

**DRAFT**

**DRAFT**

**DRAFT**

South Dakota **Council**  
on Developmental Disabilities



2520 E Franklin St, Suite 4  
Pierre, South Dakota 57501  
605.773.6369 1-800-265-9684  
[dhs.sd.gov/cdd.aspx](http://dhs.sd.gov/cdd.aspx)

**Minutes of Meeting**  
**April 24, 2020**  
**Skype video or conference call**

Members Present:

Barb Abeln	Dr. Eric Kurtz
Bob "Skippy" Blechinger	Marcie Lorensberg
Whitney Bruner, DOH	Darryl Millner
Kathie Erdman-Becker	Tim Neyhart
Carroll Forsch	Jennifer Olson
Erica Gloor	Connie Schmitz
Bernie Grimme	Derek Smith
Reed Haug	Cindy Taber
Chuck Henrie	Wendy Trujillo
Rebecca Jensen	Sara Valle
Tania Kostal	

Others Attending:

Jennie Krieger	Arlene Poncelet
----------------	-----------------

INTRODUCTIONS

Marcie Lorensberg called the meeting to order and read the mission statement: "Assist people with intellectual and developmental disabilities and their families to experience the quality of life they desire through advocacy and systems change."

Roll call of members was completed. Once introductions were complete the meeting agreements were read.

AGENDA & MINUTES

Kathie Erdman-Becker made a motion to accept the agenda, seconded by Tania Kostal. Motion passed.

Kathie Erdman-Becker made a motion, seconded by Derek Smith, to approve the minutes from the January 3, 2020 meeting of the Council. Motion passed.

REVIEW AND APPROVE THE ACTIONS OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Marcie Lorensberg shared the reports from the Executive Committee meeting and reviewed the actions taken at those meetings.

Chuck Henrie made a motion, seconded by Rebecca Wagner, to approve the reports of the Executive Committee meetings held March 2, March 23, April 6 and April 20, 2020. Motion passed unanimously.

The following actions were taken by the Executive Committee:

1. Recommended approval of mini-grant for Lighting the Way Conference (has since been cancelled due to Covid-19)
2. Recommended approval of mini-grant for Project SEARCH Conference (SDSU) for \$4,100.
3. Recommended approval of mini-grant for Sensory & Complex Needs Summer Institute for \$5,000. (planning to hold as scheduled or virtually if needed)
4. No recommendation for Midwest Leadership Institute.
5. Approved amending timeline for Bright Beginnings grant to 2/28/21.
6. Recommended approval of mini-grant for Adolescent Mental Health Training for \$5,000. (has been cancelled due to Covid-19)

7. Recommended approval of mini-grants for Comfort and Engagement during Covid-19 pandemic for Black Hills Special Services Cooperative, Community Connections, LifeScape, LIVE, The Support Circle, Aspire, Sedac and Ability Building Services.

Requested additional information from Northern Hills Training Center and Dakota Milestones and if acceptable would recommend approval.

Arlene shared some of the discussion from the Executive Committee meeting where Council members wanted to have a way to know that in 6 months or a year the equipment is still used by the people served and not in the hands of staff; be assured that people do not have to earn the right to use the technology; what about use of the TAD (Telecommunications Adaptive Devices) Program. Arlene revised the Assurances usually submitted by grantees to cover these items. Arlene reviewed the TAD Program information and this could be used for an individual (not a group setting) and the person would need to explain their need for a specialized communication device. The assurances and sharing information on the TAD program will be shared in correspondence with grantees.

Chuck Henrie made a motion to hold off on approval of all Covid-19 mini-grants. Council discussed that it would be too long until the Council meets again; wanted to do something sooner; ask grantees how they will be notifying families and others that the devices are available. Motion was withdrawn.

Kathie Erdman Becker made a motion to ratify the actions of the Executive Committee, seconded by Chuck Henrie. Motion passed unanimously.

Chuck Henrie made a motion to approve Dakota Milestones and Northern Hills Training Center after review of additional information, seconded by Wendy Trujillo. Motion passed unanimously.

### BUDGET UPDATE

Arlene Poncelet reviewed the budget reports sent to Council members. The Council currently has approximately \$156,573 of federal funds available for projects. Several projects will not be utilizing their current grants (Partners in Policymaking cancelled the April Continuing Ed and Graduation weekend); Youth Leadership Forum is not sure if it is happening; and on the budget report expenditures for the mini-grants are shown but some or all may be cancelled. Our current obligation period for the FFY19 funds runs through September 2021 so there should be no problem with obligating those funds in the required time frame.

### PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

No members of the public were present to speak to the Council.

### UPDATE – Division of Developmental Disabilities

Darryl Millner updated the Council on recent activities related to the Coronavirus Pandemic (Covid-19). All staff are working remotely thru May 31. Phone calls are being answered and routed to staff. The Division's website has Covid-19 resources and guidance. The Center for Medicaid and Medicare (CMS) has provided policy changes for flexibility for providers. The Sioux Falls and Aberdeen providers have had positive cases of Covid-19 with people with developmental disabilities being admitted to hospital isolation wards. Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) has been an issue for many providers. Many do not have any/enough PPE. The state is working to help with this shortage. The Division continues to have conversations with the Council on Quality and Leadership, Disability Rights South Dakota, and state leadership on these issues.

GRANT APPLICATION – Supporting Families Community of Practice, Year 5, Division of Developmental Disabilities

Julie Hand reviewed the grant application for activities in Year 5. Goals include: more connections with self-advocates and families; partnerships with local and state organizations; and build knowledge and use of philosophy within the Division of DD. Chuck Henrie made a motion, seconded by Derek Smith, to approve federal funds in the amount of \$63,740.10. Motion passed by roll call vote with 18 ayes, 0 nays and 2 abstaining (Eric Kurtz and Darryl Millner).

LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

Darryl Millner reported that the appropriations for developmental disabilities services had received a 2% provider inflation increase that would probably not happen due to costs related to the Pandemic and economic losses expected by the state. Other areas included competency restoration, mental health and telehealth bills.

Tim Neyhart shared about the guardianship issue when a sexual assault happens – the law was changed so that the person with a developmental disability can consent to the examination without the staff needing to wait to hear from the guardian (which could take days – lengthening the process and compromising evidence). Additional requirements were added when filing an ADA complaint that notice must be given before filing a lawsuit. There were several mental health and telehealth bills. A definition of Dyslexia was added. An independent monitor was added for residential facilities licensed by the Department of Social Services.

Wendy Trujillo shared information on a number of bills that were introduced but failed including prohibiting open enrollment for students with autism; placing a list of accommodations in the

**DRAFT**

**DRAFT**

**DRAFT**

statutes; social emotional surveys and evaluations; child safety accounts (bullying); deaf and hard of hearing students; literacy intervention program; age of enrollment for Kindergarten; immunizations; and creating an Early Learning Council. Bills that passed were to change state aid; define dyslexia (adds definition to the law but no additional requirements); and to include children with hearing loss in the reports.

### NEXT MEETING

Arlene will consider developments with Covid-19 and plan accordingly. A survey will be sent to determine when to meet and whether in person or not.

### ADJOURNMENT

Chuck Henrie made a motion to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Derek Smith at 11:30 a.m.