



1501 S. Highline Ave, Ste 1C
Sioux Falls, South Dakota
57110
605.773.6369

Minutes of Meeting April 24, 2025

Ramkota (3200 W. Maple St, Sioux Falls) and Zoom

Members Present

Kevin Dunn
Val Hubsy
Tania Kostel Heather
Krzmarzick
Amanda Roberson
Nicole Meyer

Kristy Jackson
Rebecca Jensen
Eric Kurtz
Keath Rick
Cole Uecker
Nicole Winckler

Members Attending Via Zoom

Barb Ablen
Robert Blechinger
Toni Feist
Caryn Johnson
Sara Valle

Katie Armstrong
Melanie Boetel
Bernie Grimme
Wendy Trujillo

Others Attending in Sioux Falls / Zoom

Jessica Lamb
Kendra Gottsleben
Nikki Doherty & Chris Kappen

Dan Lusk
Carrie Geppert
Matt Russell
& Kristopher von Bonsdorff

INTRODUCTIONS

Rebecca Jenson, Member-at-Large, called the meeting to order at 9:00 AM. Roll call was completed. The mission statement was read, and the meeting agreements were reviewed.

All members were asked to introduce themselves, their role on the Council and share what they were looking forward to for summer. Many people

commented they were ready to spend time at the lake or outside. A quorum was established.

APPROVE AGENDA & MINUTES

Robert Blechinger made a motion to approve the agenda and the meeting minutes of the January 6, 2025, seconded by Caryn Johnson. Motion passed.

RATIFICATION OF EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE ACTION

The Executive Committee met via email on 1/21/25 to approve a mini-grant funding request of \$5,000 for the Lighting the Way: Autism in Our Community Conference and on 4/2/25 to approve a mini-grant funding request of \$5,000 for the ADA Festival. The Council voted to ratify the approval of the Lighting the Way grant by the Executive Committee with Robert Blechinger abstaining – motion passed 20-0. The Council voted to ratify the approval of the ADA grant, with Cole Uecker abstaining, motion passed 20-0.

BUDGET UPDATE

Jessica reviewed the information budget update. Jessica shared that two NoAs (Notice of Award) for FFY25 (which began on October 1) have been received in the amount of \$237,892.00. A continuing resolution was passed on March 14, 2025 and the Council anticipates receiving the remaining FFY25 funds in the amount of \$288,228 in mid-May 2025.

The Council had funds over-obligated from FFY24 in the amount of \$108,454.40. On the budget update, the estimated award amount of \$526,120.00 minus \$61,860.78 in current expenses leaves the Council with \$464,259.22 in funds.

Below is a small breakdown of budgetary item totals to be subtracted from that amount:

Obligations not on database:	\$55,898.02
Proposals approved at previous meeting:	\$155,858.00
Mini-grant approval:	\$10,000.00
Potential projects/proposals for FFY 25:	<u>\$23,636.50</u>
TOTAL:	\$95,636.50

This leaves \$146,856.70 of FFY25 money to obligate towards grant projects and administrative costs if all FFY25 monies are received.

A motion was made to approve by budget report by Val Husby and seconded by Rebecca Jenson. Motion passed 21-0.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Jessica began sharing the Director's report by noting some issues surrounding federal level funding to DD Councils, leaked proposal from the Office of Management and Budget that has potential major impacts to Council work, the dissolving of the Administration on Community Living and its potential implications for Councils, and the request from the National Association of Councils of Developmental Disabilities for Councils to being work on contingency funding.

Jessica shared the information she had from national leadership, as did Cole Uecker from the protection and advocacy arena, and Eric Kurtz from the UCEDD arena.

Jessica shared that she attended a Contingency plan training on Wednesday April 23, 2025 that occurred late in the afternoon and she utilized that information to put together a multi-scenario contingency plan based on the information we had at the moment. This was shared with the Council.

Council members discussed what it might look like if we had to pause or terminate grant contracts. Jessica shared all our grant contracts have an escape clause based on federal funding, but that no one on the Council wants to leave grantees left "holding the bag" and responsible financially. The Council agreed we want to prevent that to the greatest degree possible. It was mentioned by a Council member these times are not normal, and we are trying to navigate this budgetary concerns as if this were typical. It was acknowledged that this makes it very difficult to make thoughtful decisions.

Council members discussed how this information would impact the grant proposals the Council is considering at this meeting, depending on if we got the rest of the FFY25 funding or if we did not.

Jessica shared a rough draft a document that noted our award monies and several different scenarios to jump-start a conversation, and over the next week will send out a more solid scenario document that includes actual numbers.

Jessica also shared that she had held vendor booths at two conference: the SD Special Education Conference in Rapid City, SD on March 18-19, 2025 and disseminated 145 pieces of Council resources and spoke specifically to 24 people about Council activities; and the Early Childhood Education Conference on April 10-11, 2025 in Watertown, SD where she disseminated 159 pieces of Council resources and spoke to 46 individuals about Council activities.

Jessica also shared information on the Lakhotipapi AAC, which Janet Callahan of the Oglala Sioux Tribe and now living in Michigan, founded to ensure children had access to augmentative communication in their indigenous languages. Jessica will send out a copy of the brochure and more information can be found at <https://lakhotiyapiaac.org>.

RFP PROPSAL CREATION AND HOSTING OF WEBSITE FOR THE SOUTH DAKOTA COUNCIL ON DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES – GRANICUS

Matt Russell and Kristopher von Bondsworff from Granicus presented. Discussion included: a review of the understanding of the scope of the project, the cost proposal, timeframe of the project, and responsibilities of all parties. Also discussed the options of creating just the website vs. the website and adding a communication platform (list-serv and beyond). There was an opportunity for questions and answers.

RFP PROPSAL CREATION AND HOSTING OF WEBSITE FOR THE SOUTH DAKOTA COUNCIL ON DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES – EPICOSITY

Nikki Doherty and Christopher Kappen present their proposal on behalf of Epicosity. Discussion included: an understanding of the scope of the project, included components, cost proposals, and time frame of deliverables. Also included as an opportunity for questions and answers.

Cole Uecker made a motion, seconded by Rebecca Jenson, to table the decision until our summer quarterly meeting, due to the concerns around funding at the federal level. There was some discussion how that would be handled regarding the RFP anticipated award contract date, which had already passed. Jessica said she would contact Jenna Howell about the matter. Motion approved 21-0.

GRANT APPLICATION – SD DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES – COMMUNITY OF PRACTICE FOR SUPPORTING FAMILIES

Carrie Geppert presented on the proposal. Discussion: Carrie discussed the two goals of the current proposal, including emphasis of supporting families and advocates in leadership roles and the continued communications and education to stakeholders with Charting the LifeCourse. There was also discussion how the grant was smaller this time, as fewer family members/advocates were being supported to go to the 2025 Showcase, with the hopes that more can attend next year. Val Husby made a motion to approve the grant request, seconded by Keath Rick. Abstaining from the vote were Melanie Botel, Kevin Dunn, Eric Kurtz, Wendy Trujilo, and Cole Uecker. Motion passed 15-0.

GRANT APPLICATION – USD CENTER FOR DISABILITIES – DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES COUNCIL PUBLIC INFORMATION

Kendra Gottsleben presented on the proposal. Items discussed include: the need for continued access to consumer-friendly information for parents, advocates, professionals, and stakeholders. Kendra discussed key components of the grant including dissemination of resources, purchasing current and best practice products for the Wegner Library, production and disbursement of the SD Possibilities Magazine, and support of the DD Councils online presence.

Cole Uecker made a motion to approve, and Bernie Grimme seconded that motion. Melanie Boetel and Eric Kurtz abstained. Motion passed 18-0.

BYLAWS

Jessica refreshed the Council on the proposed changes that been discussed on the By-laws at the January 6, 2025 meeting. Because these changes have been discussed at both the November 1, 2024 meeting and the January meeting, very little discussion was held. Cole Uecker made a motion to approve the changes to the SD Council on Developmental Disabilities By-laws, seconded by Tania Kostel. Motion passed.

DIVISION OF DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES UPDATE

Kevin Dunn, Director of the Division of Developmental Disabilities, gave an update. He shared that DD is working a corrective action plan with the federal government and discussed the improvements and trainings being

made. Psychotropic med rule change went through public hearing and rules committee and will go into effect May 1st. There has been request for a waiver amendment for the Choices waiver for out of state care if those cares can't be delivered in SD. Awaiting on CMS for a response. Kevin shared a new case management provider will be coming into the state – still in the onboarding process. Update on the Family Support 360 waiting list. March 2025 data states that 185 people on the list for services, most in the SE region of the state (120/185). The longest wait is currently 399 days, but Kevin acknowledged they'd like that number to be zero. The numbers are what they are due to funding and provider availability. There was some discussion around the potential impact to DDD services if federal funding cuts to Medicaid occur. There were some personal discussions by Council members about how FS360 has benefited them and Kevin shared the DDD is exploring ways to make FS360 even more flexible for families.

UPDATE ON ANNUAL REPORT / STATE PLAN 2027-31 PLANNING

Jessica reviewed that the Annual Report had been updated in late March, a week or so prior to the required federal due date. Confirmation of receipt to our Program Specialist was obtained. No request for further information has been received.

Jessica quickly reviewed progress that was noted in the January meeting, including the following goal areas that the Council needs to place its focus on for the remainder of 2025:

- Could consider doing a First Responder training in 2025 (Goal 1, Obj 2)
 - o There was discussion of the person who came to do the training previous and working with the law enforcement training center in Pierre.
- Goal 2 – Mental Health – Objectives 2&3: Council will collaborate with others to provide two education/awareness activities related to mental health services for people with IDD and Council will collaborate on one even and/or resource for family caregivers/DSP on maintaining their own mental health/well-being.

- Discussions about collaborations with DOH / DSS- Division of Behavioral Health and community stakeholders was held.

Jessica reshared the timeline of events, as well as two graphics that informed Council members of current large area goals for the current State plan, and the two previous state plans, as well as projects that occurred in those time frames.

Jessica also shared a survey with the Council for the needs assessment. Council members shared initial suggestions and Jessica will send out a more finalized questionnaire for approval in the next week or so. Some other agency Council members also offered to share their needs assessment surveys.

MOMENTUM REFRESH PRESENTATION

Dan Lusk presented about Momentum Refresh. This was information he shared, “As the nation's first fully accessible, universally designed and beyond ADA compliant mobile restroom, Momentum Refresh is revolutionizing the concept of inclusive restroom facilities. We are committed to providing a restroom experience that goes beyond mere accessibility. Our mobile restroom is equipped with comprehensive features and dedicated staff to ensure a dignified and convenient experience for all guests.

Universal Design and Full Accessibility: Momentum Refresh sets a new standard for accessibility by offering features specifically designed for individuals with disabilities, veterans and others with limited mobility such as aging adults and seniors. Our restroom includes:

- Powered, height adjustable adult-sized changing table
- Powered, height adjustable sink
- Overhead hoist on a track system for safe transfers
- Toilet with bidet including height and width adjustable grab bars
- Showering capacity

- Universal vehicle lift for easy transfer into mobile restroom
- Temperature controlled – heat, air conditioning, full ventilation
- Take a tour of Refresh [HERE](#); and Josh’s tour is also linked [HERE](#)

Dedicated Staff: At Momentum Refresh, we recognize the importance of providing personalized assistance. Our restroom comes with a dedicated team of trained professionals who are passionate about delivering exceptional service. They are available to provide support, answer questions, and ensure a safe and comfortable experience for all users. The unit is sanitized after every single use, so it is always very clean.

Disaster Response: Because of its mobile design, Refresh can be deployed anywhere including evacuation sites, a relocated residential setting, or individual homes. You can find additional information on emergency and disaster response on our website [HERE](#). Here is a short video clip with additional disaster response [INFO](#).”

After the presentation, the Council discussed potential opportunities for collaboration with Momentum in South Dakota for events like the State Fair, Sioux Empire Fair, etc.

PUBLIC COMMENT

No one from the public was present.

Next Meeting

The Council discussed holding the Summer Quarterly meeting in either Chamberlain or Pierre the last week in June. Jessica will send out a Doodle Poll to select location and date/time.

Adjourn

Kevin Dunn made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Cole Uecker, to adjourn the meeting at 4:20 PM. Motion passed.