

Governor's Council on Disability

Meeting Minutes

February 8, 2016

Council Members Present/Participating:

Joan Bergstrom, Ed.D., Chuck Comstock, Betty Davidson, Ph.D., Ron Hack, Sue Orton, James Trout, Bob Wallace, Yvonne Wright

Council Members Not Present/Participating:

Jeff Grisamore, Mary Ann Harter, Todd Mayfield, DeAnna Noriega, Derek Smith

Department Liaisons:

Bonnie Aaron	Department of Elementary and Secondary Education – DESE/Special Ed
Matt Briesacher	Department of Corrections - DOC
DeeAnn Fuller	Department of Elementary and Secondary Education – DESE/VR
Kristin Funk	Department of Economic Development – DED/DWD
JoAnn Hanley	Department of Conservation - MDC
Misty Hill	Department of Natural Resources – DNR
Steven Milburn	Department of Social Services – DSS
Lynette Ricks	Office of State Court Administrator – OSCA
Shomari Rozier	Department of Health and Senior Services – DHSS
Duane Shumate	Department of Mental Health - DMH
Brian Weisel	Attorney General's Office – AGO
Melissa Wilding	Missouri Veterans Commission - MVC

Staff:

Robert Honan, Claudia Browner, Dawn Evans, Laura Mueth

Guests:

Dolores Sparks, Missouri DD Council; Leanne Peace, Missouri Kidney Program

Real-Time Captioner: Kim Pflieger-Schacht

The meeting was called to order at 10:05 a.m. With eight (8) Council members in attendance, there was a quorum for the meeting. Introductions followed.

Approval of agenda and minutes:

The Council members unanimously approved the meeting minutes for November 6, 2015 and the agenda for the day.

Public Comment: None.

Report from Chair Yvonne Wright:

Yvonne Wright attended the Senate confirmation hearing on February 3, where her appointment as Council Chair was confirmed. Senator Jeanie Riddle from Callaway County was her sponsor. During the hearing, the Senators asked her specific questions regarding the employment of people with disabilities, the biggest barriers to employment, her personal view on sheltered workshops, and requested a list of employers who champion hiring people with disabilities, sorted by Senate districts. Yvonne asked the Council members and state liaisons to provide her with information on

employers who hire people with disabilities so they can be included in the list. Any employers who have been nominated for or received GCD's Inclusion Award will also be included in the list.

Yvonne gave an update on the Workforce Investment and Opportunities Act (WIOA). Missouri has developed a combined state plan for the implementation of WIOA that was signed and approved by Governor Nixon in January and has to be submitted to the federal government by March 3rd.

Report from Executive Director Rob Honan:

Rob testified at the house budget hearing on GCD's FY17 proposed budget. GCD has requested a new decision item (NDI) for \$15,000 in operating funds (EE) that is supported by Governor Nixon. Senate budget hearings will be held February 10th and 11th.

Rob expressed his gratitude to the state liaisons for participating in the Council meetings and encouraged their involvement in the Council's committees.

Legislative Education Project (LEP):

GCD has held three LEP on the Road training sessions, and has scheduled one more LEP on the Road and two LEP at the Capitol.

Disability Rights Legislative Day will be held at the Capitol in Jefferson City on March 10th.

GCD staff is involved in planning the event. The focus of the day is on three bills; HB 1565 (Increasing Asset Limits for People with Disabilities), SB 925 (Medicare Buy-In), and upcoming legislation about guardianship changes, which is being sponsored by Rep. Neely.

GCD Awards Programs:

The 2015 winner of the Inclusion Award is the THRIVE Program at University of Central Missouri. Honorable Mention goes to Kelsey Mack, a store owner in Blue Springs.

The 2015 winner of the Youth Leadership Award is Caitlin Bartley of Holts Summit.

The awards presentation will be at the Power Up conference in St. Charles on April 19th.

GCD Position Papers:

Rob Honan, members of the Council, and outside experts have drafted position papers on Housing and Transportation to be discussed and approved by the Council.

GCD Newsletter:

GCD publishes a quarterly newsletter. Rob encouraged Council members and state liaisons to submit articles on disability-related topics for the newsletter.

Department Liaison Information:

Shomari Rozier (DHSS) is DHSS's contract manager for the Money Follows the Person grant and is replacing Bobbi Jo Garber as the department's liaison on the Council. The Division of Senior and Disability Services is following several pieces of legislation that will impact people with disabilities and the elderly: SB 619 (Elder Abuse/Neglect), SB 663 (Criminal Codes relating to Abuse/Neglect/Exploitation), HB 2212 (Adds EMT/Firefighters to mandatory reporters of elderly abuse), and HB 1715 (Bullying of elderly persons).

Duane Shumate (DMH) –

The Department of Mental Health was selected as a recipient for U.S. Department of Labor Office of Disability Employment Policy (ODEP) *Employment First State Leadership Mentoring Program*.

Missouri, one of nineteen states selected to participate in this program, will receive up to 325 hours of intensive technical assistance to improve competitive, integrated employment outcomes for individuals with disabilities. Technical assistance will focus on development of an Employment First action plan. Missouri's team includes representatives from DMH, Missouri Vocational Rehabilitation (DESE), Office of Special Education (DESE), MO HealthNet Division (DSS), and Division of Workforce Development (DED).

The Division of Developmental Disabilities (DD) has submitted the Comprehensive and Community Supports Waiver applications to MO HealthNet for subsequent submission to CMS for approval. Everyone's public comments have been appreciated.

HCBS Transition Plan and the Settings assessments have continued. Nearly 1,200 individual settings were randomly selected to evaluate Missouri's compliance with the Community Settings rule. There are approximately 200 assessments remaining to be completed. DD is finalizing its Transition Plan and will be submitting this to CMS in the near future.

Bonnie Aaron (DESE) – In December 2015, the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) was signed into law. This act requires IEPs to be aligned to grade level standards, and caps the total number of all students that can be assessed using alternate assessments for students with significant cognitive disabilities at 1%. The Missouri Assessment Program Alternative is currently in the Instructionally Embedded Phase. The number of students in Missouri participating in Instructionally Embedded Assessments in November and December was 6,728.

Steven Milburn (DSS) – The Family Support Division's Community Support Unit runs a Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP). This year, the Winter Energy Crisis Intervention Program started in October, but next year, the program will not be available until November 1. SB 24 went into effect January 1, 2016, which reduces the time limit for Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) to 45 months. DSS is in the process of implementing this change. GCD staff recognized Michele Thomas from DSS for her quick assistance with and response to consumer calls relating to MOHealth Net.

Matt Briesacher (DOC) introduced himself as the new state liaison for the Department of Corrections.

DeeAnn Fuller (DESE/VR) – The Division of Vocational Rehabilitation is continuing to work with the other partnering agencies on implementing the new WIOA law for the employment of people with disabilities.

Kristin Funk (DWD) – DWD has participated in a Section 188 pilot with the LEAD Center through the US Dept of Labor's Office of Disability Employment Policy in order to improve access to the Missouri Workforce System and Missouri Job Centers. This pilot included conducting surveys of job seeker and business customers as well as staff. We are planning to use the information to improve services and will continue to conduct these surveys again in the future.

The state's EO Officers met and had training on making disability accommodations and serving customers with disabilities.

Lynette Ricks (OSCA) – At the Court Clerk College in September, Lynette gave a presentation on ADA accommodations, specifically addressing PTSD and how to accommodate people in the court. The presentation will be given again at the Court Clerk College in May. An ADA assessment

checklist for altering or building courthouses has been developed and placed on OSCA's intranet page.

Brian Weisel (AGO) introduced himself as the new state liaison for the Attorney General's Office. The AGO has been representing VR in administrative hearings, and presented a workshop on how to complete the SSA applications.

Lunch recess was taken.

Presentation:

Dolores Sparks gave a presentation on the Proposed Guardianship-Conservatorship Legislative Reform by the Missouri Working Interdisciplinary Network of Guardianship Stakeholders (MO-WINGS). The bill is currently in legislative research and has not yet been filed. Rep. Neely supports the bill. More information can be found on the web at www.mo-wings.org.

New Business:

The discussion on the Housing and Transportation Position Papers will be postponed until the April Council meeting.

GCD Committee Reports:

Executive Committee: The Executive Committee met on January 5, 2016 to discuss legislative priorities, potential changes to the GCD awards programs, and council appointments.

No other committee reports.

Committee meetings are to be held prior to the April Council meetings.

Council Member Reports: None.

Old Business: None.

Leanne Peace with the Missouri Kidney Program distributed the 2016 State of the State Poverty in Missouri publication and announced that the 2016 Missouri Poverty Summit will be held in April 27 in Jefferson City at the Capitol Plaza Hotel. More information can be found at <http://www.moendpoverty.org/poverty-summit.html>.

Leanne Peace volunteered to serve on the Transportation Subcommittee.

The meeting was adjourned at 1:25 p.m.

The next regular Council meeting will be held **Friday, April 22, 2016** at 10 AM by videoconference.

Summary of Action Items:	Person Responsible:
Send information about inclusive employers to Yvonne Wright	Staff, Council members, state liaisons
Conduct committee meetings prior to April Council meeting	Committee Chairs