

## PROJECT DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE MEETING August 4, 2022 — MINUTES

### **Committee Members**

#### **Present**

Gladys Cortez, Committee  
Chair  
Maverick Crawford, III  
Andrew Crim  
Mary Durham, Council Chair  
Ivy Goldstein, DSHS  
Juan Carlos Lopez  
Scott McAvoy  
Amanda Miles  
Holly Riley, HHSC  
Robert Schier III  
Meridith Silcox  
Jamie Thomas

### **Committee Members**

#### **Absent**

Sara Kendall, TWC  
Justin Porter, TEA

#### **Guests Present**

Consuelo Castillo  
Tashuna Drake  
Sarah Gernsbacher  
Shannon Paige  
Anita Swanson  
Judy Zavalla

#### **Regional Coordinators**

##### **Present**

Morgan Bradley

Erin Fogarty  
Rosa Guel  
Canen Melton  
Skyler Mueller

#### **Staff Members Present**

Beth Stalvey, Executive  
Director  
Sabrina Gonzalez  
Linda Logan  
Evan Marczynski  
Sylvia Medina  
Richard Rendon  
Fernando Rodriguez  
Melanie Teague  
Rey Valldejuli  
Koren Vogel

### **Call To Order**

The Project Development Committee of the Texas Council for Developmental convened on Thursday, August 4, 2022, at the Embassy Suites Austin Central, 5901 North IH 35, Austin, TX 78723 as well as virtually using the Zoom platform. Committee Chair Gladys Cortez called the meeting to order at 1:47 p.m. A quorum was present.

#### **1. Introductions**

Committee members, staff and guests were introduced.

#### **2. Public Comments**

No public comments were offered to the Committee.

#### **3. Consideration of Minutes**

The minutes were reviewed, and no corrections or additions were noted.

**MOTION:** To approve the minutes of the May 5, 2022, Project Development Committee meeting as presented.

**MADE BY:** Andrew Crim

**SECOND:** Juan Carlos Lopez

The motion **passed** without opposition. Jamie Thomas abstained from voting. (August 2022 Meeting Materials, Tab 9)

**4. Chair's Remarks**

Chair Cortez reported the expected absences of Justin Porter from Texas Education Agency as well as representatives from Texas Workforce Commission noting the recent resignation of Jennifer Hines.

Cortez reviewed the TCDD financial reports which highlights funds available for grants by showing funds that are assigned, pending, or have not been assigned. Members did not have further questions.

**5. Members Quarterly Activities Report**

Committee members shared their updates on their disability-related activities during the previous quarter.

**6. Staff Reports**

Executive Director Beth Stalvey discussed the Grants Monitoring Report noting that two new projects started during the quarter, two projects ended during the quarter, and eight projects are in the final year of funding. Two projects will be considered for continuation funding at the November meeting.

Stalvey reviewed the Risk Assessment report which groups the grantees by risk level and lists the risk factors to determine each grantee's level. There are currently no projects considered to be in the high-risk category.

Stalvey also reviewed two new documents provided for members that highlight grant activity. The TCDD State Plan and Current Grants Summary provides an infographic representation of current activities and grant projects. Activities are grouped as "supporting people" and "improving systems". A second document provides a focus on a specific project or group of projects each quarter. The Family to Family Network's "Planning Ahead for Family Support and Financial Security" receiving the spotlight this quarter. Members expressed their appreciation for the format of these documents and agreed they should be provided each quarter

**7. Presentation: Smart Home Technology**

Anita Swanson and Shannon Paige of the Texas Technology Access Program (TTAP) at the Texas Center for Disability Studies provided a presentation "Increasing Independence with Assistive Technology". They discussed services offered by TTAP which include technology demonstrations, short-term device loans, the DoubleClick re-use of device program, and dissemination of information and resources including financial resources.

Members discussed the potential for projects centered around assistive technology and emphasized the importance of having individuals with disabilities in the development of devices and applications.

**8. Future Activities for State Plan Implementation**

Committee Chair Cortez introduced two executive summaries for new state plan projects for Committee discussion.

Members first discussed the executive summary for Coping with Grief and Loss. This project would develop and distribute educational and support resources that provide DD-specific information on coping with grief and loss to at least 50 individuals per year. The grantee may develop new or modify existing curricula and deliver these educational strategies in-person, virtually, on-demand or a combination.

**MOTION:** To recommend Council approve funding of up to \$125,000 per year, for up to five years, for one Coping with Grief and Loss project.

**MADE BY:** Robert Schier III

**SECOND:** Amanda Miles

The motion **passed** unanimously.

The Committee next discussed the executive summary for Adults with IDD Supporting Aging Family Members. This project would develop educational resources to support at least 50 people with IDD to fully participate in the care of parents and family caregivers who are aging. The grantee may develop new or modify existing curricula and deliver these educational strategies in-person, virtually, on-demand or a combination.

**MOTION:** To recommend Council approve funding of up to \$125,000 per year, for up to five years, for one Adults with IDD Supporting Aging Family Members project.

**MADE BY:** Robert Schier III

**SECOND:** Jamie Thomas

The motion **passed** unanimously.

Members re-visited the prior discussion on transition services, post-secondary education options, and employment. They discussed previous TCDD initiatives in these areas and agreed this should be a continued focus of TCDD activities.

## 9. **Future Project Funding Priorities**

The Committee next evaluated the Future Funding Priorities List. Members reviewed the list as provided by staff that removed projects that have been initiated and added newly recommended projects. Members discussed previously approved projects related to the COVID-19 pandemic and agreed that the time for those projects has passed and they should be removed from the list.

**MOTION:** Recommend Council approve the Future Funding Priorities List as follows:

- 1) Culturally Competent Family Supports
- 2) Prevention and Response to Sexual Offenses – Medical and Therapeutic Professionals
- 3) Prevention and Response to Sexual Offenses – Criminal Justice Response to Cases Involving People with I/DD
- 4) Coping with Grief and Loss
- 5) Adults with IDD Supporting Aging Family Members

**MADE BY:** Andrew Crim

**SECOND:** Jamie Thomas

The motion **passed** unanimously.

9. **Future Agenda Items**

Members recommended the previously used “Idea Discussion Guide” would be helpful to reference when discussing future projects.

10. **Other Discussion Items**

The next Committee meeting will be held in conjunction with the next Council and Committee meetings scheduled for November 2-4, 2022.

**Adjourn**

Chair Cortez adjourned the meeting at 4:53 p.m.

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Beth Stalvey, Secretary to the Council    Date