

# **Governor's Council on Disability Meeting Minutes September 19, 2013**

## **Council Members Present/Participating:**

Joan Bergstrom, Ed.D., Chuck Comstock, Betty Davidson, Ph.D., Ron Hack, Mary Ann Harter, Teri Miller, DeAnna Noriega, Sue Orton, Derek Smith, James Trout, Bob Wallace

## **Council Members Not Present/Participating:**

Ed Duff, Mike Esser, Rep. Jeff Grisamore, Todd Mayfield

## **Department Liaisons:**

Bonnie Aaron	Department of Elementary and Secondary Education – DESE
Gena Ahlers	Department of Revenue – DOR
Cari Collins	Department of Corrections – DOC
Kristin Funk	Department of Economic Development – DED/DWD
Bobbi Jo Garber	Department of Health & Senior Services – DHSS/DSDS
Darla Griswold	Department of Transportation - MODOT
JoAnn Hanley	Department of Conservation – MDC
Tim Harlow	Department of Natural Resources – DNR
Fred Hicks	Department of Natural Resources – DNR
Jennifer Hicks	Department of Natural Resources – DNR
Julie Juergens	Department of Social Services – DSS
Dana Muessig	Department of Natural Resources – DNR
Dorothy Parks	Department of Elementary and Secondary Education – DESE/VR
Lynette Ricks	Office of State Courts Administrator – OSCA
Robin Rust	Department of Mental Health – DMH/DDD
Jon Sabala	Department of Mental Health – DMH/Veterans Services

## **Guests:**

Yvonne Wright, Director, Workforce Development and Business Relations, Vocational Rehabilitation  
Dan Haley, Kansas City Police Department

## **Staff:**

Linda Baker, Claudia Browner, Dawn Evans, Laura Mueth

## **Real Time Captioner:** Deb Reithmeyer

Acting Chair James Trout called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m. With eleven (11) 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 April 18 and the amended agenda for the day.

## **Report from Acting Chair James Trout:**

James reported of a national initiative called Building Livable Design. The publication will be available in the next few months and will include minimum Universal Design standards for builders.

A revised version of the Indoor Air Quality policy was sent to the Council and is to be voted on during old business.

**Report from Executive Director Linda Baker:**

- Linda summarized her ED report. GCD has spent about 15% of its FY14 budget.
- The Missouri Youth Leadership Forum was a great success with 24 delegates attending and two excellent keynote speakers presenting.
- October is Disability History Month. GCD has developed a poster and is featuring information and a resource kit on the Disability Web Portal (<http://disability.mo.gov>).
- The Legislative Education Project (LEP) will host 3 webcasts and 3 LEP trainings at the capitol in 2014. The LEP PowerPoint is being updated and will be archived on the website.
- The legislative survey was sent out and 265 completed surveys were returned. A report about the survey results will be emailed to the Council members and state liaisons.
- Nominations for the 22<sup>nd</sup> Annual Inclusion Awards are being accepted now through December 2 and the winner and honorable mention will be honored at the Power Up conference in April 2014.

**Department Liaison Information:**

Bonnie Aaron (DESE) – Recommended everyone read the newest administrative memo on the DESE website concerning federal funding.

Robin Rust (DMH) – More than 800 people attended the Real Voices, Real Choices conference this year; The division is hosting a smaller conference called Push To The Future next week in Columbia; Assistive Technology services have been added to the Children’s Waiver; The Partnership for Hope waiver is now serving individuals in all but 15 Missouri counties and the city of St. Louis; a 5-year evaluation currently being conducted will show the local economic impact of the waiver.

Bobbi Jo Garber (DHSS) – DSS, DMH, and DHSS have received federal funds in excess of \$100 million for Medicaid Services to develop a “No Wrong Door” process, a “Conflict Free Case Management” process, and universal access to Home and Community Based Services. As a result, on October 1, a new 800# (855-834-8555) and website (<http://mocor.mo.gov>) for MOCOR - Missouri Community Options and Resources will be launched to provide consumers with home and community based services options and resources. Linda Baker offered to highlight this new service on the Disability Web Portal.

Lynette Ricks (OSCA) – Assists courts that are remodeling or building to assure accessibility is according to ADA standards. Her agency bought 26 new assistive listening devices to be placed in the courts. The goal is to provide each court in Missouri with a new assistive listening device.

Cari Collins (DOC) – Cari offered assistance to any Council members or state liaisons who receive calls and letters from offenders.

Kristin Funk (DED/DWD) –Kristin Funk and Denise Schimweg gave a presentation about career center services at the DESE Summer Transition Institute in June. Kristin also presented training about the job application process and professionalism to the youth delegates at the Missouri Youth Leadership Forum in July.

Dana Muessig (DNR) – DNR was represented by four employees to determine the most appropriate staff to serve as the agency liaison to the Council. DNR has made the building on Elm Street more accessible for employees and customers by installing automatic push buttons and other features. The State Parks' Diversity Initiative is charged with making all state parks and historic sites accessible to everyone. The ADA Amendment mandates that all playgrounds and facilities be made accessible. Transition plans are being developed for existing parks and all new facilities are using universal design standards. DNR is looking for volunteer groups to evaluate and assess the accessibility of state parks. It was recommended to contact the centers for independent living throughout the state to ask them for help with this task.

Jon Sabala (DMH) – Jon introduced himself as DMH's Director of Veterans Services. His office is coordinating the delivery of services to veterans and their families in Missouri.

JoAnn Hanley (MDC) – MDC's revised Disabled Accessible Outdoors brochure is available on MDC's website and should be available in print in February 2014. In October, the Great Plains ADA Center will be providing ADA Awareness training to MDC employees at various locations around the state.

Gena Ahlers (DOR) – As of July 1, DOR has been offering new disabled placards (hang tags) that are made from a better material and have a tamper evident number to prevent misuse. Permanent placard holders can replace their old tags free of charge.

Julie Juergens (DSS) – Under the Money Follows the Person grant, 113 individuals have transitioned into the community in 2013. The goal for this year was 218. Three videos of individuals who have transitioned are currently being edited and will be made available. Onsite training is being provided to nursing homes around the state on how to do the web-based referrals, and training webinars are being developed. The Centers for Medicaid and Medicare will be doing an onsite audit of the program next year.

**Old Business:**

The Council reviewed and unanimously voted to approve the revised Addendum to the Indoor Air Quality Policy. The document will be posted on GCD's website.

The Council reviewed and unanimously voted to approve the Governor's Committee to End Homelessness' Discharge Policy. Linda Baker will sign the document on behalf of the Council.

**Public Comment:**

Captain Dan Haley, KCPD, asked the Council for its support in setting up a panel discussion to educate KCPD management about hiring people with disabilities, and inviting Governor Nixon as a keynote speaker for the event which is to be held in November in Kansas City, with about 150-200 people attending. The Council supported Captain Haley's request and recommended individuals to sit on the panel.

Lunch recess was taken.

**GCD Committee Reports:**

Personnel Committee (James Trout reporting): The committee is currently working on the annual performance evaluation for the executive director, Linda Baker, which is due in January.

Transportation Subcommittee (Teri Miller reporting): The Eastern Missouri Transportation Coordinating Council is working on a low-cost transportation service for individuals in Montgomery, Lincoln, and Warren counties. This pilot project works in collaboration with 13 service providers in the three counties and will provide services 24/7, beginning in April 2014.

**Council member reports:**

Dr. Joan Bergstrom has been working with Captain Dan Haley on planning the training panel for KCPD, where she will serve as the moderator.

Chuck Comstock has been working on the 5<sup>th</sup> annual *disAbility* Awareness Conference to be held October 1 at Truman State University in Kirksville.

Derek Smith has passed the bar exam and will be sworn in October 4<sup>th</sup>. The Council congratulated him on his achievement.

**Presentation:**

VR's Workforce Development and Business Relations Director, Yvonne Wright, presented on the National Governors Association's Initiative "A Better Bottom Line: Employing People with Disabilities". The initiative's goal is to raise the percentage of employed persons with disabilities. Several states, including Washington, South Dakota, and Delaware have issued Executive Orders to increase the percentage to 5%. Ms. Wright, Mark Stringer and Bernie Simons (DMH), and Mike Nietzel, Senior Policy Advisor to Governor Nixon, have met with Governor Nixon and are collaborating to establish a "Governor's Task Force on Employing People with Disabilities" this fall and putting together a business summit in Spring 2014. The Council voted unanimously to endorse the task force, and James Trout volunteered the services of GCD to the task force. The Council recommended for Governor Nixon to issue an Executive Order; Ms. Wright assured the Council she would take this recommendation back to the Governor's office. The Council agreed to send a letter of support to Mr. Nietzel.

**New Business:**

The Council discussed and voted on the meeting dates for 2014. The meetings will be held:  
February 10 – Jefferson City  
April 25 – videoconference  
September 19 – Jefferson City  
November 13 – videoconference

Linda Baker proposed an annual Youth Leadership Award as a new GCD program. The Council unanimously voted in favor of this new program. The announcement will be sent out and the award will be presented at the Power Up conference in April 2014.

Teri Miller, Dr. Joan Bergstrom, Mary Ann Harter, James Trout, Derek Smith, Lynette Ricks, and Julie Juergens volunteered to serve as judges for the Youth Leadership and Inclusion Awards.

The meeting was adjourned at 1:40 p.m.

The next regular Council meeting will be held **Thursday, November 21, 2013, at 10:00 a.m. by videoconference in Jefferson City, Kirksville, Lee's Summit, and St. Louis**

<b>Summary of Action Items:</b>	<b>Person Responsible:</b>
Send Legislative Priority Poll summary report to Council	Claudia Browner
Post information about MOCOR on Disability Web Portal	Claudia Browner
Sign GCEH Discharge Policy and send to MHDC	Linda Baker
Send out Youth Leadership Award announcement	GCD staff
Publish revised Indoor Air Quality policy on GCD's website	Claudia Browner
Send letter of support RE: Governor's Task Force on Employing People with Disabilities	Linda Baker/James Trout

Minutes by Claudia Browner, Executive I  
September 23, 2013