**Delaware Developmental Disabilities Council (DDC)**

**Adult Issues Committee**

**Minutes of Meeting, October 16, 2015**

**DDDS Fox Run, 2nd floor training room**

**2540 Wrangle Hill Road, Bear, DE**

**And**

**Teleconference**

**302-526-5475**

**Conference ID 6940783#**

**9:30 AM to 12:00 PM**

**Members present at meeting location: Larry Henderson**, Executive Director- Independent Resources, Inc., Self-Advocate, Committee Chair; **Bill Monaghan**, Advocate, Delaware People First; **Barbie Monaghan**, DDC Chair, Advocate, Delaware People First; **Laura Strmel**, St. John’s Community Services; **HarrietAnn Litwin**, Division of Vocational Rehabilitation (DVR); **Terri Hancharick**, Parent Advocate

**Members Absent: Tina Fields**, Advocate, Delaware People First; **Vivian Turner**, Director- Collaborative Efforts to Reinforce Transition Success (CERTS); **Alvin Emory**, Self-Advocate**; Debra Veenema**, MS Delaware; **Karen Gallagher,** Self-Advocate, Committee Vice-Chair; **Carol Barnett**, Division of Services for Aging Adults and Persons with Physical Disabilities (DSAAPD); **Gary Mears,** Parent Advocate

**Staff: Kristin Cosden**, Delaware Developmental Disabilities Council (DDC)

**I. Call to Order:** The meeting was called to order at 9:45 AM

**II. Approval of Minutes:** It was noted that in the September 18, 2015 meeting minutes, HarrietAnn Litwin was mistakenly listed as being absent when she was in fact present. The committee voted to accept the minutes, with the change being made to add HarrietAnn to the September 18, 2015 meeting minutes as being present.

**III. Approval of Agenda:** The October 16, 2016 meeting agenda was approved as written. Under Item VI, “New Business”, Laura Strmel asked to give an update on the Certified Employment Specialist Provider (CESP) exam that will be coming to Delaware. Tina Fields and Bill Monaghan also asked to provide updates, respectively. The committee agreed that all of the aforementioned topics were acceptable to add to the agenda under the “New Business” tab at the end of the meeting. The committee then voted to approve the agenda with these additions.

**IV**. **Chair’s Report:** Larry Henderson provided a report on Independent Resources, Inc.’s (IRI) progress with their required reports to the federal government as a Center for Independent Living (CIL).

**VI.**

1. **Environmental Scan-** Kristin Cosden, DDC

Kristin shared a request for the committee from DDC Executive Director Pat Maichle to fund an environmental scan. The data from the scan would include currently un-served and under-served sub-populations in the State of Delaware. Pat requested the scan, “… for us to gather information regarding recreation, the arts, victim services, and/or opportunities for higher education for people in Delaware with developmental disabilities. This should include a function on diverse sub-populations.”

The committee embraced the idea, and suggested that the survey include individuals birth to 22, which is the federally-defined age for a developmental disability to manifest. Since the survey would cover such a wide range of ages, it was suggested that the Children and Families (CF) Committee and the Adult Issues (AI) Committee join together on this effort. Since this would be a large undertaking, the AI Committee proposed a data sub-committee comprised of members from both AI and CF.

Kristin informed the AI Committee that the CF Committee was not receptive to the idea of collaborating on this project when she presented it to them at their last meeting. The committee agreed that they would still continue with this idea, but would do so without the CF Committee. Kristin stated that at the next meeting, the committee would discuss what they would like their RFP for this project to look like.

1. **Oral Health Public Awareness Campaign Update**- Kristin Cosden on behalf of Blair Hains, The Marketing Department

Kristin shared materials from the Oral Health Public Awareness Campaign that the committee is overseeing. Blair Hains of The Marketing Department Worldwide, the contractor for this project, was not able to attend the October AI meeting due to a prior commitment. Blair sent materials with Kristin to share with the committee. These included pre-loaded flash drives with all campaign materials available to be printed, downloaded and/or shared. Hard copies of the items on the flash drives were also given to each member. These included rack cards in English and Spanish, an infographic, press release, sample social media posts complete with graphics and the “loop” video/animation intended to be shown in dental offices’ and other public health care facilities waiting rooms. The video is available in English and Spanish, with captions.

1. **2017-2021 State Plan- Kristin Cosden, DDC**

Kristin stated that the next steps in the Strategic/State Planning Process would be planning the Joint Strategic Planning Retreat. The Joint Retreat will be held in Dover on April 7, 2016 and will be a full day event for interested parties/stakeholders to join the DDC, Governor’s Advisory Council for Exceptional Citizens (GACEC) and the State Council for Persons with Disabilities (SCPD) and help shape their upcoming five year work plan. A separate half day retreat for DDC members only will be held in late April in Dover.

**VII. New Business:**

1. **Discussion/Planning- celebration of Larry’s Chairship and contributions to the Committee**

Terri Hancharick graciously offered to host a brunch celebration in Larry’s honor on the date of the committee’s next scheduled meeting, with the understanding that the regularly-scheduled November meeting would be cancelled to allow for the celebration to take place. The committee agreed that a potluck approach was best. Kristin stated that she would send out a Sign Up Genius site for committee members to RSVP and indicate what dish they would be bringing.

1. **Certified Employment Specialist Professional (CESP) Exam in Delaware**

Laura Strmel provided an update on the CESP Exam, which will be offered in Delaware for the first time in 2016. Laura noted that the CESP Exam provided the only nationally-recognized certification for CESPs. Laura noted that there is no way to study for the exam. It is either a “you know it, or you don’t” situation. Laura stated that professionals who work in supported employment should be fine taking the exam. The exam will be offered on March 9, 2016 at DDDS Fox Run (the location of this meeting). Laura Strmel will be proctoring the exam. There is a $159 sitting fee.

1. **Update from Bill Monaghan**

Bill provided an update on the happenings at Delaware People First (DPF). Bill stated that he recently attended a provider fair at DDDS, and that he feels it would be a good idea to have applications for DPF at provider fairs moving forward.

1. **Update from Tina Fields**

Tina shared that she is happy that the Stop The Abuse Now Delaware (STAND) Project, which received startup funding from the DDC, will be continuing after a brief hiatus. Tina is a trainer for the program. She shared that Dr. Nora Baladerian would be coming to Delaware on Monday, November 9, 2015 from 9:00 AM to 11:00 AM or 1:00 PM to 3:00 PM at DDDS Fox Run (where this meeting is held). Dr. Baladerian will be presenting on “How to Reduce the Risk of Abuse for Children and Adults with Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities”. Admission is free, but requires registration. Tina stated that people who want to attend can register at DDDSTAPRDRegistration@state.de.us.

Tina also shared that she will be taking a medical leave of absence, but hopes to return to full committee participation in January 2016.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:45 PM.