Stoneman, Becky Tidwill

1. **Announcements**

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* + October Council Meeting October 24-25, 2013 in Atlanta.
	+ Mitzi Proffitt announced that the schedule for Council meetings will be to begin meetings on Thursday at 10:00 a.m. and end on Thursday at 4:00 p.m. Friday’s meeting would end at 1:00 p.m.
	+ Tom Connelly reported on his trip to Louisville to hear more about Real Communities. Mr. Connelly, Ruby Moore, and Ms. Proffitt reported on their recent attendance at the National Association of Developmental Disability Councils annual conference
1. **Consent Agenda**

Tom Connelly made a motion to adopt the Consent Agenda. Jason Bearden seconded the motion. **The Council unanimously approved the motion to adopt the consent agenda**.

1. **Core Gifts**

Bruce Anderson worked with Council members and staff to understand what gifts are and to identify their gifts.

1. **Ava’s Law**

D’Arcy Robb presented research about what other states have done similar to Ava’s Law. She reported that a legislative committee has been reviewing the proposed legislation but that it had made no decisions. She then facilitated a discussion about possible positions that GCDD could take. Mitzi Proffitt reported that the Executive Committee discussed this and recommended that GCDD not take a formal position but instead provide information about the pro’s and cons of the legislation. This is similar to what is presented in Making a Difference. .Members discussed if dropping Applied Behavioral Analysis from the legislation would make it easier for others to support or if the legislation could be expanded beyond autism. Neither of these options appear to be acceptable to those working on the legislation.

1. **Learning Process**

Eric Jacobson presented a recommended process that GCDD can use to learn more about programs and evaluate their effectiveness. The process includes opportunities for members to participate in an appreciative inquiry process, collect stories from participants, create logic models and collect data.

1. **2013-2014 Budget**

Eric Jacobson presented a recommended budget for the federal fiscal year 2013-2014. The budget is based on the current allocation from the U.S. Congress and current projects.

Friday, July 19,2013

1. Old Business
	1. Vote on Ava’s Law: Geneice McCoy made a motion that the Council adopt the recommendations of the Executive Committee and not take a position on Ava’s Law but instead provide those interested in information about the pro’s and con’s of this legislation. Josette Akhras seconded the motion. The GCDD members unanimously approved the motion concerning Ava’s Law.
	2. Vote on Budget: Tom Connelly made a motion to adopt the proposed 2013-2014 budget. Debbie Hibben seconded the motion. The GCDD members unanimously approved the motion to adopt the proposed 2013-2014 budget.
	3. Vote on Youth Summit Recommendation: Caitlin Childs presented the Grants Ad Hoc Committee recommendations that the Council fund the proposal submitted by Project South to implement the Youth Summit project to be held during spring break 2014. Debbie Hibben made a motion to adopt the recommendation of the Ad Hoc Committee. Tom Connelly seconded the motion. The GCDD members approved the motion to accept the proposal of Project South to implement the Youth Summit. Dan Crimmins abstained from voting.
2. **Disseminating Information**

Valerie Suber presented information on how GCDD disseminates information to people throughout the state and how people learn about GCDD.

1. **Real Communities Update** .

Caitlin Childs and Cheri Pace gave an update on the Real Communities Initiative

1. **Meeting Evaluation**

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Members had an opportunity to reflect on the meeting. Among the comments made:

* There needs to be presentations on other issues that GCDD is working on.
* Concerns about attendance and participation and how do we engage council members
* Presentation about lessons from Real Communities about what did not work
* Presentation on the advocacy “world” and how organizations are connected
1. **Adjourn** .