



Oregon Council on  
Developmental Disabilities

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## Council Meeting

**Zoom:** <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81937603024>

**Agenda:** Thursday, June 17, 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, Jasper Smith, Julie Farrell, Kelly McCauley, Laura Estreich, Lindsay Stephens, Mack Beatty, Nicola Spears, Pennie Hartley, Rhonda Eppelsheimer (proxy for Alice Miller), Sally Simich, Stephanie Utzman

**Guests:** Bill Lynch, Terry Ackley, Sherry Osborn

**Interpreters:** Isabel, Joy

**Staff:** Beth Kessler, Dominic Paz, Emilie Wylde Turner, Leslie Sutton, Melinda Benson, Ryley Newport, Susie Goodell, Sieu Inac, Trish Roussel

**Absent:** Julie Chick, Paulina Larenas, Sarah Noack

Daniel Alrick started the meeting at 12:32 pm. Daniel welcomed participants to introduce themselves and to say why they are on the Council.

Daniel reviewed the full Council Meeting Agenda. Leslie reviewed Guests and Council member roles & responsibilities to create accessible meetings. Chat information, when relevant to the main discussion, will be read in the main room so that the information is accessible to all.

Daniel updated the Council that the Executive Committee made the decision to look for a facilitator to continue the Council's equity conversation. Daniel, Leslie and Rosa have interviewed several facilitators to put together a plan to move forward. Rosa stated that everyone needs to have a voice, and all are welcome to attend the Equity Committee. She stated that all are heard, whether through email, phone calls or in a meeting. Dominic acknowledged how welcoming and articulate Rosa's comments and he echoed that all voices need to be welcomed and heard.

## 1:15 Kathryn Weit and Ruth Morris Tribute

(Eddie, Leslie, Bill Lynch former Council Director)

Ruth was instrumental in helping to get Fairview closed. Her willingness to share her story- telling it honestly and telling it often made her invaluable to moving DD rights forward in Oregon. Ruth was willing to bear witness to Oregon's history and the mistakes made in trying to do the "right" thing. She served on the Council twice.

Kathryn was able to build relationships with lots of people in positions of power and authority. She was respected and everyone listened to her powerful voice. Kathryn, as a parent advocate, was persistent and passionate in supporting others and advocating for all, especially those who aren't able to share their own stories.

Leslie talked about the history of the Council and contributions of Self-Advocates and Advocate voices including Ruth and Kathryn. Eddie led the group in a moment of silence. Ryley showed a video from OPB.

The Council took a break.

## 5-year Plan and Objectives Work

Beth talked about what is required for public input and what staff feel is best practice in gathering public input all throughout the 5-year process. Formal amendments to the plan can be added each year of the process.

76 people engaged in the public input through surveys and focus groups. Most were white and English speaking which reinforces our understanding that we have a lot of work to do to reach out to diverse populations.

The majority 80-86% felt the goals and objectives as written are important. The comments showed that specific information is needed for clarification and action. People want to see work in the intersection of disability and racism. People want to see that the Council and Council Staff reflect the diversity of the population.

The Council went into small groups to work on the People Goal following questions offered by the staff facilitator. Each group will have the same questions. Tomorrow afternoon, the Council will take a vote to approve the Goals and Objectives as revised today.

People Goal didn't change after public feedback.

The Objective: Engaging diverse voices, and all accompanying objectives, have been broken down into Year 1 and Year 2 steps. Developing a story telling campaign is something that the Georgia Council has created to help in finding new voices and raising all voices. This work would be done with contractor support.

The Objective: Growing Leadership has a change based on public input- People with developmental disabilities, **their families and networks of support** will develop effective advocacy and communication skills. This is something Virginia does well.

People Goal Work Plan large group report back - Aniko Graphic Facilitation

System Goal didn't change after public feedback.

The Objective: Self Advocacy. Much of this work will be done through a contract with OSAC with dedicated staff support to do the work itself. Resources Connections Oregon has been helping OSAC build budget and financial information for the organization.

The Objective: Targeted Disparity. To better serve Spanish-speaking people with DD, **their families and** communities, the Council will partner with ODDS, ODE, and OHA to reduce cultural and linguistic barriers to information and services.

The Objective: Integrated Services and Supports- there is a change to Collaborate with community and agency partners to: Increase capacity within the mental health system to support people **with IDD and their families**.

System Goal Work Plan large group report back - Aniko Graphic Facilitation.

Daniel thanked Aniko for her work capturing our discussion and the whole Council for their hard work this afternoon. Daniel adjourned the meeting at 4:31 pm.

**Agenda: Friday, June 18, 2021**

**Present:** Daniel Alrick, Rosa Belem Ochoa, Alisha Overstreet, Anna Lansky, Caitlin Shockley, Chris Knowles, Daniel Tucker, Emily Braman, Heather Lindsay, Jake Cornett, Jasper Smith, Julie Farrell, 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:** Maria Ortiz

**Interpreters:** Isabel, Joy

**Staff:** Beth Kessler, Emilie Wylde Turner, Leslie Sutton, Melinda Benson, Ryley Newport, Susie Goodell, Trish Roussel

Absent: Ben Hoffman, Che Walker, Eddie Plourde, Julie Chick

Daniel Alrick started the meeting at 12:34 pm.

Emilie gave a Legislative update. The Council was reminded that this is a long session. Sine Die likely around June 28, 2021 which means that this year's session is adjourned. DD Coalition tracked 571 bills and now have 100 priority 1 & 2 bills left to watch.

Priorities are:

- Reinstatement of Regional Family to Family Networks. The latest budget shows funding is currently in place to do so. Lots of testimony opportunities in this area and the advocacy has been very effective.
- Establish DSP Wage Standards There is current funding at 80%, significantly lower than the 150% requested. The "Christmas Tree" bill may be able to fund the rest of the rate model to 100% of the rate. Per Rhonda, here is a staffing stability report that the UCEDD produced using National Core Indicator state data. <https://www.oregon.gov/dhs/SENIORS-DISABILITIES/DD/DataReports/Staff-Stability-UCEDD-ODDS-Report-2020.pdf> Based on the data, the number one recommendation is to increase wages. This staffing stability study was funded by ODDS.
- Fully Fund Case Management Entities Currently at same level in budget.
- Develop a Statewide Data System – Not seen in the DD budget but there are some cost sharing options including COVID one-time money asks.

There are policy bills to watch:

HB 2151 Oregon as a State Model Employer is currently in the Ways and Means Committee.

HB 2964 Increase Direct Support Professional wages to 150% of minimum wage This bill will probably not pass. Everyone believes it should but will probably not move out of Ways and Means this session.

HB 2105 Supported Decision Making in Oregon This bill passed and has a governor's signature. We feel it is a success as we have, in statute, the requirement that school districts must give children and families information about Supported Decision Making.

SB 578 Protective Proceeding Pilot program in some counties. Allows for legal representation to support the person who is scheduled for guardianship. This is awaiting the governor's signature.

SB 199 Advance Directive - DRO, the DD Coalition and Leslie have been instrumental in the bill's work. The form has now changed allowing a person to state what they would like and where they would like to be at their end of life. End of Life decisions will be discussed in more detail moving forward so that those decisions are not discriminatory to people with disabilities.

HB 2842 Healthy Homes (home repairs!) For many people with disabilities, home modifications need to be made for them to live independently. This bill allows financial assistance to make modifications not covered by K-Plan/Medicare. We are optimistic that it will pass this session.

SB 567 Health Care Discrimination- COVID brought a lot of discrimination to light. This bill makes the statement that it is unlawful to discriminate based on a person's disability and other protected classes. Restricts how medical care gets distributed based on a disability. It has passed out of Ways and Means and is awaiting votes in both the House and Senate and Emilie believes it will be eagerly signed by the Governor.

SB 236 Conducts a study on the use of expulsion in preschool. This bill challenges the cycle of suspension/expulsion in Oregon's preschools. The bill is still moving forward in committees. The work of supporting child care providers and keeping children in child care is done every day through the work of Inclusive Partners' staff.

SB328 School and District performance reports including suspension/expulsion. Requires schools and school districts to be transparent in their suspension/expulsion data reporting.

HB 3395 Reinstatement and Expansion of Family Networks statewide. Sitting in Ways and Means currently. The Council watched a clip from Rosa's recent Legislative testimony regarding the Family Networks.

#### Business Meeting Part 1:

- Leslie presented the current Budget update through the end of April 2021 based on the latest reporting from ODHS. Operating expenses are lower because we aren't traveling, have less office expenses etc. This will look different as we move forward and redesign budgeting in our next billing cycle.

Overall the budget is below projections due to COVID and the scope of work changes due to COVID accommodations.

- LifeCourse funding vote - This vote is required due to overlapping budget times. This funding covers the National Community of Practice with Charting the LifeCourse Nexxus and National Association of State Directors for Developmental Disabilities. We participate at the minimum level of investment as we have been doing this for 6 years. The cost is \$6000. ODDS covers half and the Council covers the other half (\$3,000)

The Council had a discussion of Charting the LifeCourse information as well the benefits of being involved in this community of practice.

LifeCourse vote- Eddie moved to approve the \$3000 expenditure to support the LifeCourse Community of Practice. Kelly seconded. 19 in favor, 1 opposed, 4 abstain. Motion to approve the budget expenditure carried.

Meeting minutes & vote- Mak moved to approve April 2021 meeting minutes as written. Ben seconded. 17 in favor, 1 opposed, 6 abstain. Motion to approve the April 2021 minutes carried.

Bylaws change vote- Proposed Bylaw Amendment **June** 2021

Article 6, Section B, pertaining to the Executive Committee, is revised as follows:

B. Executive Committee

1. Executive Committee members shall include the Council Chair, Vice Chair, and **up to six** additional members appointed by the **Council Chair. Members of the Executive Committee serve at the pleasure of the Council Chair, and their term ends when the term of the Council Chair that appointed them to the Executive Committee ends; provided, however, that the newly-elected Council Chair can appoint someone who was previously on the Executive Committee to serve another term. A majority of the Executive Committee shall be comprised of self-advocates and family members, reflecting a diversity of cultures and lived experiences.**

After a lot of discussion and suggested amendments, the Council decided this needs to be tabled for further discussion. The Executive Committee will reexamine this amendment for future conversation.

Updated Five Year Plan Goals & Objectives Review.

Business Meeting Part 2:

Council Budget 101 Presentation – this has been tabled to the August Council

Meeting.

Fiscal Year 2022 Meeting Structure – Leslie will send out a survey to the Council regarding next year’s meeting schedule. We will be asking for thoughts on:

- In person/Zoom/Combination meetings?
- How many of each type of meeting?
- Meeting the same months as the current schedule?
- 2 half days/1 Full day?
- Mornings/Afternoons/Combination?
- Any other feedback?

Nomination process for Council elections in August - Daniel discussed the process for the 2021 Chair and Vice Chair Elections. The form with the full process will be sent out to the Council in both Spanish and English. The form nominating yourself or another Self Advocate/Family member needs to be returned by Friday, July 9<sup>th</sup>. Council staff will follow up with everyone nominated to assure they want to run. If they do, a list of questions will be sent to the nominated person for them to answer and return. The vote for new Chair and Vice Chair will be held during the August Council Meeting.

Lindsay shared her DD Awareness presentation with the Council. Lindsay talked about her advocacy and support in her community. Daniel and the Council thanked her for sharing her efforts and support of the Council’s mission.

Celebrating Stephanie Utzman - Ryley shared a word bubble to honor and celebrate Stephanie, her time on the Council and her advocacy. On behalf of the Council, Daniel and others thanked Stephanie for her dedication to the Council’s work.

Public Comment – none.

One word closing round – Accomplished, appreciate, professional, gratitude, hopeful, movement, appreciative, together, enjoyable, hope, accomplished, pride, awesome, fantastic, dedication, thank you, progress, motivation, encourage, learning, weekend, dedication, community, farewell, excited, forward, excited, grateful, engagement, engaging.

Daniel thanked the Council for their work over the two-day meeting and adjourned at 4:22 pm.