

**DRAFT MINUTES
DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES PLANNING COUNCIL
FRIDAY, AUGUST 25, 2017
625 SILVER AVENUE SW (DDPC CONFERENCE ROOM)
ALBUQUERQUE, NEW MEXICO 87102
9:30 AM – 4:00 PM**

Members Present

Advocates

Amira Rasheed (Chair)
Sergio Resendiz (Vice-Chair)
Judy Ann Sena
Hoskie Benally, Jr.

Family Members

Sandy Skaar (Chair Emeritus)

Attendants

Jeanette Sena
Amira's attendant
Hoskie's Attendant
Two sign interpreters

Agencies Present

Jim Jackson DRNM
Joan Curtis DRNM
Kathleen Hardy CYFD
Ellen Carpenter DVR
Deborah Dominguez-Clark (by phone)
Tanya Baker-McCue (CDD) (by phone)
Jennifer Rodriguez (DDSD) (by phone)
Coralee (by phone)

Staff Present

John Block, III
Barbara Ibáñez
Justin Moore
Lori Chavez, Assistant
Attorney General

**Staff Present for Meeting
Minute Purposes Only**

Ana Callahan-Segura

Family Members Absent

C. Dianne Griego (Secretary/Treasurer)
Charlene Espinoza

Agencies Absent

Cynthia Shelton (HSD)
Anita Morales (ALTSD)
Suzette Shije (IAD)

Public Guests

Mary H. Smith

Call to Order/Introductions/Housekeeping/Mission Statement

Chairperson Amira Rasheed called the meeting to order at 9:39 am. There were three members missing to make a quorum so it was decided that votes would not be taken until they showed up. At 10:11 am, a quorum was completed. Introductions were exchanged.

Judy Sena read the Mission Statement; Kathleen Hardy read the Vision Statement.

Approve Agenda – Action Item

Kathleen Hardy moved to approve the agenda; Ellen Carpenter seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

Approve Minutes from April, 2017 Meeting– Action Item

Amira Rasheed moved to approve the minutes; Sandy Skaar seconded. Motion carried with no abstention.

Introduction of Guests – Mary H. Smith

Public Comments

Mary Smith, former DDPC Employee was asked to introduce herself. Ms. Smith stated that she was a former attorney with the Office Of Guardianship and she was fired. She also stated that she was never invited to a Council Meeting during her employment.

*Executive Session: pursuant to NMSA Sec. 10-15-1(H) (2) Discussion of personnel matters
Kathleen Hardy moved to enter into Executive Session; Judy Ann Sena seconded. Roll call vote was unanimous. The Council entered into Executive Session at 10:45 am. The Executive Session ended at 11:15am with discussion limited to aforementioned personnel matters.*

Update on Office of Guardianship and Ayudando Guardians, Inc.

John Block, III explained that Ayudando Guardians, Inc. was raided by the Federal Marshals on July 19, 2017. The IRS and the VA was also involved in this investigation. DDPC is working with the 2nd Judicial Court and the Courts in Santa Fe, Las Vegas, and Valencia, Cibola and Sandoval counties. Mr. Block stated that hearings require Guardian ad Litem, attorneys and others. Many of these legal professionals have been volunteering and helping out as much as possible. DDPC has been in constant contact with Federal Marshall's office. The Marshall's Office is currently subcontracting out all guardianship services. Amendments will be completed as soon as possible. Mr. Block stated that all 166 clients served by the Office of Guardianship will be transferred to temporary guardians and then transferred to permanent guardians.

Chair Report

Amira Rasheed, John Block, Barbara Ibanez and Daniel Ekman attended the annual NACDD conference in Salt Lake City the week of July 9TH 2017. Daniel Ekman did a phenomenal job with his presentations. Amira Rasheed met several of the other chairs from many different states. The entire group attended concurrent sessions and learned what other states were doing. Amira Rasheed attended a meeting with the commissioner that the new administration appointed. Ms. Rasheed asked many questions that have to with the DD councils, healthcare and many other important issues. This quarter, Ms. Rasheed attended several Know Your Rights town hall meetings and steering committee meetings. Also she attended meetings with John Block on behalf of the Developmental Disability Planning Council.

Executive Director's Report – John Block, III, Executive Director

FY 19 Budget Report

Kathy Coates, Chief Financial Officer provided the report. Ms. Coates stated that in FY 18 there was an increase in the DDPC budget request and for FY 19 there is an increase requested as well. Federal revenues were increased, while General Fund will remain the same. Ms. Coates stated that Office of Guardianship is asking for another Compliance Officer position. Kathleen Hardy moved and Judy Sena seconded to approve the FY 19 Budget Request. All voted to approve, none opposed, non abstained, the motion carried. Ms. Coates shared updates on the FY 17 budget. She stated that drawdowns were completed and the audit by Axiom Associates began in June, and will finish in late August. The final audit report is due in November. Ms. Coates stated that the Federal Program contractors were all paid in FY 17 and also that all accounts for FY 17 have been closed. All July payments have been completed. Ms. Coates reported that the State Auditor conducted an audit of guardianship contracts/companies during this audit. Ms. Coates also reported the insurance companies of Ayudando have been contacted to recoup the \$110,000, from Ayudando Guardians, Inc. Axiom Associates is charging an additional \$15,000 for the special auditor of the Office of Guardianship ordered by the State Auditor's Office. Mr. Block talked about that the attorneys assigned to transfer Ayudando clients are being paid through the current budget.

Program Updates

Mr. Block talked about congressional activity in Washington, DC. The House Appropriation has approved funding the DD Act. He stated that this year DDPC completely revamped the Federal contracts and they are tied to the 5- Year Plan. The Director informed the Council that the Interim Director for the Arc of NM announced that the Arc of NM Board of Directors didn't wish to continue contracting for DRAD and Summit on Advocacy. Since Disability Coalition is involved in DRAD. DDPC will contract with DRNM. PRO will potentially contract for the Summit on Advocacy. The pilot project for The Academy at the Center for Self-Advocacy is going well. The next session started last week and the leaders are made up of former Fellows. The plan is for growth across the state. In July Mr. Block, Barbara Ibanez, Daniel Ekman, and Amira Rasheed went to Salt Lake City to attend a National Association of Councils on Developmental Disabilities (NACDD) Conference. Amira Rasheed met with Melissa Ortiz, who replaced Aaron Bishop as Commissioner, at AIDD during the NACDD Conference. Mr. Block stated that Ms. Ortiz seems to be a very active advocate and will do promising work. Topics at this conference included technical areas, 5-Year Plans, Leadership, Medicaid and Organizational Development. It was reported that Daniel Ekman was a presenter at this conference and it was well received.

Mr. Block announced that the Center for Self Advocacy has promoted Lindsay Sloan as the new Outreach Coordinator.

Center for Development and Disability (UCED) Report

Ms. Tanya Baker-McCue discussed financial inclusion training, done in cooperation with the FDIC, to be held November 14th at UNM-CDD. This training is about bringing together financial people in disability agencies and discussing ways to help people learn more how to manage their money. According to Ms. Baker-McCue, exploitation is one of the topics being discussed and other relevant issues to build the knowledge base about finances. This training is being extended for those in leadership positions and also to family members. Ms. Baker-McCue asked DDPC and the Council for any assistance with this event. She also brought up an event that will take place after Memorial weekend in May of 2018, related to the School to Work Transition Alliance. More information will be available at a future date.

Program Committee—Kathleen Hardy

Kathleen Hardy reported that the Program Committee has reviewed the Federal Five-Year plan and it's progress for FY 18.

Policy and By-Laws Committees and Disability Rights New Mexico Report – Jim Jackson, Executive Director, DRNM

Jim Jackson reported that DRNM:

- Awarded a Quality of Life Grant from the Governor's Commission on Disability to present trainings on service animals.
- Scheduled Special Education clinics in collaboration with Parents Reaching Out.
- Tim Gardner, attorney with DRNM is working on guardianship issues.
- Monitoring Management Care Organizations (MCO's) so as to not reduce level of service.
- Working on police reform relating to Behavior Health issues.

DD Waiver Public Forum – Jennifer Rodriguez, PED

Ms. Rodriguez discussed the DD Waiver Public Forum scheduled for September 20, 2017 at Bank of the West building from 9:30am-3:30pm. These chapters include community inclusions, services, providers and other topics. She will send out information to Mr. Block so that this information can be distributed to the Council. Ms. Rodriguez is currently working on a Statement of Rights for clients. September 6th was the next event scheduled here at the DDPC.

Member Topics

Ellen Carpenter announced DVR is reorganizing some areas and that the division is opening a new Albuquerque office at Jefferson and Alameda.

Next Meeting Dates

November 17, 2017 and January 12, 2018 scheduled for next meetings.

Adjournment

The Council adjourned at 2:00pm.