

Louisiana Developmental Disabilities Council  
Youth Leadership Forum Committee  
February 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2022

LILLIAN DEJEAN: All right, everyone. It is 3:00 which is our scheduled meeting time. We're still waiting on one of our other guests. Oh, look. She just arrived. If we could transition Ms. Foster Hagan and Ms. Jordan to panelists, that would be great. Bambi asked in the chat if Melissa Bayham will be attending. Do we know if she was supposed to come to the meeting today?

EBONY HAVEN: She responded to the emails that you all had so I sent her the information. I can doublecheck to make sure that she registered. But I was under the impression that she was attending.

LILLIAN DEJEAN: Okay. So what we can do is do member intros first and then do January meeting summary and regroup after that if she still hasn't joined us yet. But today we actually have a couple new members which is really exciting. So firstly, I would like to say hi. For those of you who don't know me, my name is Lillian DeJean. I am the chair of this committee. And we have a new member. Are they still with us. Oh, Chainey, would you like to introduce yourself?

CHAINEY GUIDRY: Hi. I'm Chainey Guidry.

LILLIAN DEJEAN: Thank you, Chainey. And then we also have Harlin. Would you like to introduce yourself to the committee?

HARLIN COWSER: Sure. Hi. I'm Harlin Cowser and I work as the adult program coordinator with Families Helping Families of Acadiana. And I also work as disability awareness coordinator with the mayor president's office in Lafayette. Thank y'all for having me.

LILLIAN DEJEAN: Thank you for joining us. We're so happy to have you both, Harlin and Jamie. So thank you for being a part of our committee. So the next on my screen I have Jill Hano, would you like to go?

JILL HANO: Hello. I'm Jill Hano and my video

doesn't work. So sorry. I'm from region ten and I'm the DD Council member at large.

LILLIAN DEJEAN: Awesome. Thank you, Jill. And I see Melissa Bayham has joined us. Hello. How are you?

MELISSA BAYHAM: Good afternoon. I was going to say good morning.

LILLIAN DEJEAN: I almost did the same thing earlier.

MELISSA BAYHAM: I'm sorry. You know how like Zooms are great, but then people still come to your office. So sorry I'm late.

LILLIAN DEJEAN: No worries. We're just doing quick member introductions. We introduced Harlin and Chainey, two of our new members. And next we have, on my screen at least, Maddie. Maddie, would you like to introduce yourself to everybody.

MADDIE: Hold on. Hi. My name is Maddie and I'm 15 years old. And I'm a sophomore at St. James High. And thank you, guys, for having me.

LILLIAN DEJEAN: Thank you, Maddie. We always love hearing your input. Next on my screen, we have Bambi.

BAMBI POLOTZOLA: Did you say my name?

LILLIAN DEJEAN: Yes.

BAMBI POLOTZOLA: Yeah. I think everyone knows me. Hi. I'm the director for the Governor's Office of Disability Affairs.

LILLIAN DEJEAN: Okay. Nicole Flores.

NICOLE FLORES: Hey. I'm Nicole Flores. I am the executive director of Families Helping Families of Acadiana and proud parent of a little self-advocate of my own.

LILLIAN DEJEAN: Who is also named Lillian. And my mom is also named Nicole which is wild.

NICOLE FLORES: Very confusing.

LILLIAN DEJEAN: Yes. Yes. The next person I have on screen is Liz Gary.

LIZ GARY: Hi. Good afternoon. I'm Liz Gary. Parent advocate and I also am the policy and advocacy coordinator for the LEND program at LSU HDC.

LILLIAN DEJEAN: Thank you. And the last person I have on our screen is another youth advocate, Dylan. Dylan, would you like to introduce yourself?

DYLAN SONNIER: Sure. Hi, everyone. My name is

Dylan Sonnier. And actually, glad to see the group has gotten bigger and better. So I haven't been here for a while. School has been catching up with me and everything. And trying to focus on my senior year. But I'm really glad the group is getting better and better. And I'm looking forward to it growing, you know. And also to let y'all know that my screen is also not working. So I won't be able to show my face either. But hopefully I can get it solved probably after this meeting or whenever I can. Hopefully. So yeah.

LILLIAN DEJEAN: Thank you, Dylan. And we wish you the best of luck with your technical issues. Melissa, would you like to go next?

MELISSA BAYHAM: Hi. My name is Melissa Bayham, and I am the director of Louisiana Rehabilitation Services. And I am also a member of the DD Council.

LILLIAN DEJEAN: Thank you. Ms. Julie.

JULIE FOSTER HAGAN: Hi, everybody. I'm Julie Foster Hagan and I'm the assistant secretary for the Office for Citizens with Developmental Disabilities in the Louisiana Department of Health.

LILLIAN DEJEAN: Thank you for joining us today. And last but not least, Ms. Jordan.

MEREDITH JORDAN: Good afternoon, everyone. Meredith Jordan, executive director for diverse learners at the Louisiana Department of Education.

LILLIAN DEJEAN: Thank you. And so a big thank you to our guests, especially, for joining us today. And thank you to our new members for joining us. As Dylan mentioned, we have had some growth in our committee which is really, really exciting. And we're just, I think, really excited about the possibility of hosting YLF here again possibly next summer. And so the first thing that we have on our agenda is just some housekeeping which would be approval of the January meeting summary. So would someone like to make a motion to approve that summary?

LIZ GARY: I make a motion to approve the summary from the January meeting.

BAMBI POLOTZOLA: This is Bambi. I second.

LILLIAN DEJEAN: Thank you. Any objections or abstentions? Cool. Hearing none, the motion passes.

So the first thing-- well, the first thing after our approval of the January meeting summary is our funding discussion with the Louisiana Rehab Services, OCDD and LDOE. But I first want to give a little bit of background of YLF and specifically our YLF here for our guests who may not have been here before. Because I think it's really important to know that content of where this committee is coming from. And so YLF is essentially a summer camp for youth with disabilities. And it teaches them self-advocacy skills, life skills and just generally empowers them to be an adult with a disability who can manage their services, live independently and live a happy and fulfilling life. And so over 30 other states are currently hosting YLFs. And we actually had a YLF here from 2000 to 2005. But it dissolved because of funding issues. There wasn't a sustainability plan in place. So I'm sure you're a bit curious about where the funding came from originally. And we've pieced together a bit of a timeline of what this looked like back then. And funding came from the DDC, Families Helping Families of Jefferson, OCDD, LDOE and it seems like a grant from the Human Development Center.

So right now our committee's focus is bringing YLF back to Louisiana. Obviously, we're under the DD Council as an ad hoc committee, but our goal is to host our first YLF in the summer of 2023 with a total of 15 delegates over three days and it being overnight. So I know that was a lot of information I just threw at everybody. But I would love if anyone else would add anything about, you know, what we have been doing on the committee or if we have any questions from our guests about what this could potentially look like.

NICOLE FLORES: We can talk about how we were looking at the national program, and what we need to do, and like the rules of the program to be able to do it in our state, the requirements.

LILLIAN DEJEAN: Yeah. So there is a national association based out of California that creates guidelines for the different YLFs across the country. So there's kind of a coherency across the different states YLF. The YLF has the flexibility to be tailored to each state as long as it's within specific

requirements. So, I mean, one of the most basic ones is you don't want to discriminate against the severity of the disability when taking on campers or YLF calls it delegates. So we are keeping that in mind as we develop what we want our YLF to look like and what impacts we would like our YLF to have. So as a committee we've been developing an overarching timeline for us to make decisions on what this is going to look like for Louisiana and also to delegate the work out. Does anyone have anything else to add that I've missed?

BAMBI POLOTZOLA: Lillian, I guess I just need some more instructions of what right now what are we supposed to be doing. Is this opened up for us to give suggestions or recommendations or are we waiting for some other prompt?

LILLIAN DEJEAN: I think really this is a discussion between the committee and our guests about what YLF looks like, what it could look like, what we want it to look like here. And specifically as it pertains to potentially receiving funding from the state organizations to execute a YLF. Jill, you have your hand raised.

JILL HANO: So is our intent to have one funding source or multiple funding sources? Or is it just like depends on how it goes?

LILLIAN DEJEAN: I think that's a really interesting question. I know each state has a different strategy as far as funding goes. There's some that's solely funded by their independent living center. Some that's solely funded by their DD Council. But I think that where we're heading here and now is more of a collaborative approach between disability focused agencies and organizations because that's what we had here before. And especially we would like to implement additionally, obviously, a sustainability plan this time. But we, I think because we understand that, you know, the Department of Ed's role, and OCDD's role, and LRS's role is so important in the lives of individuals with disabilities we want you guys to be involved. So, Bambi, I see you have your hand raised.

BAMBI POLOTZOLA: My questions would be, and what kind of I think brought everything together was that to look at-- well, first off, I'll say it's good to know

the history you provided. Like who y'all think was involved in the funding and that type of thing. But I know the rules have changed since then in some ways around the programs that education funds, or voc rehab funds, or, you know, OCDD or CMS allows to be funds. Or do we have state general funds. So I know some things have changed, so I guess the question to look at now is do our state agency representatives, have they looked at or have an idea of what YLF does and its impact and do they see some correlations in some funding streams that they may have that could help out with this?

LILLIAN DEJEAN: Melissa.

MELISSA BAYHAM: Yes. And I think I mentioned on a previous call that vocational rehabilitation will more than likely be able to help to at least assist in funding this. It's easier for me to make that determination once we get into some of the more specifics. And I'll give you some examples. Like I see this as something that we can primarily fund with preemployment transition services funds, but we have to make sure that if we do that that the individuals qualify as students with disabilities. Which means they have to be between the ages of 16 and 21 and be in some type of educational program. Whether that be high school or post-secondary. But they would have to be-- and I know in some of the material that you sent Lillian, the age range is kind of varied and I think sometimes it would go over the 21 mark. So that would just be something that, you know, depending on the specifics on what y'all determine. And it could be that we fund the individuals between 16 and 21 and maybe there's another potential funding source for the individuals who are older than 21. And then I would really need to look at the curriculum of what is actually going to be covered. Because like I said, in the materials that you provided the majority of the topics appear to be covered in preemployment transition services and I would just have to verify that. If there was a portion for some reason, and I can't think of an example right now, but wouldn't be covered in those five areas that qualify under preemployment transition services, that would be an area that I would

have to say okay, we might need to look at a different area.

Also, we can fund what we call maintenance expenses in preETS. Which would be room and board and things like that. But that does, for LRS, require a financial needs test. So that would be something that I would just want everybody to be aware of. Our financial needs test is a lot more generous than it has been in the past. Now our scale goes up to 500 percent of the poverty guidelines. And if an individual receives social security disability or SSI because of their own disability they automatically qualify as meeting economic need. But I just kind of wanted to differentiate there are certain services that we can pay for that it doesn't matter what your income or your family's income is, but some services we may have to look at the family's income for. So I say all that to say when I look at this program it looks great, and it really looks like a preETS program to me. I would just have to get in the specifics. Once we get the specifics down, I can be a lot more direct on what we can fund and what we can't fund. And then needless to say, but I want to just go ahead and make sure I say it. And if we're going to fund it, those individuals would have to come through the VR program, and we would have to determine their eligibility. So we would have to get their medical documentation or if they're in school, their IEPs and things like that. I just wanted to mention that they would have to enter into the VR system for us to fund. So that was a lot of information. So I don't know if you have any questions.

LILLIAN DEJEAN: I do. If you don't mind. I would love to know-- so if there was like hypothetically a session in YLF on the services that LRS provides. Because the introduction into the VR system can be overwhelming sometimes. It's a lot of information that you have to share and disclose. If LRS had a presentation at YLF, would then all of the delegates still be required to enter into the VR system or would that intro--

MELISSA BAYHAM: If we were going to present, no. Absolutely not. I'm just speaking in terms of actually

funding those students or those young individuals to be there. But we can definitely do a presentation. I can tell you that right now.

LILLIAN DEJEAN: So we have a lot of hands raised. Let's go with questions for Ms. Bayham first before moving on. So I think Bambi is first.

BAMBI POLOTZOLA: So my question is the model that you're talking about, Melissa, seems like a per person type situation. And I'm just wondering how that would work out for like long-term planning. Whenever I think typically when you think about like just say, for instance, for like partners that the DD Council funds there's a budget for the entire thing. It's one, you know, and then they can make, do their budget in that way. I just can't wrap my head around how would you budget in what you described? The way that you described it.

MELISSA BAYHAM: I'm processing what you're saying, Bambi. But I know what you're saying. To not do it that way we would have to do a contract. Which I'm not opposed to doing, but I would still have to-- they would still have to, the students would still have to apply for services, and we would still have to track the different services. Like, for example, preETS are five different activities and we have to allocate the funds directly to those five different activities. So I'm wrapping my brain around what you're saying, but I think we could work it out some kind of way. But in order for you to have like a budget and know that that's your budget, it's very complicated. And what I mean by that is like we can budget-- like I'm just going to use whole numbers just off the top of my head, like 10,000-dollars. But then if for some reason you don't get enough participants that qualify for VR for whatever reason, I can't guarantee 10,000-dollars. Does that make sense?

BAMBI POLOTZOLA: Uh-huh.

MELISSA BAYHAM: I mean, more than likely. I mean, obviously, the individuals that you're trying to get in obviously have disabilities. But it's just hard for me to guarantee funds I guess is what I'm saying.

BAMBI POLOTZOLA: Thank you.

LILLIAN DEJEAN: Jill, I think you're next.



JILL HANO: Could we make that a criteria that delegates have to be receiving these LRS services?

MELISSA BAYHAM: That would be a decision of the council or this group. I don't know exactly how that works.

JILL HANO: Isn't it a criteria for the council to be a waiver participant? Like this question wasn't necessarily for you Melissa, just thinking. And I know you are on the committee. But I'm just thinking ahead with all this being said that when we do our criteria for our delegates, we can't say must be currently receiving LRS services.

MELISSA BAYHAM: And Jill, just to add, just to add some information to your question that I think is really for Lillian. But so that's the decision of the council or the group. But just to let everyone know, so if it is determined that multiple funding sources are going to be used, say VR is going to fund some students and for some reason another group is going to fund other students, we just have to make sure that the rates are comparable. That we're paying the same, about the same rate that they're paying for the other individuals. But, Lillian, I think that question is mainly for you.

LILLIAN DEJEAN: I think we could have a discussion about what criteria will look like and have it be flexible based on funding sources. I just think we need to be very wise about modifying the criteria that we've already put in place just because we've put a lot of thought into it and kept the integrity of the program at the forefront of our mind when developing this. And so I think when developing criteria we need to be cautious. So just for clarification purposes they would have to be in the VR system, the delegates would have to be in the VR system already or going to be in the VR system in order for LRS to provide funding?

MELISSA BAYHAM: Correct. But let me specify or explain. So if I fund this strictly under preemployment transition services, if the individuals are strictly receiving those five activities, they could be potentially eligible. Meaning they don't have to do the full VR application. They can just do a

preETS application. But if they're going to receive any supportive services such as transportation or housing, they do have to apply for the full VR program.

LILLIAN DEJEAN: Okay. Thank you. And so Bambi is your hand up from earlier or is it another? Okay. Liz, I see that you're next.

LIZ GARY: Yeah. I just wanted to respond to Jill. I'm going to say something else. But just in that aspect I'd be cautious about doing that because one of the things with partners we found is that the application required you to say are you receiving services from OCDD. And that really restricted a lot of people who just didn't choose to do it or didn't even know that that was out there for a waiver. So I'd just be real cautious that we'd be cutting off people that potentially could be excellent delegates that just are not receiving the services for the reason they just didn't know that they were out there, or the families had chosen not to do that. So I just wanted to mention that on that.

But the other thing is I think there's an option there, and maybe I'm wrong, but I think from the way Melissa's explaining this that has the potential for the funding of those who are already in the system to be able to provide funding for those through the VR preETS. But then at the same time if we look to see what other agencies are able to help, then you could potentially include it bigger and still have the funding availability for others who may not qualify for VR who may not want to go through that specific area. I would think that a lot of these probably would be preETS or potentially preETS because we're talking about high school students that are potentially in, you know, special education services. So I would think they were. But for those who weren't, I would like to be able to have an open option which could be based on other agencies coming forth with money.

LILLIAN DEJEAN: Thank you, Liz. I think you make a lot of good points. I agree with what you were saying, but you said it much more eloquently than I ever could. So, Ms. Jordan, I see your hand up is next.

MEREDITH JORDAN: Thanks, Lillian. And I wasn't sure if you were ready to move on or are you still

addressing questions to Melissa?

LILLIAN DEJEAN: Do we have any further discussion specifically for or about LRS funding? Okay. Oh, Jill. I see you have your hand raised.

JILL HANO: I didn't even realize that I got OCDD service until after I came home from my first council meeting and all my waiver paperwork said OCDD, OCDD. I was like oh, okay. Makes sense. A little funny for y'all.

LILLIAN DEJEAN: I mean, that's such a great point about how sometimes you don't even realize that you're receiving services from specific agencies. Especially because as people with disabilities we deal with so many different state agencies on a daily basis that keeping all your ducks in a row is impossible sometimes. So just for context for our guests, we came up between last meeting and this meeting, we came up with an approximate figure for what we would expect YLF would cost in the first year. And that would be approximately 50,000-dollars. That's our estimated figure. So, Ms. Jordan, would you like to go next?

MEREDITH JORDAN: Yes. I was going to say this would be a contract for LDOE purposes to help fund. And I was going back as we were talking to kind of look at some of our activities in our current grant application and how that would align. But this is perfect timing because we are starting to plan for our next fiscal year budget. So this is perfect timing. One thing that I would suggest, and this may be in the plan, Lillian, would be, you know, including something in this about for these students to like coordination of services within agencies, talking about transitions to post-secondary. I know LRS is doing a presentation that that would be included. And I think, you know, those are certainly services and aspects that would be covered through IDEA. And I know, Lillian, I may be missing some information or like what this is going to look like for Louisiana. I did see you sent out some information from Oklahoma, but like I would just be curious too I think to see like what does this mean for Louisiana. And I think that may be coming. You know, just to make sure that we're kind of in alignment where IDEA could be positioned to support. And I'm just

excited. I'm looking forward to it. I'm also curious, Lillian, I know you talked about 15 delegates, but is there a way or is this like we're thinking about starting with 15 and maybe scaling up in the future?

LILLIAN DEJEAN: That's exactly the plan, actually. And so that's both the plan for the duration of the forum and also the amount of delegates. So initially we're starting out with that three-day overnight forum and 15 delegates. But the idea is each year we may bump that up. So maybe the next year it will be 25 delegates and four days. And then the next day it may be 35 and five days. So it just kind of depends. But we're definitely starting small for a pilot year initially just to feel everything out.

MEREDITH JORDAN: Okay. And so the lead agency would be the Developmental Disabilities Council, right? And so that's who our contract would have to be with?

LILLIAN DEJEAN: Amy, are you still on?

AMY DEAVILLE: I am still on. I don't know the answer. I need to think about it.

LILLIAN DEJEAN: Okay. Liz, I see you have your hand raised.

LIZ GARY: Yeah. I know we were talking about I don't think that we set in stone who would be the lead agency or how it would work. We were more just worried about finding the funding and having the capability of being able to do that. So obviously from your prospective, Meredith, there would have to be who you would write the contract to. But I don't think we specified yet because we were still looking to see where we could get the funding, how much the funding and things like that. Cause we also know that the funding will be less in the beginning as we start out with just 15, but then as we expand and see how it worked then we'll be looking for more funding. So it's definitely something we're planning to grow on each year. But I don't think it was determined. It could be equal, I mean, equal one across the board. Then would have to find out who would actually be able to accept the funding if it was like that. So I think those are things we still need to talk about too, Lillian.

APRIL: And I have a suggestion. Hi. I'm April

with Families Helping Families and I'm Maddie's mom. We talked about caregivers' attending with the participants. So that was something we briefly touched on last time. So is the funding going to be included with the caregivers too if the kids need to have that person with them at the camp or wherever?

LILLIAN DEJEAN: So I think we're still hashing out what support services would look like at YLF. Because I know we started to have a robust discussion at our last meeting, and we ran out of time because it wasn't necessarily an agenda item. And I think that we're planning to really hash that out into specifics very soon. Which I will give a quick little interesting fun fact. In Oklahoma, who I have great contacts with, they've been running YLFs for over 15 years now. They actually don't have caregivers come with the participants. They hire nursing staff for overnight, but they try to use predominantly natural supports during the day among just the staff and the delegates. And at first it seemed kind of like a crazy idea. Like well, what are people going to do without their DSPs. But as I started talking with their ED a little bit more it just kind of made sense, you know, having the natural supports among the delegates, and the staff, and the nursing staff as needed, but not present as much so the delegates can have as independent of an experience as possible. Which is the purpose of YLF, in general, to empower young people to be independent and, you know, experience what it may be like to adult for a week. And as far as funding goes, I think part of the reason why we don't know the role of the DDC as well is because it would have to be, I believe, correct me if I'm wrong, in the annual plan. And in the annual plan for, I think, next year I think they're still taking like recommendations for that. So that process I don't think has started yet. So the goal is to hopefully have funding from DDC, but we'll have to work that out with the full council. So Jill, I see you have your hand raised.

JILL HANO: I think it was either Meredith or Liz. Something triggered my mind. But I had assumed that this would parallel with the way partners is done. Because with partners, partners has a contract with us.

And then but one of the FHF centers is-- and Amy, I might be gapping out, so if you could fill in the gaps. And then but so we have a contract with an FHF center cause they're the PIP fiscal agent, but we are like the-- it is a contract under our council. So I just always assumed that it would be the same thing. Like if the LDOE was the-- and then OCDD were our fiscal agent or two of our fiscal agents for this program then they would have the contract with us. And then we would have the contract, like we would contract with the fiscal agents, but then the program itself would be under our umbrella. But that doesn't seem right either cause the way it sounded it didn't sound right in my head. But, Liz, take over, please. Cause you know this. I do not.

LILLIAN DEJEAN: All right. Liz, you want to take a stab at it?

LIZ GARY: So, Jill, I know exactly where you're going and it's making perfect sense. What could happen is there could be a fiscal agent. Like one of the Families Helping Families could be the fiscal agent, but then could accept the funds from the LDOE, from LRS, from the DD Council and all those funds could be mixed together to produce YLF. So yes, I hear exactly where you're going. Cause that's it. The DD Council give the funds to Families Helping Families Crossroads. And Families Helping Families Crossroads had hired the coordinator to run the program. So it's the same type of thing. Yeah. That's where you were going. No. You're right. You're absolutely right.

JILL HANO: So it's still under our contract because it's our money.

LIZ GARY: Correct. But if you had different funding sources then it wouldn't be controlled by one. It would have to be the contracts would each individually control what they were looking for in that specific partnership with YLF. Does that make sense? The DD Council puts up all the money for partners. So that's where you're going with that. That's fully funded by the DD Council, so it is their contract because they put up the funding for it. And then hire Families Helping Families of Crossroads. But if you have different funding sources, then one person, one

agency doesn't control. For instance, Families Helping Families all have contracts with different agencies. So the Families Helping Families runs it, but there's deliverables under each of the contracts that they have to abide by. Does that make sense, Jill?

JILL HANO: That is what I was missing. Thank you.

LIZ GARY: You're welcome. Can I just say one thing, Lillian, to Meredith? Okay. So, Meredith, I heard what you were saying. So is this, I guess it kind of goes with what April was asking, Maddie's mom, as well as with you. I know that years and years ago they used to do the parent weekends where they'd have LDOE would give the parent weekends where you could, you know, a mom and dad could go. It wasn't for the students, but the mom and dad could go and attend the weekend. They'd put them up in a hotel and stuff like that. So I'm assuming that you still have that sort of funding to be able to do the same thing for actual students. Actually, you probably have more money to be able to do something like under IDEA for the students. Is that what you were saying? I kind of got lost for a second.

MEREDITH JORDAN: Yes. Yeah. Like I know that I have like some activities, some grant activities that this would fit under. I'm going to have to check, Liz, on the parent or like, you know, funding the families to also attend or a caregiver.

LIZ GARY: Right. And so what I will add to that is is that I know with partners because partners was federal money, so the federal money fed down into DD Council and then DD council-- if any families were on waivers or things like that we could not pay because it was already being paid by federal money. So the only way that it could be done is if somebody didn't have a waiver then state money would help-- I mean, then federal money could help provide it. But they had to use their own waiver if they had it for partners. So the families had to use their own thing. But I do like with that it kind of goes back to what Lillian said. When we did that if an individual with a disability came through partners and they had somebody with them to help them, they were not allowed to speak for them. They were not allowed to sit at the table. I would

request that they be sat at the back table with me. And allow them to have the freedom to be able to share and open. And they were only there for the necessities of caregiving if needed. So I can see why the different agencies do that. Because I do think it's a way to definitely let them have their voice and let them have the freedom to become independent.

LILLIAN DEJEAN: If there's any way that someone from the DD Council staff could send in the chat like maybe our timeline document for purposes so we can share that with our guests, so they have that information and context available for where the committee is moving forward and what decisions are going to be made soon and which decisions have already been made. But as far as what you guys need from us, so moving forward what type of specific information can we provide for you guys so we can start moving forward in planning and seeing if this could actually work? This collaboration between state agencies and a potential YLF.

JULIE FOSTER HAGAN: Lillian, I'm sorry. I'm not able to raise my hand. This is Julie. Can I just jump in real quick?

LILLIAN DEJEAN: Absolutely.

JULIE FOSTER HAGAN: I just wanted to, before we jump into the other, I guess, I don't know if there's other state agencies. From the OCDD prospective we would be very supportive of the program in any way we could. However, I'm having trouble kind of wrapping my mind around how we would be able to support from a funding prospective. You know, I think a lot of other folks are talking about contracts and I don't have available contract money for grants right now. It is something that is possible, and we could, but we would have to present it as part of our budget request as a new and expanded program and then go through legislative process to get funded for it. So if you're looking kind of for quick money, I don't know that we would be able to do that. If we did want to look at it down the road, again, that would be something we would look at. It might get complicated for us if it's kind of that braided funding. We would have to be able to kind of clearly show for OCDD, you know, for our



portion, what portion of the contract are we doing, what are the deliverables, you know, and have that contract monitored. And so I just wanted to kind of share that. If there was something that we needed to look at being able to do, you know, specific to those people who have waiver, we've kind of talked about that. So if there are delegates who are waiver participants and there's something that we might be able to do to tweak a waiver service to be able to support them while participating, we can definitely, you know, take a look at that to be able to be supportive. But in terms of the contracts, that would be a longer-term process for us to be able to figure that out. So just wanted to jump in and share that.

LILLIAN DEJEAN: Thank you for that information. And I think that's great to keep in mind as we move forward as a committee to keep in mind, like you said, long-term. Where we say, okay, we want to see this expand over the years and maybe over the years that includes involvement from OCDD. However that needs to look like. I think, Ms. Bayham, you were next. It's difficult keeping track of all the hands.

MELISSA BAYHAM: No problem. I was just going to say, Lillian, the easiest thing for me to be able to give you some more definitive information is if I can get like a copy of the budget and what, you know, what's in your budget. Like how you came up with the figures. You know, what you're anticipating costing and things like that. I think it is important for us to figure out who the, I guess we would call the fiscal agent would be. You know, is it going to be the DD Council. You know, because if it's going to be an IAT, an interagency transfer, then we have to make sure that that's budgeted correctly. So yeah, it would just be important for us just to get some of those, that type of information and then I could get some better, more definitive information for you. And just to kind of throw an idea that I thought of while Julie was speaking. Like some of the PCA or the caregiving, LRS may or may not be able to fund that, but maybe that's something like that maybe potentially OCDD could fund if the person's on a waiver. Just to kind of throw that idea out there of how we might braid the funding.

LILLIAN DEJEAN: Thank you. Bambi, I think you're next.

BAMBI POLOTZOLA: Yeah. So Julie and Melissa kind of answered my question. But the other point I wanted to make was what Julie said in regards to, you know, could use maybe waiver funds if a person had a waiver. I was also thinking about how, you know, the LGEs could always make requests for the IFS. I mean, my only hesitation is is that I don't always think we should go to state general funds as a last option if there's ways that we can access our federal funds. But yeah. That was it. I just wanted to make that point to access our federal funds before going to those funds that are straight state general funds.

LILLIAN DEJEAN: All right. We have Liz next. And then we have Mr. Charlie, one of our guests.

LIZ GARY: Yeah. I am just going to reiterate what Bambi said because that was what I was thinking is the state general funds for LGEs that they may have that option and be able to help in some situations based on those who do not have waivers yet but have a statement of approval. So I definitely think that that's an option too that they will be able to do that.

LILLIAN DEJEAN: Okay. Bambi, I see you have your hand raised.

BAMBI POLOTZOLA: I knew there was another point I wanted to make. So at the beginning of the meeting you said something about independent living centers in some states help out. And I was just thinking as we're having this conversation that there are many of our entities that do work, that get funding to do certain type of work and have certain type of outcomes that that's potential partners that we can look at that, you know, we'll be helping them to do the objective that they have funding available to do. So we should keep our eyes open for those opportunities as well. You know, our independent living center, I was thinking about if we happen to have any delegates that are Deaf, you know, connecting with the Commission for the Deaf. Those type of things. So anyway. Just wanted to make that point. Thank you.

LILLIAN DEJEAN: All right. So Mr. Charlie is next.

CHARLIE MICHEL: All right. Can you hear me now?

LILLIAN DEJEAN: Yes. Hello.

CHARLIE MICHEL: Just a couple of quick points.

One is I wanted to piggyback on what Liz had said whether it's an environment of a camp, or a meeting, or whatever. You know, there's a lot of research that supports that too much support fosters dependence rather than independence. So I think making the whole experience teachable helps. Since this is a youth leadership forum, I think it helps to further that particular goal. So keep that in mind. I hope that we'll keep that in mind as we're moving forward. Cause I think it's a great idea. Let's just maximize all the opportunities we have in the process. And the other thing as y'all are going through and discussing the funding and all the different venues, I mean, I heard y'all mention Families Helping Families as a possibility. I'm going to ask that maybe one of our directors be allowed to participate in those discussions so that we can provide feedback on how it would impact us, how we could benefit y'all. Whatever the deal is. Whether it goes through Families Helping Families or not, we're always ready to be partners for anything that's going to help the youth and the adults with disabilities in our community.

LILLIAN DEJEAN: Thank you.

CHARLIE MICHEL: Thank you.

LILLIAN DEJEAN: Well, I hope to see you at future meetings too. Okay. So I see that he's going back to attendee. So thank you, Mr. Charlie. Where were we? Okay. So it seems like from LRS it's important that, you know, the delegates are in the voc rehab system. But we need to have a copy of the budget, like what's in the budget and specifics on who the fiscal agent is going to be. And from LDOE a program overview with purposes and objectives of the program. So hey, Jill. I see that you have your hand raised.

JILL HANO: You can finish your thought. Like I don't want to interrupt you.

LILLIAN DEJEAN: No. I was actually done.

JILL HANO: Okay. And Dr. Michel, we would love you on our committee. I mean, like you always bring such great prospective. You can join your sister

agency Nicole.

LILLIAN DEJEAN: Jill has made an executive decision for the committee that Charlie is now a part of it.

JILL HANO: I did my part. I recruited someone. But that's not the question. Now after all this discussion like I'm thinking did we as a committee really sit down and specifically make a budget? Cause I'm thinking now we should, like how we called this special meeting, we should maybe before April have a specific budget meeting.

LILLIAN DEJEAN: We can. And then I know at the April meeting too we're looking at finalizing our list of topics. So that will lend to, you know, that program overview where we really can narrow down those objectives and purpose of the program. And so yeah, it may behoove us to have a specific budget meeting so we can really hash out those specifics of what the funding's going to look like. Harlin says we do have an FHF director on this committee. Yes. Ms. Nicole Flores. And we love having her.

JILL HANO: I said that. Is that not what I said?

NICOLE FLORES: Yes. You did.

JILL HANO: Okay. Cause my heart dropped, y'all. Shoot.

LILLIAN DEJEAN: Moving forward I'm going to request that Ms. Jordan, Ms. Bayham and Ms. Foster Hagan will be copied onto the future emails regarding YLF so if you would like you can tune in as we further develop this program and hash out what this is going to look like. Because we definitely are looking forward to your agency's potential involvement. So do you have any further questions for our committee that maybe we could answer for you today?

JULIE FOSTER HAGAN: Lillian, do y'all have prescheduled meetings already and have like a set timeframe that you guys meet? If I could get that ahead of time it would be helpful.

LILLIAN DEJEAN: Generally we meet quarterly in conjunction with the DDC meetings. But each meeting day and time specifically is determined by a Doodle poll based on the committee members' availability.

JULIE FOSTER HAGAN: Okay. Thanks.

LILLIAN DEJEAN: Awesome. Well, we appreciate you guys taking the time to join us. Does any of our committee members have any more thoughts about the discussions and conversations we just had? Liz.

LIZ GARY: No. I just wanted to say thank you to Meredith, Melissa and Julie being here because it's exciting. And having been aware of YLF way many years ago when I first got into advocacy, I'm excited about bringing this back and thrilled that we have state agencies who want to be a part of it too and are able to share some funds. Cause I think this could be huge and moving forward just bigger and better for the State of Louisiana. So I thank you, Meredith, and Melissa, and Julie for being here.

LILLIAN DEJEAN: Jill.

JILL HANO: You said that in the April meeting we were going to finalize the topics, but did we ever? Refresh my memory cause I don't want this to come off rude at all, but like did we ever have an initial topic discussion?

LILLIAN DEJEAN: Yes. Oh, thank you, Amy.

JILL HANO: Shut up. Sorry. Can you email this to me, Ms. Amy?

AMY DEAVILLE: Sure, Jill.

JILL HANO: You know I can't grasp it until I read a hard copy.

LILLIAN DEJEAN: Nicole, I see you have your hand raised.

JILL HANO: Thank you.

NICOLE FLORES: Yeah. We were talking about the topics and just one thing I know that there's five like core training modules or five core things we have to do within the YLF manual. So it might help too as we're looking at those that we have those five that we have to do and make sure everything we're doing is aligning with that under those topics.

LILLIAN DEJEAN: I think that's a great idea. So maybe that's where we develop that-- what was it called? That program overview. Right. So we finalize the list of topics, but we also have those objectives in there. We have those five core, you know, values or, you know, objectives from the national manual. And we just make a comprehensive document of what this is

going to look like. And so then that way we can provide it to any potential partners that we may have. So that may be, that actually segues pretty nicely into our next agenda item. Or it may not be next, but let's see. Is the potential changes for our timeline. So in April it seems like we want to kind of start developing that overview, correct? Thumbs up, thumbs down.

LIZ GARY: I'm sorry. I missed the question. What was the question again, Lillian?

LILLIAN DEJEAN: So it seems like since we definitely need a program overview for this and we already have finalized topics as our agenda item, one of our agenda items in April-- thank you, Ms. Ebony, for pulling up that timeline. It kind of seems natural to me that we would kind of just kind of start developing that program overview in conjunction with those five main items from the national manual that Nicole mentioned. I see Bambi gives a thumbs up. Liz is nodding. Okay. Another thumbs up. Maddie, thumbs up or thumbs down? Awesome. Thank you.

JILL HANO: I agree as well.

LILLIAN DEJEAN: Chainey and Dylan, you have been quiet. What do you think about that plan?

DYLAN SONNIER: I agree with that too. I'd give it a thumbs up if my camera was on. But yeah. I agree to that.

CHANEY GUIDRY: I agree.

LILLIAN DEJEAN: Thank you. And so the other thing that I wanted to discuss is two of the things that we had on our agenda for April was developing strategies for recruitment and diversity and outreach marketing advertising. I wanted to get your thoughts on deferring that to the July meeting cause we actually don't have anything for our quarterly July meeting cause we didn't get that far when we originally created the timeline. And I think those are two topics that kind of needs their own meeting. What do you guys think about that?

LIZ GARY: I think that makes sense, Lillian, because as I'm looking at what's on the topic and what we need to do before that, that that would make sense that based on, you know, the budget, the program overview and discussing all that is really important

before we can move forward. So once we get that done, then I think doing the outreach and the marketing and making sure that we develop the strategies for improving diversity is definitely-- we can't do it before we have the other plans in place. So I definitely think that's a good idea.

APRIL: I had a question. I know that we talked about incoming 10th and 11th graders. I can't remember the lady who said that that some of it starts at 16. Have we decided, have you guys decided if it was going to be 15 or 16?

LILLIAN DEJEAN: Real quick. I see that Ms. Jordan put in the chat that she's heading out. Thank you, Ms. Jordan, for joining us. We appreciate it.

MEREDITH JORDAN: Thank you. Thank you. And I can probably hop back on in a bit, but I need to hop to one more meeting. Thank you so much, Lillian.

LILLIAN DEJEAN: Okay. Good luck with your meeting. So we were talking about the ages. So I think the idea was that we were going to do 10th, 11th, 12th graders with appropriate flexibility. So that okay, maybe there's a 12th grader who may be a little bit older than your other 12th graders. You decide that on a case-by-case basis.

APRIL: The lady with LRS she mentioned everything about 16 on up. And I know that you guys have been talking about 15. Sorry, y'all. The weather's bad here.

LILLIAN DEJEAN: No worries. So yeah, maybe that's a thing that we start to narrow down when we have those further budget discussions. If LRS needs, we can adjust as needed.

APRIL: Or just only at 16 and up.

LILLIAN DEJEAN: Nicole, I see you have your hand raised.

NICOLE FLORES: One thing we might want to check too is just double check with the national YLF. It just says any student with a disability as, you know, per the ADA that has, you know, shown leadership potential. Do other, like other agencies like LRS, they fund in other states? Like I'm trying to think like because it doesn't say someone who is on a waiver. Or it's open to, you know, youth with all disabilities

that show leadership. So you're going to have lot of different people applying who wouldn't necessarily have a developmental disability.

LILLIAN DEJEAN: Right. And I think if I'm not mistaken, I think there's that option where that funding can be, I think the term Ms. Bayham used was braided, where maybe LRS funds the individuals who do, you know, receive VR services, but another agency steps in and funds a different piece of it. But I think-- thank you for keeping that in mind about the national requirements because throughout all this, you know, with the whole funding discussions and the restrictions that conversation can get, you know, kind of hairy. Especially when discussing those national requirements and just kind of maintaining that integrity of the program. So Jill, I see that you have your hand raised.

JILL HANO: So the YLF, the participant criteria, cause I get it confused, is just a disability under the ADA, not necessarily a developmental disability, correct?

LILLIAN DEJEAN: Yeah. I mean, I would hate to say anything that's incorrect, but I think you're right. I think ADA is a little bit more flexible than just DD. All right. So we've moved the discussion about outreach and marketing and recruitment and diversity to July of 2022. We have a main topic in April of finalizing topics and development of program overview. Do we need to solicit volunteers for the quorum in April? That seems a little bit early to me. I don't know how you guys...

LIZ GARY: That to me is kind of early if we're still trying to figure out. Yeah. I think that needs to be pushed back.

LILLIAN DEJEAN: Sorry, you guys.

JILL HANO: Scroll up so I can see what we're doing in July, please. Thank you. Sorry.

AMY DEAVILLE: So when do you want to move solicit volunteers to? The July meeting or the October?

LILLIAN DEJEAN: What do you guys think?

NICOLE FLORES: I think at least July. When you're looking at marketing and everything and doing your outreach and starting to solicit volunteers when you're



starting to talk about it at the same time, you're trying to get interest from potential delegates.

LILLIAN DEJEAN: Jill, is your hand raised from earlier or is it new comment?

JILL HANO: From earlier.

LILLIAN DEJEAN: Okay. Maddie, I see you have your hand raised.

MADDIE: I would move it to October probably.

LILLIAN DEJEAN: Yeah. I mean, that makes sense because it's like we develop the strategies for that outreach and recruitment in July, but actually put them into action by October. Does that sound reasonable to you guys? Awesome. I like the thumbs up method. It works a little bit better than others. Mr. Harlin, you've been quiet. What do you think about all this?

HARLIN COWSER: Well, I'm very excited about it. I really would like to get a little more information about it as far as actually being able to look through the manuals and things like that a little bit. Being new to the committee I haven't really had a chance to dig into it like that. But having graduated from Partners in Policymaking with the last committee meeting discussion talking about how this could potentially serve as a gateway to that, it's also had me thinking of a lot of other ideas about how this might potentially be able to coordinate with special ed and help develop candidates from this program through these methods as well. And I'm really excited about it. I think it could really offer some great opportunities for both personal community and legislative advocacy across the board. It sounds great.

LILLIAN DEJEAN: Thank you. I see that Mr. Charlie in the chat says moving solicitation of volunteers is a good idea in my opinion. It will be easier to get volunteers once you have a firm date and location for the event so they can all make appropriate plans professionally and with their families. That's a good point. Because in October we also are setting the exact date and location which may be the most exciting part of the YLF committee. Maddie, is your hand raised from earlier or is it a new comment?

MADDIE: A new comment.

LILLIAN DEJEAN: Okay.

MADDIE: I think y'all would have like more time to play around with it and all.

LILLIAN DEJEAN: With the timeline?

MADDIE: More time to approach people with more information in October for volunteers.

LILLIAN DEJEAN: I think you're right. Like we'll have a lot more information about the specifics of that program, right. So we'll be able to go and kind of share the good news a little bit more specifically than we could right now. And so we've deferred some things. The last thing that we had on our agenda to discuss other than kind of newish business is possibly inviting UL, the university in Lafayette, to attend one of our meetings as a possible host location for our YLF. Because UL is centrally located in the state. It already has a robust disability post-secondary program. And we already had start looking at colleges as to-do in April. So I wanted to get you guys' input on that.

LIZ GARY: I think that sounds great. If we're going to do it on a campus, I think that's a good one. They've been very forward with their UL program. I think it's UL Life. Is that what it's called? Yeah. I mean, I read about it. I know there's a little girl that used to live across the street from us who is one of the mentors and she absolutely loves the program and the kids there. And the fact that they have really, I mean they've done it right. UL seems to have done it right and I think that would be a fantastic place considering they're already familiar with it, understand it. Yeah. I think that's a great suggestion.

HARLIN COWSER: I agree.

LILLIAN DEJEAN: Then we can start setting that in motion. So I guess the question now is I know the to-do was for the April meeting. We'll probably have a robust meeting in April just because the finalization of topics and development of program overview will just be a, you know, beefy topic in general. And I know there was some talk about having a meeting in between this meeting and the April meeting. So likely in March for budget. So is that something that we want to do?

HARLIN COWSER: I think it would be a good idea.

LILLIAN DEJEAN: Okay.

LIZ GARY: What was the question again, Lillian? I'm sorry. I got lost. I heard budget. I'm sorry.

LILLIAN DEJEAN: No worries. I know that earlier there was discussion about having another meeting in between this meeting and the April meeting specifically to hash out a budget. Like what this is going to look like. Because I know we have that approximate budget of 50,000-dollars. But, you know, as LRS and the other state agencies requested, we would want kind of a more specific budget. So what do you guys think about the idea that was brought up about possibly meeting again in March-ish to discuss that?

LIZ GARY: Was the budget, the 50,000-dollar budget, was that just a guesstimate from what other, Oklahoma and other people used, or did we actually crunch numbers? And I know I missed the first meeting so I can't...

LILLIAN DEJEAN: So it was a bit of a hustle because that was requested from one of our state agencies before this meeting. So me and Amy kind of crunched some numbers and we came up with that approximate figure based on the budget that the national YLF organization has provided. And some specifics to Louisiana. And the specifics that we've already decided like three days, 15 delegates, et cetera. so Jill, I see you have your hand raised.

JILL HANO: About budget information you've been looking at. Are you getting from the national, not from Oklahoma? And what you're using the Oklahoma budget as your like guideline?

LILLIAN DEJEAN: So there was a mock budget in the national YLF manual.

AMY DEAVILLE: It was a California budget. It wasn't an Oklahoma budget.

JILL HANO: Yeah. Okay.

LILLIAN DEJEAN: So full disclosure, if we have a budget meeting, I don't know anything about budgets. So I'll need some help from committee. So I'm putting that out there, so we don't have a meeting and you guys expect me to like know all this stuff about the budget. So Bambi, I see that you have your hand raised.

BAMBI POLOTZOLA: Well, that was kind of my

question like do we need to meet as a committee or can we just delegate that to, you know, staff? Like they've heard what we needed and kind of put that together and then we can ask questions about it. I don't know if we all need to go all through all the budget items. That's just my thoughts.

JILL HANO: Good point.

LILLIAN DEJEAN: Can we get some input on DD Council staff from that real quick?

AMY DEAVILLE: Sorry. I was muted. When Lillian and I created that around 50,000 guesstimate budget we were working really quickly, and I don't know that I put it in a spreadsheet or anything. So I do know I can't pull anything up right now to tell you exactly where I got it. So I would have to go back and redo my work to get the numbers that added up to 50,000. So, I mean, I can do that and send it out to the committee. And you're welcome to take a look at it. It was very rough and very much it was based off of that budget from California. Which Lillian estimated to probably be about ten years old. So there was a lot of rounding up in numbers to try to approximate where we would be now in current rates. So yeah, I mean, I can piece that back together and send it out if that's what you'd prefer?

LILLIAN DEJEAN: Liz, I see you have your hand raised. Real quick, I'm going to say something. And I'm sorry to make you wait a little bit longer.

LIZ GARY: That's fine.

LILLIAN DEJEAN: What I can do is also reach out to the national YLF organization and see if they have access to any of the YLFs' budget. And I'll reach out to Oklahoma so we can get more of a current estimate of how, what the budgets looked like for YLFs in let's say 2022. Or like 2019 before Corona hit. So I can provide that to DD Council staff so we can have kind of a better rough estimate. But like Amy said, she had to work some magic very quickly. So big kudos to her for working that magic so quickly. So Liz.

LIZ GARY: Yeah. I was just going to say I'm happy to help in any way. Cause I did, although I was given a budget for partners, I had to stay within a budget. So I'm very familiar with what the spending was, where

we had to stay. We also need to keep in mind state rates. Obviously, you may not need hotel rates, but you don't need the food rates and things like that unless you can oversee it as a convention. Or not a convention, but like a seminar you might be able to do it. But those are all things. But I'm happy to help in any way. I do budgets for a living too. I know y'all think I just advocate. But I actually have two jobs running some companies, doing the finance part of it. So I'm happy to help in anyway with that.

LILLIAN DEJEAN: I am so glad we have someone who knows budgets. I'm so relieved. So thank you, Liz. We appreciate having you. So we've established that we may not want to have a budget meeting per say. But I'll reach out to national organization and see if they can provide some, you know, specific budgets from specific states to give us a little bit more guidance on that. And I guess work with DD Council staff to produce something more specific to Louisiana. I'm assuming that will be presented at April meeting. And we will also invite UL to April meeting. I think Maddie had her hand raised before Jill.

MADDIE: You know who loves budgeting and all? Mr. Charlie Michel.

LILLIAN DEJEAN: Is he still on here?

MADDIE: Yes.

NICOLE FLORES: April, I have to send Maddie something in the mail just to thank you for that.

MADDIE: Sounds awesome.

APRIL: Yeah. Nicole and I work together. She works at FHF in Acadian. But she looked at Liz when Liz said it and she looked at me and she's like I know who else is good at budgeting. And I said who and I said well, there you go. Go for it.

LILLIAN DEJEAN: Well, I see that Mr. Charlie has his hand raised. So can we permit him to talk, please?

APRIL: Of course. Absolutely.

CHARLIE MICHEL: Nicole, I'm going to save you the trouble. I'm going to send something home with her mother before you can ever get it in the mail.

SPEAKER: You're welcome.

LILLIAN DEJEAN: I'm glad that you attend the meetings, Mr. Charlie. And, obviously, Jill has made

an executive decision that you're now a member of the committee. So welcome.

JILL HANO: It was just a suggestion like if you're interested. But I did have a question for what I was thinking about. Since we are in this never-ending public emergency, public health emergency and 2023 is not that far away, should we talk about maybe like or just keep in the back of our mind like okay, if we can't deal with this, should we basically have a plan B?

LILLIAN DEJEAN: I think you bring up a good point, Jill. I don't-- I think you bring up a good point. What do the other people on the committee think about that?

NICOLE FLORES: I think it's something we'll always have to keep in the back of our mind just in case for really anything we do. And then but as we go forward, you know, planning it how it's, you know, how the program, you know, should be, you know, how it's envisioned at the national level as what it was made to be. But then like how Jill said it's important just to keep that in mind, you know.

LILLIAN DEJEAN: Yeah. So we can just kind of keep it at the forefront or in the back of our minds for now and just keep monitoring things. So I think we did a lot today. I'm going to congratulate the committee on some good work. The last thing and final thing, it will be very quick, is Oklahoma is having their YLF in-person this summer. And I have gotten permission to share the staff application form with you guys. So if you guys want to be staff at an actual YLF you can apply. And since she'll know that you're from Louisiana I've asked her, I was like if a couple of us come down, can we be staff. And so their ED over there has said yes and given me permission to share this with you guys. So what I'll do is I'll send this link to Ebony. And also the manual and handbook to be sent out to the entire committee so our newer members can have that information as well. Yeah, I think that's all I have for you. But yeah, that was my bit of super exciting news for you guys. Is there any comments, questions, concerns, et cetera? Things that we didn't discuss or miss?

APRIL: Lillian, is the YLF in Oklahoma, can you watch it virtually or is it in-person?

LILLIAN DEJEAN: It's in-person. Cool. So it seems like you guys are all just kind of staring at me at this point. I know it was kind of a longish meeting cause we got into the nitty-gritty of a lot of things and it was a different meeting than we've normally had. But I think our April meeting will be really fun as we finalize the topics and figure out objectives. And figure out like the real meat of YLF and figure out what YLF is going to look like instead of the more boring budget stuff. So I'm excited and I wanted to thank you guys for coming and for all of your hard work.

LIZ GARY: Thank you, Lillian.

SPEAKER: Appreciate it.

LILLIAN DEJEAN: All right. Well, I will see you guys--

MADDIE: Thank you.

DYLAN SONNIER: Yeah. Thank you, Lillian. I really enjoyed it.

LILLIAN DEJEAN: I'm glad.

NICOLE FLORES: Stay warm, y'all.

LILLIAN DEJEAN: You too. Bye.