

Georgia Council on Developmental Disabilities
Quarterly Council Meeting
October 15-16,2020
Atlanta, Georgia

MINUTES

Present: Becky Brightwell, Mark Crenshaw, Parker Glick, Dorothy Harris, Teresa Heard, Debbie Hibben, Nandi Issac, Dana Lloyd, Heidi Moore, Evan Nodvin, Lisa Pennington, Zo Stoneman

I. Parker Glick made the following announcements:

- January Council meeting is January 14-15 and will be held online unless COVID restrictions are changed.
- The fall edition of Making a Difference is on the GCDD website. The focus is on employment.
- Parker Glick announced that he will be stepping down as Chairperson on November 1, 2020 because he has accepted a job with the Georgia Advocacy Office. He will remain on the Council but not in the Chairperson position. The Council will need to elect a new chairperson and member of the Executive Committee at its next quarterly meeting. Dorothy Harris will act as chairperson in the interim. Those interested in running for chairperson and a spot on the Executive Committee should let Eric Jacobson know.
- Dana Lloyd announced that GAO and SUN have developed videos around voting and are operating a voter hotline.

II. Diversity and Intersectionality

Parker Glick reminded members that he had appointed an ad hoc committee to examine how GCDD can address issues of intersectionality. Those appointed were Mark Crenshaw, Teresa Heard, Dana Lloyd, Evan Nodvin, Eric Foss, Kim Person and Maria Pinkleton.

Maria Pinkelton gave an update on the work of the committee. Ms. Pinkleton presented the following:

- The purpose of the ad hoc committee is to address opportunities where GCDD can increase capacity and effect change throughout the state in the area of diversity, inclusion and intersectionality.
- The committee is creating an assessment tool working with the Georgetown University UCEDD
- Looking at ground work where this conversation can take place including in GCDD messaging, mission and values, grants, membership and who attends GCDD supported events. Diversity, inclusion and intersectionality needs to “baked into everything GCDD does as opposed to sprinkled on top.”
- Committee will identify barriers to participation and causes individual not to be at the table.
- At the next meeting the committee will review the assessment and Road Map.

III. Strategic Plan

McKenzie Wren facilitated conversations around the strategic planning process. She presented the data collected from the town halls, focus group and online survey. Among the results were:

- Top Priorities Overall
 - Waiver services
 - Employment
 - Housing
- Top Priorities for individuals with disabilities
 - Employment
 - Waiver
 - Housing
- Barriers Overall
 - Lack of resources
 - Waitlist
 - Lack of money
- Barriers for Individuals with disabilities
 - Lack of money
 - Lack of resources
 - Waitlist
- Greatest worry overall
 - Manage family supports
 - Personal finance
 - Healthcare access
- Greatest worry for individuals with disabilities
 - Personal finance
 - Access to healthcare
 - Getting housing
- What could Council do overall
 - Improve services and supports (quality and access)
 - Employment
 - Housing
 - Increase access
- What could Council do individuals with disabilities
 - Housing
 - Employment
 - Information that is clear and accessible
- Recommendations from Focus Groups
 - Greater expansion of advocacy
 - Convene conversations to build alliances
 - Families
 - Siblings
 - Person centered and circles of support
 - Employment
 - Innovation hub on issues such as transportation
 - Support community organizing
 - Transportation
 - Expansion of Real Communities Partnership
 - Resource and information coordination
 - Help breakdown silos of disability groups

- Possible advocacy issues: “all policy is disability policy”
 - Transition planning
 - Waiting List
 - Around specific diagnosis
 - Waiver reform
 - Local levels including Savannah and rural areas
 - Living wage for direct support professionals
 - Digital divide and assistive technology

McKenzie Wren lead members and staff in exercises around the ideas of Theory U and Ecosystem thinking. Members used an Empathy Model to think about what people are feeling, saying, thinking and doing. It was discussed that the conversation needs to focus on assets and gifts not necessarily needs.

IV. Adjourn for the day

Evan Nodvin moved that the meeting be adjourned. Nandi Issac seconded the motion. **The Council members voted to unanimously to adjourn for the day.**

Friday October 18

I. **Old Business**

a. **Consent Agenda Issues**

Parker Glick asked for a motion to adopt the Consent Agenda which included:

- Minutes and Graphics from the July meeting,
- Minutes from August Special Meeting of the Membership
- Fiscal Report
- Program Report

Mark Crenshaw made a motion to approve the consent agenda. Evan Nodvin seconded the motion. **The Council members voted unanimously to approve the consent agenda.**

II. OIDD Audit

Eric Jacobson reported that the Council is undergoing an audit/oversight from the US Department of Health and Human Services, the Office of Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities. Council has been asked to supply documents related to policy and procedures. At this point, there is no information about next steps. There was a robust conversation about the reason for the audit and how decisions are made at the Council.

III. Legislative Agenda

Kate Brady presented the proposed legislative agenda and advocacy activities for the upcoming legislative session. The PowerPoint is attached. Ms. Brady reported that there is a Notice of Funds Available process for providing logistical support for Advocacy Days. She requested that members volunteer to participate in reviewing the proposals and deciding who will receive the funding. Teresa Heard, Evan Nodvin and Mark Crenshaw volunteered. Ms. Brady also asked for volunteers to participate on the **Public Policy Committee** and to work on virtual advocacy days. Volunteers should contact Eric Jacobson.

IV. Messaging

Hillary Hibben gave a presentation on work GCDD staff conducted with a consultant about how to better communicate what GCDD does. This includes creating an identify map, brand narrative and audience scaffolding.

V. Meeting Evaluation

Members completed a poll as part of the evaluation process.

VI. Executive Session

Parker Glick reminded members that they were about to go into Executive Session. Executive Session is an opportunity to discuss matters of personnel, legal matters or matters regarding property. This part of the meeting is closed to those who are not members of the Council. This includes staff as well as guests.

Debbie Hibben made a motion to go into Executive Session. Evan Nodvin seconded the motion. **The Council voted unanimously to go into Executive Session.**