

**GOVERNOR'S COUNCIL ON DISABILITIES
AND SPECIAL EDUCATION**

**Developmental Disabilities Committee
Meeting Minutes**

LOCATION

**Governor's Council Conference Room
3601 C Street
Anchorage, Alaska
Teleconference**

Meeting Date

**December 6, 2016
3:00 p.m.**

Attendees:

Jeanne Gerhardt-Cyrus
Mallory Hamilton
Mary Elam
Lizette Stiehr
Amanda Lofgren
Caitlyn Rogers

Guests:

Heidi Wailand
Travis Noah

Staff:

Ric Nelson

Call to Order – 3:00 p.m.
Roll Call

WELCOME FROM THE CHAIR
INTRODUCTIONS, ANNOUNCEMENTS, AND GOOD NEWS

Jeanne Gerhardt-Cyrus informed committee members that Mary Elam, Lizette Stiehr, Britteny Howell, and Elizabeth Donnelly have been approved as voting members of the DD Committee.

Jeanne Gerhardt-Cyrus announced that her daughter Ivory was one of five Alaskan youth to receive a Young People of Achievement Award.

CONFLICT OF INTEREST DECLARATIONS

There were no conflicts of interest declared at the meeting.

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

A quorum was not convened, and approval of the agenda was tabled.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES FROM THE PREVIOUS MEETING

A quorum was not convened, and approval of the previous meeting minutes was tabled.

CORRESPONDENCE

There was no correspondence to report.

NEW BUSINESS

DD System Assessment / Vision Statement Project

Amanda Lofgren thanked the DD Committee for allowing them to be their first focus group for this project. Over the next two weeks, they will hold eight more community conversations in Anchorage, Mat-Su, Kenai, Kodiak, Juneau, and by statewide webinar.

Amanda Lofgren stated that in the current climate in the state with all of the changes going on, they have an opportunity to develop a plan to guide the changing system based on feedback from beneficiaries. The intent is to develop a shared vision as a part of a larger DD system assessment to help pave the path forward. She stated that a shared collective vision should be something that speaks to the individuals receiving services, both now and in the future, regardless of fiscal circumstances in the state.

Amanda stated that a steering committee has been convened that is representative of families, SDS, AADD, providers, and the Governor's Council. This steering committee, chaired by Roy Scheller, convened during a face-to-face meeting to do an exercise on the meaning of person centered. Their focus will be on creating a shared vision and creating an infographic going into the legislative session.

The steering committee developed five key phrases and terms that they would like to engage in interactive dialogue about during these community conversations. After asking the committee for their feedback on words that would describe the ideal DD system, Amanda Lofgren, Heidi Waitland, and Travis Noah led the group through the exercise to discuss the following key points:

1. What does the phrase "able to be sustained over time" mean to you?
2. What do the terms "person-directed support" and "family-directed support" mean to you?
3. What does "life of meaning" mean to you?
4. What does "flexibility of services" mean to you?
5. What does a "skilled workforce" mean to you?

Amanda Lofgren stated that the steering committee developed the following draft vision statement and asked for committee feedback.

Alaskans envision a system in which a person directs their own supports towards a life of meaning at home, work, and community. The system includes supported families, a skilled workforce, and flexible services that can be sustained over time.

Committee members provided feedback, and Amanda stated that after they complete their community conversations and surveys, the steering

committee will further refine this vision statement.

Amanda Lofgren encouraged participation in the upcoming webinars and also encouraged committee members to contact her or Heidi Wailand if they have any additional feedback.

OTHER INFORMATION FOR THE GOOD OF THE ORDER

Lizette Stiehr announced that the AADD teleconference will be December 15th.

TIME AND DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next regular DD Committee meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, January 4, 2017 from 1:00 to 3:00 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT

Without a quorum convened, the meeting adjourned at 4:51 p.m.