**NV Governor’s Council on Developmental Disabilities (NGCDD) Evaluation Committee Meeting Minutes from November 14, 2024**

**Zoom Video:**

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86785050894>

**Join by Phone**:

+1-669-900-6833

**Meeting ID**: 867 8505 0894

# 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/)
* The recording of the meeting may be requested for detailed information by emailing [rortiz@dhhs.nv.gov](mailto:rortiz@dhhs.nv.gov)
* Bolded text under a heading indicates an action taken by the NGCDD.

# Introductions

Committee Members Present: Committee Chair, Stacy Alaribe; Vice Chair, Santa Perez; Stacey Carlston; Randall Owen; Christine Riggi; Vivian Turner

Committee Members Absent: Lisa Bonie

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: Shauna Brennan; Dora Martinez

# Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by Evaluation Committee Chair, Stacy Alaribe at 10:04 a.m.

Executive Director, Catherine Neilsen verified the agenda for this meeting was posted to the appropriate locations on November 7, 2024.

# Land Acknowledgment

Ms. Nielsen provided the land acknowledgement on behalf of Vice-Chair, Santa Perez 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

Ms. Alaribe asked if there was any public comment and provided the information to provide public comment telephonically.

* Kimberly Palma-Ortega, Public Health Liaison stated she just wanted to appreciate the outreach and outpour from the passing of her husband, Joshua, and everybody from the Council for reaching out via text message, emails, and all the other stuff. She wanted to be publicly acknowledged that she appreciates working for the Council and being a part of this even prior to employment. It means a great deal to her and her family.

# Approval of August Minutes

Ms. Alaribe asked if there was a motion to approve the August 15, 2024 minutes. She opened this item for discussion.

**Ms. Perez motioned to approve the August 15, 2024 minutes as written. Vivian Turner seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.**

# Fourth Quarter 2024 Project Status Summary Report

Ms. Alaribe introduced this item and deferred to Ms. Nielsen for a brief overview of the report.

Ms. Nielsen referred to the handout titled “NGCDD Fourth Quarter Report”. She gave an in-depth summary of the document and the different projects and activities under each of the objectives of the council. She gave an overview on the different conferences attended by staff and council members. She invited Marisol Rivas, Projects Manager, to speak on the grants under objective 3.1, 3.2, and 3.4 respectively. She invited Ellen Marquez, Self-Advocacy Coordinator for information on the Global Technical Communications grant and other objectives. She invited Kimberly Palma-Ortega, Public Health Liaison, to speak on projects under emerging needs and public health. Finally, she invited Christine Riggi, Council Chair for any further input. Ms. Nielsen opened this item for discussion.

# Discussion on Plans for FFY 25 Goals and Objectives

Ms. Alaribe introduced this item and deferred to Ms. Nielsen for further information.

Ms. Nielsen presented information on project planning and funding for FFY 2025. She spoke on further projects on providing education to the community through physical handouts and through the council’s website. This idea came from the capstone requirement of Ms. Marquez’s public manager course. She spoke projects regarding mental health resources in the state. She also spoke on end-of-life resources that are needed in the community. She opened this item for discussion.

# Discussion on Town Halls, 5-Year State Plan Information Gathering, and Current Themes

Ms. Alaribe introduced this item and deferred to Ms. Nielsen for further information.

Ms. Nielsen presented information on various townhalls council staff has hosted throughout the state. There have been eight in-person townhalls with one virtual townhall completed. There is two additional virtual townhalls in December and January. She discussed the major themes that are currently arising. One of which is that many providers and programs, both state and private, are unaware of what is out there. Many are unaware of what each one of those programs does and does not do, where their funding comes from, etc. She also spoke on the lack of understanding of the limitations within the Nevada Revised Statutes. There are lot of different statutes that impact this community. There has been a couple of people that have felt that state programs lack of accountability when they're unable to meet the program requirements. Other major themes discussed were employment, transportation, and education. She opened this item for discussion.

# Public Comment

Ms. Alaribe asked if there was any public comment and provided the information to provide public comment telephonically.

* Dora Martinez thanked the council staff and reminded those applying for grants under the council the importance of making their materials accessible. The burden often falls on the person with the disability to remind them. Although she will continue the fight for this, it should fall on the grantees to follow the rules and regulations.
* Ms. Nielsen thanked Ms. Martinez for her comments and stated the Partners in Policymaking application is still open until the end of the week for those interested. There will be a lot of outside presenters and the process as a whole has been revamped.

# Next Meeting Date

The next Evaluation Committee meeting is to be determined. The schedule of 2025 Full Council and Committee meetings will be finalized at the December 5, 2024 Full Council Meeting.

# Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 11:09 a.m.