**NV Governor’s Council on Developmental Disabilities (NGCDD) Policy Committee Meeting Minutes from October 17, 2024**

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Zoom [https://zoom.us/j/](https://zoom.us/j/8)87493919504

Meeting ID: 874 9391 9504

NV Governor’s Council on Developmental Disabilities  
406 East Second Street, Carson City 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

Committee Members Present: Stacy Alaribe, Committee Chair; Max Lowe; Dora Martinez; Santa Perez; Cindi Swanson; Jodi Thornley; Vivian Turner

Committee Members Absent: Heather Lafferty; Renee Portnell; Christine Riggi

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

NGCDD Staff Absent: Ellen Marquez, Self-Advocacy Coordinator

Public Present: Autumn Blattman; Shauna Brennan; Steven Cohen; Laura Fussell; Sabrina Schnur

# Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by NGCDD Policy Committee Chair, Stacy Alaribe, at 10:01 a.m.

Rebecca Ortiz, Executive Assistant verified the agenda for this meeting was posted to the proper locations on October 3, 2024.

# Land Acknowledgment

Max Lowe, Council Vice-Chair, 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

Ms. Alaribe asked if there was any public comment, verified meeting information, and stated how to submit public comments telephonically.

* Max Lowe stated that the change in how caseloads are being assigned in the Desert Regional Center is based on the number of service coordinators.
* Shauna Brennan encouraged the committee to consider adding information on tenant’s insurance for the position statement on housing
* Catherine Nielsen, Executive Director, stated the Partners in Policymaking program application is open for 2025. She encouraged members to share the information with anyone interested. The course will be run virtually and is available statewide. The in-person event for the course will be the Developmental Disabilities Awareness Day in March 2025. The application can be found on the council website. She also stated the DD Awareness Day registration will be opening shortly on the website and encouraged anyone interested to attend.
* Dora Martinez announced her appointment as the first blind member of the board of museums and expressed her excitement to bringing awareness.

# Approval of Minutes from the September 2024 Meeting

Ms. Alaribe asked if there was a motion to approve the September 26, 2024 Committee meeting minutes. She opened this item for discussion.

**Mr. Lowe motioned to approve the September 26, 2024 Committee meeting minutes as written. Jodi Thornley seconded the motion. The motion carried with Ms. Alaribe abstaining.**

# Review of Position Statement on Restraints and Seclusion

Ms. Alaribe introduced this agenda item and deferred to Ms. Nielsen, Executive Director, for conversation.

Ms. Nielsen gave a brief background on the position statement and previous points discussed in the previous committee meeting. She referred to the document titled “DRAFT Position Statement on Restraints and Seclusion”. She opened the discussion to committee members for their input.

# Review of Position Statement on Housing

Ms. Alaribe introduced this agenda item and deferred to Ms. Nielsen, Executive Director, for conversation.

Ms. Nielsen gave a brief background on the position statement and previous points discussed in the previous committee meeting. She referred to the document titled “Position on Housing”. She opened the discussion to committee members for their input.

# Discussion of Topics for Potential Position Statements

Ms. Alaribe introduced this agenda item and deferred to Ms. Nielsen, Executive Director for conversation on potential position statements for people with intellectual/developmental disabilities.

Ms. Nielsen listed the current position statements and discussed the background for this agenda item. She opened this item for committee members to discuss potential topics that the committee can create position statements for.

# Review of Current Bill Draft Requests

Ms. Alaribe introduced this agenda item and deferred to Ms. Nielsen, Executive Director for further conversation.

Ms. Nielsen discussed the list of currently available bill draft requests on the Nevada Electronic Legislative Information System (NELIS) and reviewed how to access the NELIS system for the upcoming 83rd legislative session. She stated the current amount of BDRs available is 539 and they are currently listed with vague descriptions. As session approaches, these descriptions will have more information. She opened this item for discussion.

# Next Meeting Date

The next 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.

# Public Comment

Ms. Alaribe asked if there is any public comment, verified meeting information, and stated how to submit public comments telephonically. None was given.

# Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 11:21 a.m.