Georgia Council on Developmental Disabilities

**Quarterly Council Meeting**

**April 16-17, 2015**

**Atlanta, Georgia**

**M I N U T E S**

Present:

Kate Brady, Tom Connelly, Dan Crimmins, Pam Hunter Dempsy, Trace Haythorn, Teresa Heard. Debbie Hibben, Geneice McCoy, Darlene Meador, Ruby Moore, Brenda Munoz, Ron Pound, Mitzi Proffitt, Debbie Regin, Zo Stoneman, Jody Wren

1. **Information: Here are some announcements and things you will need to know about.** 
   * Mitzi Profitt announced that Cheri Pace left employment with the Council in mid-March to explore other opportunities. GCDD is in the process of hiring an organizing support position. A copy of the job description was provided.
2. Member Sharing
   * Mitzi – talk about trip to DC and ask people to talk about Disability Day]
   * Debbie Hibben is on the ASPIRE Advisory Committee and the Employment First Coalition
   * Ruby Moore was appointed to the US DOL Employment First Committee
   * Bren Munoz’s son is now working for Global Growers Network and she has been accepted as a Georgetown Fellow on Cultural Competency
   * Department of Education is planning to combine special education and regular education conferences.
   * DCA received $10.7 million for community integrated housing and tax credit
   * DBHDD is working on waiver renewals and an initiative around autism and adults
3. Roles and Responsibilities

As the Executive Committee reviewed our work and the work of the Council, we recognized that there was some confusion about what our roles were as Council members, Executive Committee members and how we were to interact with staff.

During our last few Executive Committee meetings, we worked with Diane Schlechter to review our roles and responsibilities. We think this is very important as we move forward and we hope this will limit confusion and create a more effective effort.

We have asked Eric to present our recommendations. We want to have an open and honest discussion and then we will vote on these recommendations tomorrow.

1. Real Communities Update

Caitlin will provide us with an update on the Real Communities projects and others issues that we need to know about. I want to remind people that if you are interested in what is happening with Real Communities and you have the time, there opportunities to see each of the projects and learn first hand about what they are accomplishing.

1. Strategic Planning .

At our last meeting, Diane Schlachter was here and gave us an introduction to the strategic planning process. Beginning this afternoon, we are going to get into some of the details. Caitlin and Eric are going to work with us on data gathering and asset mapping, then we will begin discussing the public input process and review the calendar for the next year. At our July meeting, we will spend the entire time on planning and prepping for the public input process.

Friday April 17, 2015

1. Legislative Update

Let’s give a round of applause for the great work that Dawn Alford did during the legislative session. I know this was a very busy year and we were very well represented. The session, ended two weeks ago, but Dawn did not get a chance to rest, as she began preparing for our DC trip and for next year. Dawn will now give us an update on the legislative session.

1. Meeting Evaluation

At your place is an evaluation form. Please take a minute to complete this and give it to staff or me. Please note we have added a new section about how you have been engaged. The Executive Committee will review your comments and make decisions on what we may need to change to improve our meetings. Please be specific as you can or ask to discuss with me. We often get comments and want to respond but there is not enough information to really address the concern. In addition, I want to give us time to go around the room and make any comments that we have about the meeting. What insight about Council and the work we do have you gained during the last day and a half.