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South Dakota **Council**
on Developmental Disabilities



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**Minutes of Meeting
July 24, 2019
AmericInn, Chamberlain**

Members Present:

Kelli Anderson

Bob “Skippy” Blechinger

Katherine Erdman Becker

Carroll Forsch

Reed Haug

Chuck Henrie (by phone)

Rebecca Jensen

Tania Kostal

Marcie Lorensberg

Jennifer Olson

Crystal Reuter

Connie Schmitz

Derek Smith

Yvette Thomas

Sara Valle

Eric Weiss

Others Attending:

Arlene Poncelet

INTRODUCTIONS

Crystal Reuter called the meeting to order and read the mission statement: “To assist people with intellectual and developmental disabilities and their families in achieving the quality of life they desire through advocacy, systems change and capacity building.” Once introductions were complete the meeting agreements were read.

AGENDA & MINUTES

Derek Smith made a motion to accept the agenda, seconded by Marcie Lorensberg. Motion passed.

The minutes of the May 17, 2019 meeting were reviewed and suggestions for changes were made to use consistent names throughout the minutes, add a word after “succession” on page 4 and to add information to the compensation discussion to show more of the depth of the conversation. It was suggested that these minutes be revised and approved at the fall meeting.

REVIEW AND APPROVE THE ACTIONS OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

The following actions were taken at the July 11, 2019, meeting of the Executive Committee:

1. Recommended having the Division of Developmental Disabilities present the Supporting Families Community of Practice grant application at the July meeting.

Kathie Erdman Becker made a motion to accept the report and ratify the actions of the Executive Committee, seconded by Tania Kostal. Motion carried

BUDGET UPDATE

Arlene Poncelet reviewed the various budget reports from the Department of Human Services and those she completes. As of May 31, 2019, the Council has over-obligated all FFY 2018 and 2019 funds by \$9,098.73. All of these funds must be obligated, and work completed by September 30, 2020. Eric Weiss asked if we know whether all these obligations would be expended or not. Arlene stated that the SD Advocates for Change grant and Outreach and Support grant would not be fully expended. Kathie Erdman Becker made a motion to approve the budget update, seconded by Connie Schmitz. Motion passed.

UPDATE FROM NATIONAL CONFERENCE

Crystal Reuter, Marcie Lorensberg and Arlene Poncelet shared information and resources received while attending the National Association of Councils on Developmental Disabilities (NACDD)

Annual Conference. Crystal and Arlene also attended the Administration on Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities (AIDD) Technical Assistance Institute for DD Councils. This year, the sessions were on topics that South Dakota is currently working on such as emergency preparedness, training for law enforcement, supporting family's initiatives, etc. It was good to see that our Council activities are in line with other Councils nationally.

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

No members of the public were present to speak to the Council. Council members asked if it would be appropriate to ask someone to come talk with the Council during the public comment period. Arlene Poncelet agreed that asking someone to come would be a good idea. Arlene suggested that if a Council member asks someone to come that they let her know so we can be aware of the time available.

FIVE YEAR STATE PLAN UPDATES

Arlene Poncelet provided Council members with the pages of the state plan that are being revised. Revisions include membership, adding an objective to Goal 1 based on workforce grants approved last September; changing timelines for Goal 2 based on the Supporting Families Initiative; changing timelines for Goal 3 based on the First Responder Disability Awareness Training approved last September; adding an objective in Goal 5 based on the Unified Champion Schools grant approved last September; and proposed budget for FFY 2020.

Kathie Erdman Becker made a motion to submit the revisions as presented, seconded by Kelli Anderson. Motion carried.

BUDGET REQUEST FOR STATE FISCAL YEAR 2021

Arlene Poncelet explained the budget process for the State's Fiscal Year. Her recommendation was to keep the proposal the same as last year.

Marcie Lorensberg made a motion to approve the recommendation for the state budget request, seconded by Carroll Forsch. Motion passed.

GRANT APPLICATION – SHARED LIVING, LIFEQUEST

Pam Hanna and Brian Loken from LifeQuest in Mitchell presented to the Council. Questions and discussion included the vetting process for host home families; how safety and security will be monitored; use of Section 811 housing vouchers; and possible rules to exclude someone who is already very independent from qualifying for shared living.

Kathie Erdman Becker made a motion to approve \$30,000 of federal funding for this proposal, seconded by Tania Kostal. Motion passed. Abstaining was Kelli Anderson.

**GRANT APPLICATION – SUPPORTING FAMILIES
COMMUNITY OF PRACTICE, DIVISION OF DEVELOPMENTAL
DISABILITIES**

Julie Hand from the Division of Developmental Disabilities presented to the Council by phone. Questions and discussion included how to measure if this is successful, the performance measures are indicated but not what estimates the applicant hopes to reach during the grant period; could the focus be narrowed to rural areas; can the Council fund only one year and determine if outcomes are being met before funding additional years.

Rebecca Jensen made a motion to request numbers for the performance measures on pages 9-11 and upon review and

acceptance of those numbers (outcomes) the Executive Committee is given the authority to give final approval for one year of federal funding in the amount of \$34,348.95, seconded by Eric Weiss. Motion passed.

**GRANT APPLICATION – UNIFIED CHAMPION SCHOOLS,
SPECIAL OLYMPICS SOUTH DAKOTA**

Julie Briggs presented this application for Year 2 funding of the Unified Champion Schools programs. Julie shared the results from year 1 and how South Dakota compares to the program nationally.

Derek Smith made a motion to approve \$50,000 for year 2 of the program, seconded by Bob Blechinger. Motion passed.

**GRANT APPLICATION – BEST BUDDIES SOUTH DAKOTA
INCLUSION PROJECT, BEST BUDDIES INTERNATIONAL**

Mandy Fullmer, Best Buddies International from Florida, Cicily Strong, Best Buddies Rapid City Office, and Alyssa and Jason Gentile, Sioux Falls, presented to the Council. Questions and discussion included support and appreciation for the work of Best Buddies – particularly programs for adults with I/DD; similarity to the Unified Champion Schools grant that the council just approved; potential schools listed were all larger but what about smaller more rural schools; why does a large foundation need funding from the DD Council; Council funds are mostly spent on a small amount of staff time; some members were very interested in the Best Buddies Citizen program; thought the idea of a future proposal with a different focus would be better.

Kathie Erdman Becker made a motion to not fund this proposal, seconded by Marcie Lorensberg. Motion passed.

DIVISION OF REHABILITATION SERVICES UPDATE

Eric Weiss, Director for the Division of Rehabilitation Services, shared information on activities in the area of Customized Employment which is a new service implemented in May 2018. Community Support Providers have been divided into 4 groups or cohorts that are receiving training from fall 2018 thru 2020. The fee structure for Customized Employment allows for a greater amount of time for the Discovery Process so staff can really get to know the individual and find a good fit for the person to have a successful placement.

Eric also talked about Section 511 of the Work Incentives Opportunity Act (WIOA). Since July 2017, no youth can be placed in sub-minimum wage employment unless vocational rehabilitation and transition services have been provided. Annually everyone working in a sub-minimum wage position is interviewed to determine if they want to remain or find other competitive employment options. In 2017, 905 individuals were in sub-minimum wage positions. In 2019, there are 621 individuals.

REQUESTS FOR PROPOSALS

Partners in Policymaking Year 28 and recruitment for Year 29 – Marcie Lorensberg made a motion to issue this RFP for presentation at the fall Council meeting, seconded by Bob Blechinger. Motion passed.

Youth Leadership Forum 2020 – Marcie Lorensberg made a motion to issue this RFP for presentation at the winter Council meeting, seconded by Bob Blechinger. Motion passed.

Public Information & Awareness 2019-20 – Kathie Erdman Becker made a motion to issue this RFP for presentation at the winter Council meeting, seconded by Tania Kostal. Motion passed.

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Mini-Grants for Education & Training – Yvette Thomas made a motion to issue this RFP for FFY2020, seconded by Bob Blechinger. Motion passed.

Employee Success Coach, Year 2 – Kathie Erdman Becker made a motion to issue this RFP for presentation at the fall Council meeting, seconded by Yvette Thomas. Motion passed.

First Responders Disability Awareness Training, Year 2 – Kelli Anderson made a motion to issue this RFP for presentation at the winter Council meeting, seconded by Kathie Erdman Becker. Motion passed.

Outreach & Support for DD Council and SD Advocates for Change – Arlene Poncelet shared that after December 31, 2019, the Coalition will no longer be working on these grants. Kelli Anderson made a motion to not issue an RFP but more forward with using these funds for another staff for the Council, seconded by Sara Valle. Motion passed. A committee was established to develop a position description for review at the fall Council meeting. Volunteers for the committee were: Kathie Erdman Becker, Derek Smith, Bob Blechinger, Sara Valle and Kelli Anderson.

Employment – The Council discussed some options but decided not to issue any RFP at this time. Someone shared that among people supported by Community Support Providers, there is still a fear of losing benefits that keeps people from moving to competitive employment.

Other – Council members suggested looking at the area of mental health (within Goal 3 of Safety and Security). Staff will try to arrange a speaker for a future meeting of the Council.

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NEXT MEETING

Council members reviewed October dates and asked staff to poll everyone for some suggested dates; including some that are Friday and Saturday meetings. A Rapid City location was suggested.

ADJOURNMENT

Derek Smith made a motion to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Bob Blechinger at 4:35 pm.