

**Five-Year (2022 – 2026) Planning Committee Meeting Summary**

October 1, 2020, 1:00 PM to 4:00 PM

via ZOOM & YouTube [Broadcast](#)

Members Present: Randall Brown (Chair), Lillian DeJean, Michelle Guillory, Hyacinth McKee, Steven Nguyen, Bambi Polotzola, Chris Rodriguez, Temisha Sonnier, Mary Tarver

Members Absent: Brenda Cosse

Attendees: Kim Basile, Bridget Bergeron, Corhonda Corley, Julie Folse, Liz Gary, Lynsey Hebert (captionist), Sheryl Matney, Susan Riehn,

Staff: Brenton Andrus, Marilee Andrews, Halie Belin, Ebony Haven, Hannah Jenkins, Courtney Ryland

Having met a quorum, the meeting was called to order at 1:02 PM by Chairperson Randall Brown.

**MOTION PASSED.** A motion to approve the July 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> Meeting Summary made by Bambi Polotzola, seconded by Mary Tarver, passed without objection or abstention.

An overview of the DD Network Report was given.

Committee members deliberated on determining Goals and Objectives for the FFY 2022-2026 Council Plan. A total of 3 goals were agreed upon, with objectives that include all Areas of Emphasis and all Targeted Disparity options.

**GOALS**

- 1. Community Living and Supports** = To be fully participating members of the community, individuals with DD, including those with the most challenging needs, and their families will have access to quality supports and services inclusive of affordable healthcare, resources across various service delivery systems, appropriate accommodations and accessibility at public facilities, and shall be treated equally by all members of the community.

**Objectives:**

- **Health** - (with Targeted Disparity) Individuals with DD will have increased access to appropriate and affordable healthcare, including primary and specialist providers, preventive health services and prevention of chronic diseases, dental care, sexual/reproductive health services and behavioral health services.
- **Community Supports** – Individuals with DD and their families will have access to and be served by qualified trained professionals, including Direct Support

Professionals, First Responders, and other professionals, who will value and promote inclusive community living.

- Recreation - Individuals with DD will have access to integrated inclusive recreation opportunities, camps or group events, and other community living activities.
- Transportation - Individuals with DD will have access to affordable and accessible transportation options allowing for inclusive community living.
- Housing - Individuals with DD and their families will have increased access to safe, affordable, and accessible housing allowing for inclusive community living.

- 2. Self-Advocacy and Advocacy Leadership** = Individuals with DD and their families will have access to information and supports to become effective leaders of their communities and advocate for systems changes on behalf of themselves and other individuals with DD.

**Objectives:**

- Individuals with DD of all ages will have access to opportunities to increase their awareness and knowledge of rights as a contributing member to society; including subject matters on (but not limited to) advocacy, voting, exploitation prevention, financial stability and responsibilities, and decision making.
- Louisiana's self-advocacy network, partner groups, and citizens with DD will be supported in self-advocacy training, systems change advocacy, and through participation on a variety of boards and commissions.

- 3. Education and Employment** = Individuals with DD will have access to quality education in inclusive and safe environments throughout all stages of life and access to self-determined, individualized, equal and gainful employment opportunities that provide competitive wages and integrated work environments.

**Objectives:**

- Parents of students with DD including those who are of an underserved or unserved population (inclusive of those in rural and urban locations, in low income or economically-challenged households, those who require assistive technology to communicate, and those who speak English as a Second Language), will have increased access to early diagnosis, identification of needs, early intervention services, childcare and information and opportunities to collaborate with educators regarding individualized educational planning or programming to meet the needs of their students.
- Individuals with DD will have increased employment outcomes upon transitioning from secondary educational settings, access to employment opportunities inclusive of services from highly qualified employment support providers and

increased competitive and integrated opportunities from employers who are educated on how to support people with developmental disabilities.

The Committee also recommended the following activities associated with the developed objectives:

### Community Supports

- ✓ Individuals with DD will be served by Direct Support Professionals who have received high quality training and are provided adequate compensation for providing their valued services.
- ✓ First responders, law enforcement and school resource officers will implement best practices to support individuals with DD.
- ✓ Improved resource database for community supports across various service delivery systems.

### Self-Advocacy and Advocacy Leadership

- ✓ Youth advocacy to specifically be addressed in an activity.
- ✓ Required Activities:
  - Provide technical assistance and training opportunities designed to strengthen the self-advocacy network and the effectiveness of its systems change activities.
  - Provide information and support for participation of individuals with developmental disabilities and their families in cross-disability and culturally diverse leadership coalitions and advisory bodies.

### Education

- ✓ Students with DD will have increased opportunities to receive transitional supports into adulthood and increased awareness of students' rights.
- ✓ Individuals with DD will have increased opportunities to participate in inclusive post-secondary educational programs.
- ✓ Students with DD will be educated by a qualified educational workforce equipped to meet the needs of individuals in all

**MOTION PASSED.** A motion to recommend the drafted Goals and Objectives for the FFY 2022-2026 Council Plan as developed by the committee for Council consideration made by Steven Nguyen, seconded by Chris Rodriguez, passed without objection or abstention.

Motion to Adjourn made by Steven Nguyen, seconded by Temisha Sonnier, passed without objection or abstention at 4:26 PM.