

# **Governor's Council on Disability**

## **Meeting Minutes**

### **September 21, 2012**

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

Joan Bergstrom, Ed.D., Chuck Comstock, Betty Davidson, Ph.D., Ronald Hack, Todd Mayfield, DeAnna Noriega, Derek Smith, Erwin Switzer

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

Ed Duff, Mike Esser, Rep. Jeff Grisamore, Mary Ann Harter, Teri Miller, Sue Orton, James Trout, Bob Wallace

#### **Department Liaisons:**

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
JoAnn Hanley	Department of Conservation - MDC
Daniel Jacob	Attorney General's Office - AGO
Julie Juergens	Department of Social Services – DSS
Dr. Crystal Kroner	Department of Higher Education - DHE
Makele Ndessokia	Department of Agriculture - MDA
Dorothy Parks	Department of Elementary & Secondary Education – DESE/VR
Michele Radney	Department of Natural Resources – DNR
Lynette Ricks	Office of the State Court Administrator - OSCA
Robin Rust	Department of Mental Health – DMH/DD
Mary Wood	Department of Elementary & Secondary Education - DESE

#### **Guests:**

Ernest Garrett, MO Commission for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing  
Nancy Nickolaus, DMH  
Virginia Rice, MU student  
John Stains, DESE  
Reggie Stockman, Intern, MDA  
Tish Thomas, DESE/VR and DMH/ADA/CPS (by phone)

#### **Staff:**

Linda Baker, Claudia Browner, Dawn Evans, Laura Mueth

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

Ron Hack led the meeting on behalf of Acting Chair James Trout. He called the meeting to order at 10:05 a.m. With nine (9) 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 23 and the agenda for the day.

**Report from Vice Chair Ron Hack:**

James Trout had requested a letter be sent on behalf of the Council to Paul Prince with the Missouri Realtor's Association asking that universal design information be included on their website. The Advocacy Committee was charged with drafting a letter and presenting it to the Council for vote at the November meeting.

The Council then set and unanimously approved the meeting dates for 2013:

Monday, February 4, 2013 – in person in Jefferson City

Thursday, April 18, 2013 – by videoconference

Thursday, September 19, 2013 – in person in Jefferson City

Thursday, November 21, 2013 – by videoconference

**Report from Executive Director Linda Baker:**

Linda summarized her ED report. Linda shared a proclamation from the Governor declaring October as Disability History Month in Missouri. GCD is hosting a display in the Truman building and updating its website with related information to honor the event. The Council discussed creating a poster to promote Disability History Awareness month to schools, other agencies, and the public.

Legislative Education Project planning is underway for the upcoming legislative session. GCD is collaborating with Shawn D'Abreu (MOCIL), Suzan Weller (Disability Resource Association), and Kim Lackey (Paraquad) to offer five LEP training sessions at the capitol, three basic LEP webinars, and two round-table discussions. Rachel Baskerville, a Missouri Youth Leadership Forum alumni and social work student, will be doing an internship at GCD to assist with the LEP.

Laura Mueth summarized the legislative survey results. GCD received a record number (252) of responses. A detailed report will be sent to legislators and the Council.

The Missouri Youth Leadership Forum GCD hosted in collaboration with Services for Independent Living was a success with 22 delegates attending. GCD has started planning and fundraising for the 2013 Forum.

GCD is accepting nominations for the 2012 Inclusion Awards. Deadline for nominations is November 30. Joan Bergstrom, Lynette Ricks, Ron Hack, and Gena Ahlers volunteered as judges for the Inclusion Awards.

**Department Liaison Information:**

Daniel Jacob (AGO) – Daniel Jacob is replacing Sara Dick as the new state liaison. He has been dealing with numerous constituent calls regarding public accessibility and discrimination. Will send out an e-mail blast regarding Disability History Month. The PSA about accessible parking will be sent out after the election in November.

Dr. Crystal Kroner (DHE) – DESE and DHE are collaborating on statistics about students with disabilities who are transitioning to DHE institutions. The database should be available within the next year.

Cari Collins (DOC) – DOC is dealing with complaints from deaf or hard of hearing offenders who are forced to use collect calls for relay services.

JoAnn Hanley (MDC) – MDC provided a written summary report about their outreach to persons with disabilities. MDC has a Workforce Diversity Plan for Minorities & Women to promote

inclusion of protected groups in their employment efforts. MDC also strives to provide opportunity for all citizens to use, enjoy, and learn about fish, forest, and wildlife resources.

Lynette Ricks (OSCA) – Has been conducting ADA assessments of Missouri courts as requested. She will be finished with ADA coordinator certification training in March of 2013.

Kristin Funk (DED/DWD) – DWD provides services through 43 Missouri career centers. DWD works together with Missouri Assistive Technology Council and Vocational Rehabilitation. Free training in resume writing, interviewing, networking, etc. is provided in all career centers.

Julie Juergens (DSS/MO HealthNet) – Under the Money Follows the Person grant, 584 individuals have transitioned to community living to date; 148 have transitioned in 2012, 361 who are interested in the program have been assessed. Centers for Medicare and Medicaid have asked Missouri to showcase data collection and employment at national meeting in November. MHDC has applied for HUD housing subsidies for 250 housing units for those who want to transition under the grant. There is a lack of accessible low-income housing in urban areas.

Robin Rust (DMH/DD) – DMH/DD participates in five Home and Community Based Waivers that serve 12,000 people with disabilities. The Partnership for Hope waiver added two more counties in August and was amended to add 1,000 slots to serve a total of 3,000 individuals. The Waiver for Children with Developmental Disabilities has received additional funding to add 150 more slots. The Council decided to send a letter thanking the budget committee for the additional funding.

Bobbi Jo Garber (DHSS) – The third party assessor contract with Syncare was canceled after three months last year. Since DHSS employees have resumed the administration of assessments, it is only taking an average of 11 days statewide for individuals to get Home and Community Based Services.

Michele Radney (DNR) – As the recruiter for DNR, Michele Radney networks with the colleges' career services to recruit students with disabilities.

**Public Comment:** None.

Lunch recess was taken.

**GCD Committee Reports:**

Programs Committee (Teri Miller reporting):

Teri attended a Mobility Management meeting at Delta Center for Independent Living. DCIL is trying to set up a transit system for people with disabilities in St. Charles, Lincoln, and Warren counties. Teri also attended the Emergency Preparedness conference.

**Old Business:** None.

**Presentation:**

Robin Rust, Dorothy Parks, Nancy Nickolaus, Julie Juergens, John Stains, and Tish Thomas gave a presentation on Interagency Partnership collaboration between DESE, DMH, and DSS for the employment of people with disabilities.

**Council member reports:**

Chuck Comstock – October 27 is the 4<sup>th</sup> annual Disability Awareness Day in Kirksville.

Joan Bergstrom, Ed.D. – Wrote book on *Students with Autism – A Guidebook for MCC Faculty and Staff*; Provided in-service to 200 faculty and staff and will speak at the Autism summit in November.

DeAnna Noriega – Serves on Wolfner Advisory Council; Is Vice President of the Missouri Council of the Blind (MCB); Will attend MCB convention October 4-7; Helps visually impaired with assistive technology and independent living skills.

Derek Smith – Participated as a facilitator in the Missouri Youth Leadership Forum; Is in his last year of law school.

Betty Davidson, Ph.D. – Her daughter works for KC Live show on NBC and can promote Disability Mentoring Day events. “Annie” is playing October 26-28.

**New Business:**

The Council reviewed, discussed, and unanimously approved the Strategic Plan for 2012-14.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:55 p.m.

The next regular Council meeting will be held **Friday, November 16, 2012, at 10:00 a.m. by videoconference in Jefferson City, Joplin, Kirksville, Lee’s Summit, and St. Louis.**

Summary of Action Items:	Person Responsible:
Draft letter to Missouri Realtor’s Association regarding universal design information on MLS website	Advocacy Committee
Create poster to promote Disability History Awareness month in Missouri	Council staff
Send legislative survey report to Council members and legislators	Council staff
Send thank you letter to budget committee for additional HCB waiver funding	Linda Baker, Joan Bergstrom, Chuck Comstock, Erv Switzer, James Trout

Minutes by Claudia Browner, Executive I  
October 3, 2012

Attachments: Strategic Plan 2012-14  
2013 Meeting schedule  
Legislative Survey report