Georgia Council on Developmental Disabilities

Quarterly Meeting

October 13-14, 2016

M I N U T E S

Present: Marcey Alter, Becky Brightwell, Tom Connelly, Dorothy Harris, Teresa Heard, Nandi Issac, Donna Johnson, Frank Kirkland, Brenda Munoz, Evan Nodvin, Madeline Ponder, Mitzi Proffitt, Debbie Reagin, Joe Sara (GAO), Zo Stoneman, Lynn Walker

Staff: Dottie Adams, Dawn Alford, Lisa Eaves, Eric Foss, Eric Jacobson, Sumaya Karimi, Gabby Melnick, Kim Person, Hanna Rosenfeld, Valerie Suber

I.   Welcome

Mitzi Proffitt opened the meeting and made the following announcements:

The GCDD next quarterly meeting is January 12-13 at the Ramada Inn.

GCDD will be publishing Making a Difference magazine in Spanish for the first time.

The National Association of Councils on Developmental Disabilities is looking for people to volunteer as committee members.  The Association has openings on the Finance Committee, the Audit Committee, Member Services Committee, Self-Advocacy Committee, and Strategic Communications Committee.

GCDD staff have been soliciting applications to become advisory members.  Ms. Proffitt asked for volunteers to review the applications and make recommendations for 6 new advisory members. The following people volunteered:

Nandi Issac

Lynn Walker

Teresa Heard

Debbie Reagin

Dorothy Harris

Ms. Proffitt reported that the GCDD will publish a Notice of Funds Available to produce Making a Difference Magazine and the annual report.  She asked for volunteers to work with staff to review the proposals and make recommendations. The following people volunteered:

Frank Kirkland

Becky Brightwell

Madeline Ponder

Bren Munoz

Lynn Walker

II. Member Sharing

Members went around the table and shared the work they have been doing since the last meeting.  Dottie Adams reported that 14 out of 18 Project Search sites received national recognition for 100% placement of students after graduating.

III. Cultural and Linguistic Competency

Ms. Proffitt reported that one of the priorities of the Administration on Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities has been cultural and linguistic competency and we have included this in our new strategic plan.  She introduced Bren Munoz who has been LEND Fellow and was in the first cohort in the National Leadership Institute for Cultural Diversity and Cultural and Linguistic Competence.  Ms. Munoz will be working with GCDD members to understand the ideas behind cultural and linguistic diversity and how GCDD can do a better job around the issues of diversity.  A copy of her presentation is attached to these minutes.

IV. Legislative Agenda

Teresa Heard presented Dawn Alford with the Easter Seals Southern Georgia Mildred Huie Leadership Award.

Ms. Alford and Hanna Rosenfeld presented the proposed legislative agenda to the membership. A copy of the agenda is attached to the minutes.

Eric Jacobson reported that there are several things happening that have the potential to dramatically change the publicly funded service system for people with developmental disabilities. The Department of Justice lawsuits filed against Georgia around people in institutions and GNETs could end most of the segregation. The Home and Community Based Settings Rule for the first time defines community and could restructure the service system to be more aligned with the principles and values of the Developmental Disabilities Bill of Rights and Assistance Act/

Marcey Alter reported that as of July 31, 2016 there were 8,574 people on the DD Waiting List. This breaks down to 5,485 on the Long Term Planning List and 3,089 on the Short Term Planning List. As of June 30, 2016 there were 4509 people served through the NOW Waiver and 7572 served through the COMP Waiver.

Other issues brought up were the need for housing subsides to help people pay rent, the need for quality management of services, more prevention services, and how is the door to segregation closed.

V. Real Communities Update

 Sumaya Karimi and Gabby Melnick presented on the current Real Community sites and the work being done to decide on new sites. The power point presentation is attached to these minutes.

Friday October 13, 2016

VI. Old Business

a. Consent Agenda Issues

Mitzi Proffitt asked for a motion to adopt the Consent Agenda which includes minutes from the July meeting, the 2017-2022 Strategic Plan, and the Targeted Disparity Report.

**Dorothy Harris made a motion to adopt the consent agenda. Nandi Issac seconded the motion. The Council members voted unanimously to adopt the consent agenda.**

b. Legislative Agenda

Mitzi Proffitt asked for a motion to adopt the Legislative Agenda.

**Dorothy Harris made a motion to adopt the consent agenda. Nandi Issac seconded the motion. The Council members voted unanimously to adopt the legislative agenda.**

VII. GVRA

Raj Gandy from the Georgia Vocational Rehabilitation Agency presented on the changes taking place at the Agency. The power point of this presentation is attached to these minutes.

VIII. 2017 Work Plan

Eric Jacobson presented the 2017 work plan and changes taking place with staff. This [presentation](%3ciframe%20src='https:/gets-my.sharepoint.com/personal/eric_jacobson_gcdd_ga_gov/_layouts/15/WopiFrame.aspx?sourcedoc=%7b5ed968d8-8d26-455d-a349-) and work plan are attached to these minutes.

 IX. Meeting Evaluation

Before adjourning, Mitzi Proffitt asked members what they would like to see on future quarterly meeting agendas. The following were recommended:

* What's new happening in the developmental disabilities world
* Self-Advocacy Panel and Family
* Leadership development
* Ask Sean Casey (GVRA) to present
* Create a Self Advocates Caucus
* Waivers
* Self Direction
* Post Secondary Education
* One Page Tip Sheet on Legislative Agenda
* Children's Freedom Initiative (Katie Chandler)
* Transportation
* Invite legislators
* Grow Diversity Discussion
* What are other states doing around ABEL Implementation
* Department of Justice Settlement Update
* Coordination of funding between agencies
* Becoming effective "ambassadors" and "communicators"