



IDDEAS Advisory Council Meeting Minutes Summary

Date: 02/27/2024

Time: 1:00-3:00 PM

Summary:

- Meeting began at 1:07 pm. Meeting minutes from January, 2024 were approved and introductions were made for council members.
- Council members gave updates: Michelle provided updates from the Community Advisory Council. In the January meeting there was a public comment made regarding applications for services, and information was discussed and shared surrounding available options for this specific question. Stefanie also shared an update about Move Through Yoga. They have received a grant through HRCP and Stefanie has asked to connect and meet with program managers and other providers to provide training services for those supporting people with IDD.
- The need to sign and turn in declarations of interest were covered and comments were given about possible conflicts of interest. Council members are invited to ask if they are ever unsure if a conflict of interest might happen.
- Scheduling for 2024 was discussed. March meeting was decided to happen on the final Tuesday of the month, while council members stated that the final Tuesdays from 1:00 until 3:00 work for them generally but so do the first Thursday mornings of the month after 10:00 am. As some council members were not in attendance, this schedule will be determined once they have been consulted and informed.
- The definition of diversity for the council was openly discussed. Council members stated their opinions on what diversity meant for the IAC and how to best promote this.
- A member of the public did give comment.

Discussion topics for next meeting: Next meeting will occur on March 26th, 2024. The rest of the year is expected to be planned and scheduled out according to availability.



IDDEAS Advisory Council Meeting Minutes

02/27/2024 1:00 pm – 3:00 pm

Council Members:

Lindsay Westmiller
Brian Be
Stefanie Gross
Beth Bevilacqua
Michelle Dumay
Chris Patton

Guests:

5 guests

Absent:

Kaley Day
Brienne Wode
Kizzly Blue

DHS Staff:

Michaela Hennig
Corey Boyle
Jordan Mulholland
Lynn Kutner
Jordan Humphreys

I. Call to Order

Meeting began at 1:07 pm.

II. Approval of minutes from last meeting

Minutes from 1/16/2024 were reviewed and approved with council vote. 4 out of 5 attending members approved, 1 abstained.

III. Introductions of DHS staff and advisory council members

- Introductions of the attending council members were made.

IV. Council and Partner Updates

- Community Advisory Council – Michelle provided updates from the Community Advisory Council. In the January meeting there was a public comment made regarding applications for services, and information was discussed and shared surrounding available options for this specific question.

- Stefanie also shared an update about Move Through Yoga. They have received a grant through HRCP and Stefanie has asked to connect and meet with program managers and other providers to provide training services for those supporting people with IDD. This training is specifically intended to provide inclusive, adaptive yoga to people with IDD, and Stefanie requests connections to help this come to fruition.

V. Declarations of Interest

- Declarations of interest were reviewed. Each council member is expected to sign the declarations of interest form each year, and upon that form declare any and all potential financial, professional, and other relationships that may cause a conflict of interest. Forms are turned in to and stored by Corey. It is requested that the forms be handed in as soon as able.
- Council members are invited to reach out if they have any questions about conflicts of interest. It is better to be safe than sorry, and to be proactive in declaring possible conflicts of interest.

VI. 2024 Scheduling

- Council members discussed availability and the schedule for the rest of the year. Initially, council members stated that continuing with the final Tuesdays of the month from 1:00 to 3:00 worked.
- Some council members mentioned a preference for Thursday mornings. The first Thursday of the month could work, after 10:00, though some members expressed that this may be difficult to switch to at first.
- It was decided that March 26th would be the next meeting and that the council members who are not in attendance would be consulted with first prior to setting any future dates. Corey will reach out and discuss with absent council members to ensure that meetings are scheduled for the rest of the year.

VII. 5 minute break

VIII. What is Diversity?

- Corey Boyle invited the council to openly discuss their definitions of diversity. During this conversation, council members touched on different views and points regarding diversity and how to promote it within the council while Corey took notes visible to all.
- Council members noted that diversity is not solely race, but also can be education level, profession, professional credentials, and occupation. Representation should be promoted for people who not only identify as on the autism spectrum disorder but also

other disabilities, such as down syndrome or mobility-related disabilities. Additionally, diversity should include the engagement and level of interest of council members, such as having those who are willing to go out and connect in person.

- Currently, the qualifications for the council are intimidatingly specific. The definition of a council member, on paper, seems to be narrow and may put potential applicants off. End users should be engaged and supported to remain meaningful participants of the council and meetings.
- Discussion was further held regarding what to do to promote diversity and engage the community. These include clarifying the definition of a council member and who may qualify; defining and promoting supports that council members and members of the public can make use of to attend and participate within meetings; form a membership or diversity committee to promote these types of efforts and inform recruitment; and taking our council out of the virtual meeting rooms and into the public itself, at in person locations and venues.

IX. Public Comment

- One member of the public gave comment. This guest spoke upon tenant-landlord issues and is looking to gather resources across the state for individuals with I/DD. Such resources should be related to housing and accessing different services. She also brought information about a new bill for Medicaid coverage, housing and nutrition services: HB 2413 22. She invited people to reach out if people are interested in this bill personally, and that there is a contact organizer looking for testimonials and support for such a bill. Contacts are listed in a shared google form; contact Corey for follow up and connection for this guest if interested.
- No further public comment was made after this. Discussion returned to the conversation about diversity, noted in the above section.

X. For next meeting:

- The next meeting is scheduled for **March 26th, 2024 from 1:00-3:00. The meeting link will be posted on the website and sent to stakeholders and council members.**

XI. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 2:59 pm.

IDDEAS Advisory Council sessions are recorded; recordings are usually available upon request. Please contact DHS's IDDEAS program with any clarifying questions related to these minutes.