



Oregon Council on
Developmental Disabilities

Council Meeting

Zoom: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84880915670>

Agenda: Thursday, April 15, 2021

Present: Daniel Alrick, Rosa Belem Ochoa, Alisha Overstreet, Anna Lansky, Ben Hoffman, Caitlin Shockley, Che Walker, Chris Knowles, Daniel Tucker, Eddie Plourde, Emily Braman, Jake Cornett, Julie Chick, Kelly McCauley, Laura Estreich, Lindsay Stephens, Mack Beatty, Nicola Spears, Paulina Larenas, Pennie Hartley, Rhonda Eppelsheimer (proxy for Alice Miller), Sally Simich, Sarah Noack, Stephanie Utzman

Guests: Sheryl Matney and Angela Castillo-Epps (both representing ITACC, the Information and Technical Assistance Center for Councils on Developmental Disabilities), Melissa Elliott and Antonio Torres (both representing Oregon Office of Equity and Multicultural Services) and Aniko Adany (graphic illustrator)

Interpreters: Isabel, Joy

Staff: Ava Bartley, Beth Kessler, Emilie Wylde Turner, Leslie Sutton, Lynn Russell, Melinda Benson, Ryley Newport, Trish Roussel

Absent: Jasper Smith, Julie Farrell, Ruth Morris (Medical Leave)

Welcome and Introductions

Daniel called the meeting to order at 12:31 pm. Quorum is met.

Review agenda and announcements

Daniel reviewed the agenda and introduced the Council's new Policy Director, Emilie Wylde Turner. Emilie was greeted with an enthusiastic welcome from the Council. She is currently working part time and will be full time with the Council beginning May 3rd.

Also introduced were new Council Members: Paulina Larenas (a family member) and Pennie Hartley (replacing Heather Lindsey as the VR representative).

Leslie reminded those attending of the roles of guests during Council Meetings and the

responsibilities of Council Members in doing the work of the Council.

5 Year Plan and Community Priorities Survey Review – Beth reminded the Council that the draft of the 5-year plan presented today is the result of work and feedback from two Council meetings, numerous small group work in between as well as requesting feedback from outside participants and focus groups. There was also a survey which had 133 responses. It provided information that was a confirmation of some opportunities for growth that we have suspected and believed were reality.

Beth reminded the Council that they created two big picture goals- one related to People and one related to Systems. An updated 5-year Plan Draft was sent via email to Council Members during the meeting.

The 5-year plan order is:

- The Goals
- The Goal's Objectives
- Indicators for each Goal
- Annual Work Plans (with specific projects to meet the goals)
- Budget and Staffing

People Goal

By 2026, the developmental disability community will be equipped to effectively and meaningfully pursue equity and inclusion in all aspects of life.

This goal is about strengthening and building the skills, knowledge, connections, and resources of people with developmental disabilities, their families, and communities.

This is often referred to as capacity-building.

Throughout this work, we will intentionally engage and support Oregonians with intersectional identities and lived experiences.

There was a lot of discussion regarding the Indicators of this goal. Sheryl and Angela informed the group that the last two Indicators are addressed in the 30% operational portion of the Budget Mandate from the Federal Grant. History tells us that if a 5-year Plan is submitted with Operational information, it could be only be conditionally approved and would need to be amended. This is because the 5-year plan should only include the 70% of the budget that directly impacts the needs of the State/Systems changes planned.

Council Members felt strongly that these two Indicators must remain in the forefront of the Council's work.

- Council staff, membership, contractors, and vendors will be representative of the diversity of Oregon and,
- Council staff and members will report feeling equipped to support and/or lead anti-racist work.

It was discussed that this information could be added in the introduction and in the upfront context of all the work the Council is doing. As a Member stated, “The idea is that if the membership, staff, contractors, etc. reflect the racial diversity of state, our work will naturally be more responsive to unmet needs of people in Oregon...”

Systems Goal

By 2026, we will improve the ability of service systems to address embedded inequity and support the self-determination of people with developmental disabilities

This goal is about supporting advocacy to change systems that impact people with developmental disabilities, including childcare, education, employment, healthcare, human services, housing, mental health, and transportation. Throughout this work, we are committed to interrupting systemic racism, ableism, and embedded inequities.

In working with Sheryl and Angela, Staff and the Executive Committee determined that Objective 2 needed a Targeted Disparity focus to meet the Federal guidelines. The updated plan shows this information and the Council discussed the Objective as it is now written.

Daniel requested that a motion be made to open the public comment time that is required by the Council’s Federal funder. The public comment will be on the 5-year plan as revised at today’s meeting. Jake Cornett moved to approve the motion. Nicola Spears seconded. 19 voted in favor, 2 opposed, 2 abstain. Motion to open the public comment time on the 5-year Plan carried.

The Council took a break.

Equity Committee Update- Council staff and members of the Equity Committee (EC) participated in the Courageous Conversations training founded by Glenn E. Singleton and the Pacific Educational Group. As a result, the EC is considering “leading from the middle” and doing away with the chair/co-chair model. EC members had a chance to discuss their thoughts with the Council on the training and how Members can continue to advance the Council’s work in addressing disparities in our State. EC members reminded the Council that it is time for action- meaningful, intentional action. The Council members mentioned that they would like more training on race and equity so they can learn and raise their awareness.

Diversity and Community Engagement with graphic illustration by Aniko Adany

(Missy Elliott and Antonio Torres, OEMS)

Missy, Antonio and Aniko introduced themselves.

Council Members engaged in honest and authentic discussions race talking about their hurts, their learnings, and their uncomfortable feelings in living, working and interacting in the systems and in their communities.

While the Council planned to discuss meaningful community engagement with graphic facilitation during this part of the meeting, they did not get to this topic or graphic facilitation. Members agreed it would be good to do this at a future meeting.

Member questions included:

Do our actions match our words? Our work?

How can the Council meet the needs of the full State of Oregon? Of all the people in our communities?

How do we elevate our individual and collective voice(s)?

Are we speaking loud enough and together enough? How do we make this happen?

Rosa adjourned the meeting at 4:32 pm.

Council Meeting

Zoom: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84880915670>

Agenda: Friday, April 16, 2021

Present: Daniel Alrick, Rosa Belem Ochoa, Alisha Overstreet, Anna Lansky, Ben Hoffman, Caitlin Shockley, Che Walker, Chris Knowles, Daniel Tucker, Eddie Plourde, Emily Braman, Jake Cornett, Julie Chick, Kelly McCauley, Laura Estreich, Lindsay Stephens, Mack Beatty, Nicola Spears, Paulina Larenas, Pennie Hartley, Rhonda Eppelsheimer (proxy for Alice Miller), Sally Simich, Sarah Noack, Stephanie Utzman

Guests: None

Interpreters: Isabel, Joy

Staff: Ava Bartley, Beth Kessler, Emilie Wylde Turner, Leslie Sutton, Lynn Russell, Ryley Newport, Susie Goodell, Sieu Inac, Trish Roussel

Absent: Jasper Smith, Julie Farrell, Ruth Morris (Medical Leave)

Welcome and Introductions

Daniel called the meeting to order at 12:33 pm. Quorum is met.

Daniel reviewed the agenda.

Policy Update

Leslie began with an overview of this year's session. The session began 1/19/21 and Sine Die is likely around 6/28/21. There were 2465 bills introduced and thanks to Ava's support, the DD Coalition is tracking 571 of them.

DD Coalition priorities are:

- Reinstatement of Regional Family to Family Networks (\$1.3 million GF)
- Set DSP Wage at 150% of minimum wage (HB 2964)
- Fully Fund Case Management Entities

- Develop Statewide Data System

These four priorities were really impacted due to COVID and Wildfire response systems. They continue to be impacted through Systemic inequalities and discrimination.

Policy Bills to Watch:

- HB 2151 Oregon as a State Model Employer
- HB 2964 Increase Direct Support Professional wages to 150% of minimum wage.
- HB 2105 Supported Decision Making in Oregon- this has long been a priority of the Council. This could help interrupt the school to guardianship pipeline by requiring schools to give more information about Supported Decision Making. Small step in the right direction. Future work will be needed.
- SB 199 Advance Directive
- HB 2842 Healthy Homes (home repairs!)
- SB 567 Health Care Discrimination This is a continuation of the work started to support those with I/DD during COVID. Making the necessary changes to assure that those with I/DD have the right to have support people with them in hospital and medical settings. Thanks to Jake and DRO for big help in this process.
- SB 236 Conduct a study on the use of expulsion in preschool
- SB 328 School and district performance reports including suspension/expulsion

Daniel Alrick shared with the Council the statement that he used as Legislative testimony this week.

Testimony clips from Jessica McClurg, Lane County and Yecinia Rodriguez were also viewed by the Council. Rosa has been instrumental in supporting the Family Networks and working with the Legislature.

Membership demographics information- Currently have 27 Council Members with 6 open positions. We have 8 Self Advocates and 9 Family Members or 63% representation which meets our mandate of at least 60% Self Advocates/Family Members. Our Council is 78% white. We also want to represent geographic representation of the Council.

Six Open Positions are 2 Self Advocates, 2 Family Members, 1 Oregon Health Authority (OHA) and 1 Aging and People with Disabilities (APD)

Keeping our equity in mind, how do we fill those open positions? Rosa voiced her thoughts on the importance for having representation that is correctly and appropriately communicated to our community. We must open ourselves to others to be welcoming and inviting to communities that are less represented. See others as humans and show others empathy to be inclusive and welcoming and wanting to join our work.

Question about other professionals- Special Education teachers, psychologists, behavioral health, other “best minds” representation on the Council. Also noted is having representation from OHA, especially someone who is also a family member. Leslie has an idea of someone

who might fill that role.

Thinking about our Targeted Disparity conversation, how can we add Spanish speakers? How are we looking at our outreach to others to layer and leverage our representation of others? Matching Oregon's demographics is not our goal but rather have peer members to support the Council's work. Genuine and strong representation is the goal, not token representation. We must have authentic and meaningful path to engaging with other groups and give them the supports to fully participate on the Council's work.

Meeting minutes

Eddie Plourde moved to approve February 2021 meeting minutes as written. Stephanie Utzman seconded the motion. 20 in favor, 0 opposed, 1 abstain. Motion to approve the February 2021 minutes carried.

Bylaws update

The Executive Committee has made a change in who is on the Executive Committee. The change deleted the Chairs of other committees as they aren't always chairs that lead committees. This assures 8 people on the committee. This will be a vote at the June meeting in order to allow for a time for Council review.

Group requested that term limits be specified in the bylaws. The update will be written up and sent out 20 days before the June meeting.

Budget update

First 5 months of the current budget cycle were sent out to the full Council with this month's meeting information. Ava updated the income being sent from the Federal Government as it was revised March 1st. Back stipends are starting to be processed and paid. Underbudget overall for the first 5 months.

Small Group Discussion

Community building question and discussion regarding the public input process.

What kind of public input do you want to see? Are there specific cultural groups you would like the Council to engage with? How can we do this effectively and authentically?

There were no guests and no Public Comment.

Closing Word/Phrase

I learned a lot from you, Inclusive, Energizing, Exhausting, Fridays are hard, Encouraged, Eye opening, Happy, Vacation, Enjoyable, Weekend, Hope, No More Covid, Energizing, Stressful, Tired, Gratitude, This is the work, Heavy, Committed, Personal growth, Zoom, Reflective, Intersectionality, Listening, Inspiring, Appreciation, Gratitude, Sunshine, First Week, Gratitude

Rosa adjourned the meeting at 4:02 pm.