**NV Governor’s Council on Developmental Disabilities (NGCDD) Quarterly Council Meeting Minutes for June 7, 2024**

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**ZOOM**

**Nevada Governor’s Council on Developmental Disabilities**

**406 East Second Street**

**Carson City, NV 89701**

# Special Notes

* All items reviewed during this meeting are available for view on the NGCDD website; under the event created for this meeting: [www.nevadaddcouncil.org](http://www.nevadaddcouncil.org/)
* Bolded text under a heading indicates an action taken by the NGCDD.

# Introductions

NGCDD Members Present: Vice-Chair, Max Lowe; Stacy Alaribe; Melissa Bart-Plange; Anna Marie Binder; Lisa Bonie; Stacy Carlston; Ellen Frias-Wilcox; Jennifer Frischmann; Vickie Ives; Kathleen Kingston; Randall Owen; Ashley Price; Art Reitz; Brynlin Thornley; Vivian Turner Julie Weissman-Steinbaugh

NGCDD Members Absent: Chair, Christine Riggi; Taylor Chaney; Diana Davis; Kate Osti; Gabriel Tejada

NGCDD Staff Present: Catherine Nielsen, Executive Director; Alysa Marquez, Intern; Ellen Marquez, Self- Advocacy Coordinator; Rebecca Ortiz, Executive Assistant; Kimberly Palma-Ortega, Public Health Liaison; Marisol Rivas, Project Manager

Public Present: Justine Adams, Steve Black, Autumn Blattman, Celeste Brooks, Todd Butterworth, Justine Chevalier, Steven Cohen, Stephanie Crowne, Brooke Downer, Chris Hovis, Robin Kincaid, Heather Lafferty, Meredith Levine, Lori Lutu, Jennifer Marquez, Jack Mayes, Kelcey Myers, Obioma Officer, Jill Tolles

# Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by Council Vice Chair, Max Lowe at 9:04 a.m.

Executive Assistant, Rebecca Ortiz verified that the agenda for this meeting was posted to the appropriate locations on May 28, 2024.

**Land Acknowledgment**

Mr. Lowe provided the land acknowledgement as follows: The Nevada Governor’s Council on Developmental Disabilities, as a program whose designated state agency is the Nevada Department of Health and Human Services, acknowledges, honors, and respects the diverse Indigenous peoples connected to this land and recognize the State of Nevada is situated on the traditional homelands of the Nuwu, Newe, Numu and Wa She Shu. We offer gratitude for the land itself, for those who have stewarded it for generations, and for the opportunity to work alongside our Tribal partners. We encourage everyone in this space to engage in acknowledgement and continued learning about the Indigenous peoples who work and live on this land since time immemorial, and about the historical and present realities of colonialism.

**Public Comment**

Mr. Lowe inquired if there was any public comment. He verified meeting information and how to submit public comments telephonically. None was given.

# Approval of March 2024 Meeting Minutes

Mr. Lowe opened the floor for discussion of the March 7, 2024 minutes.

**Mr. Lowe motioned to approve the March 7, 2024 minutes as written. Randall Owen seconded the motion. The motion carried with Jennifer Frischmann and Lisa Bonie abstaining.**

# Consumer Leadership Development Fund Applications

Mr. Lowe introduced this item and invited Catherine Nielsen, Executive Director, for further information.

Ms. Nielsen discussed the application received for family out-of-state funds by Grace Samson to attend the Biennial Angelman Syndrome Family Conference in Sandusky, OH on July 23-26, 2024. This item was opened for discussion.

**Ms. Bonie motioned to approve up to $2,500.00 in Family Out-of-State funds for Grace Samson. Mr. Lowe seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.**

# Consumer Leadership Development Fund Presentations

Mr. Lowe introduced this item and invited Catherine Nielsen, Executive Director, for further information.

Ms. Nielsen presented on behalf of Obioma Officer and her approved CLDF application to attendance at 2024 Early Hearing Detection and Intervention (EDHI) Conference in Denver, CO on March 17-19, 2024. Ms. Nielsen then presented on behalf of Steven Cohen and his approved CLDF application to attend the Disability Policy Seminar in Washington, DC on April 8-10, 2024. This item was opened for discussion.

# Southwest Airlines Travel Presentation

Mr. Lowe introduced this item and invited Chirstopher Hovis, Southwest Airlines Representative, for further information.

Mr. Hovis presented on accessibility and traveling for people with disabilities under Southwest Airlines. This item was opened for discussion.

# Grantee Presentations

Mr. Lowe introduced this item to the council and deferred to Ms. Nielsen to introduce the grantees and open the floor for their presentations.

Ms. Nielsen invited Meredith Levine, Mike Stewart, and Jill Tolles from the Kenny Guinn Center to discuss the Housing Grant from Federal Fiscal Year (FFY) 22 and 23, including the housing report. This item was opened for discussion.

**Mr. Lowe motioned to approve the Housing Landscape Analysis report. Kathleen Kingston seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously**.

Ms. Nielsen invited Celeste Brooks from Best Buddies to discuss the Employment Grant for FFY 24 including planned activities. This item was opened for discussion.

Ms. Nielsen invited Justine Adams and Justine Chevalier from Gigi’s Playhouse to discuss the first Transition Grant for FFY 24 including planned activities. This item was opened for discussion.

Ms. Nielsen stated the presentation from Patty Kuglistch from Global Technical Communications (GTC) to discuss the Interpreter grant for the FFY 24 will be shared with the council as it was recorded at an earlier date. This item was opened for discussion.

Ms. Nielsen discussed the second Transition Grant for FFY 24 under the Statewide Independent Living Council (SILC) including grantee meetings. She discussed the request to defund this project. This item was opened for discussion.

**Mr. Lowe motioned to defund the transition grant under the SILC. Ms. Frischmann seconded the motion. The motion carried with Julie Weissman-Steinbaugh abstaining**.

# Policy Committee

Mr. Lowe introduced this item and deferred to Stacy Alaribe, Policy Committee Chair. Ms. Alaribe invited Ms. Nielsen for further discussion.

Ms. Nielsen referred to the document titled “Draft Position on Emergency Preparedness”. She discussed the background for this position statement and gave an in-depth summary of the recommended changes. This item was opened for discussion.

**Mr. Lowe motioned to approve the adoption of the “Draft Position on Emergency Preparedness” with the recommended changes. Vivian Turner seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.**

# Executive Committee

Mr. Lowe introduced this item and invited Ms. Nielsen for further information.

Ms. Nielsen referred to the document titled “Breakdown of Expenses (with Activity Info)”. She discussed the suggested plans for FFY 25 under the objectives and activities outlined. This item was opened for discussion.

# Budget Committee

Mr. Lowe deferred this item to Vickie Ives, Budget Committee Chair, for discussion.

Ms. Ives introduced the topic for discussion: the current Council budget and on the recommendations for use of funds for FFY 25. She invited Ms. Nielsen for further discussion.

Ms. Nielsen discussed the documents titled “FFY 24 Cat 10 Breakdown - Original Grant” and “FFY 24 Cat 10 Breakdown - No Cost Ext Funds” and provided a summary of current objectives and activities for the council. This item was opened for discussion.

# Federal Fiscal Year (FFY) 25 Activities, Timeline, and Budget

Mr. Lowe introduced this item and invited Ms. Nielsen for further information.

Ms. Nielsen discussed the documents titled “FFY 2025 NGCDD Activities, Timeline and Funding Matrix Full Council Discussion” and provided a summary of planned objectives and activities for FFY 2025. This item was opened for discussion.

**Ms. Kingston motioned to approve the FFY 2025 NGCDD Activities, Timeline and Funding Matrix. Lisa Bonie seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously**.

# Statewide Town Halls for 2026-2031 Five Year State Plan

Mr. Lowe introduced this item and invited Ms. Nielsen for further information.

Ms. Nielsen discussed the Statewide Town Halls to gather information to formulate the Council’s 2026-2031 Five Year State Plan. She discussed the survey created to help facilitate this. She discussed the first townhall held on Fallon, NV on May 6, 2024 and then listed the remaining town halls as follows: Reno, NV on August 19th, 2024; Carson City, NV on August 22, 2024; Pahrump, NV on Sept 16, 2024; Mesquite, NV on Sept 17, 2024; Las Vegas, NV on Sept 18, 2024; and Elko, NV on Sept 23, 2024 with three virtual options and one additional held during the 2024 Self-Advocacy Conference. This item was opened for discussion.

# Second Quarter Project Status Summary for Federal Fiscal Year (FFY) 2024

Ms. Nielsen introduced this item and invited council staff for further discussion.

Marisol Rivas, Projects Manager, referred to the document titled " NGCDD FFY 24' Second Quarter Project Status Summary Report”. She gave a brief overview of its contents. She spoke on efforts and initiatives under objective 1.1 including the Lunch and Learn education series. She invited Ellen Marquez, Self-Advocacy Coordinator, and Kimberly Palma-Ortega, Public Health Liaison, to speak on efforts and initiatives under objectives 1.3, 1.4, 2.4, and 3.1 including the current GTC grant, Partnership with the Division of Emergency Management, the partners in policymaking course, and the iCan Bike program. Ms. Nielsen spoke on the defunded amounts under the transition grant under objective 3.4. This item was opened for discussion.

**Ms. Bonie motioned to approve funding from the defunded objective 3.4 transition grant be reallocated up to $8,000.00 for the Vocational Rehabilitation transition camp, up to $5,000.00 to reimburse the Kenny Guinn Center, and the remaining funds to the Self-Advocacy Conference. Ms. Frischmann seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously**.

# Developmental Disabilities Network Partner Presentations

Ms. Nielsen introduced this item.

Ms. Nielsen gave a brief presentation of the new Executive Director from the Nevada Disability Advocacy and Law Center, Kate Osti. She then invited Ms. Bonie from the Northern Nevada Center for Independent Living and Mr. Owen from the Nevada Center for Excellence in Disabilities to present on their individual agencies.

Ms. Bonie stated she wanted to thank Heather and Kimberly. They have been working quite closely over the last 12 to 18 months on emergency preparedness. Their center received public health money and wanted to do something in the emergency preparedness space. They’ve been working quite closely with them on a project that they are going to roll out at the Silver State Self Advocacy Conference. She then stated she wanted to speak on the Nevada Trip project which is the big grant that the State of Nevada received. Three Beta sites have been chosen for where they are going to roll this project out. This is for the school system. It's going to be Carson City, Ely, and Humboldt County. They are having a lot of fun getting this prepped and ready and learning all they can as they go along. Year one has been the typical infrastructure, getting people hired and in place. Year 2 is where they are going to beta test. She also shared they had a fantastic Mark Wellman Day. They partner with the City of Sparks. It was last Sunday, and the weather was fantastic. They had kayaks, bikes, and a climbing wall. There were 27 local service providers who are there to answer questions and to connect people with services, organizations, and self-advocacy groups. Their new community partner, Bradley Drendel & Jeanney provided the lunches for everyone. They were able to give lunch vouchers out to everybody who participated. They’ve been involved in a wide variety of public outreach. She is with one of her teams right now in Pahrump for a very vigorous social services fair. They have also collaborated with Washoe county school district. They had a very nice open house for their blind student services, and they were able to bring in the city of Reno. In addition to an ice cream social and lots of assistive technology inside the building, they had the adaptive bikes out in the parking lot. She also stated they are a Federal partner for the Covid test kit distribution and have distributed almost 5,000 of self-testing kits out into rural Nevada.

Mr. Owen stated he is knee deep in budgets because all their budgets are due. He also stated they recently had graduation for our Path to Independence which is our inclusive post-secondary education program. Eight students graduated this year. Next year they have 11 students going in. They also have three new staff for that project. Another project that everyone is hopefully familiar with is their family navigation network. They have been hosting Transition Tuesdays, a monthly series of events. Their Leadership Education in Neurodevelopmental and Related Disabilities (LEND) program also had its graduation with 15 people. They have new projects that will start on July 1st. They are working with the Department of Behavioral and Public Health to do 500 sensory family vaccine kits that will be distributed statewide. They’re hoping to be able to work in some research and evaluation in understanding how people are actually using those kits. They have also shared their annual report with the council with another to be published in the fall. They now have 90 people statewide from 60 people three years ago. Lastly, he stated if there is anything the council would like to partner on to please reach out to him

# Self-Advocate and Family Member Updates

Ms. Nielsen introduced this item and invited any self-advocates and family members to present information of importance for their individual agencies. None was given.

# Agency Updates

Ms. Nielsen introduced this item and invited any agencies to present information of importance for their individual agencies.

Ms. Frischman with Aging and Disability Services (ADSD) stated that from the last time the council met, they are just plugging along and trying to implement the some of the legislation that got passed during this last session and preparing for next session.

Ms. Turner with Vocational Rehabilitation (VR) stated that VR is also part of receiving the grant for Nevada Trip and they are excited for that. She also stated they are getting ready for their transition programs. Their student youth internship camp is getting ready to start on July 8th. They also have a Deaf camp and a Crave camp. They are just really gearing up for all those transition camps for this summer. VR is also part of a college training program. It's a pilot at this time. It will provide opportunities for students with intellectual disabilities to experience college by auditing classes. They also could live on campus, explore different vocational options, and participate in internships on campus based on their individual career interest. The program is statewide. In the North, it's called Pathway to Independence.

# Agenda Items for Consideration

Ms. Nielsen tabled this item.

# Next Meeting Date

The next Full Council meeting will take place on September 12, 2024 at 9:00 a.m. This meeting will take place via zoom.

Meeting ended due to loss of quorum at 12:18 pm.