

PROJECT DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE MEETING February 9, 2023

Committee Members

Present

Gladys Cortez, Committee Chair
Elizabeth Danner, TEA
Ivy Goldstein, DSHS
Juan Carlos Lopez
Scott McAvoy
Amanda Miles
Robert Schier III
Jonas Schwartz, TWC
Meridith Silcox
Jamie Thomas
Kim Torres, Council Vice-Chair

Committee Members

Absent

Maverick Crawford, III
Andrew Crim
Holly Riley, HHSC

Guests Present

Sarah Gernsbacher
Lauryn McNeil
Jesusa Palacios

Regional Coordinators

Present

Morgan Foster
Canen Melton
Rosa Guel

Staff Members Present

Beth Stalvey, Executive Director
Genessee Klemm
Sabrina Gonzalez
Crystal Goodwin
Evan Marczynski
Sylvia Medina
Richard Rendon
Melanie Teague
Brianna TenBrink
Rey Valldejuli
Koren Vogel

Call To Order

The Project Development Committee of the Texas Council for Developmental convened on Thursday, February 9, 2023, at the DoubleTree Suites by Hilton - Austin, 303 West 15th Street, Austin, TX 79701 as well as virtually using the Zoom platform. Committee Chair Gladys Cortez called the meeting to order at 9:14 a.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 November 3, 2022, Project Development Committee meeting as presented.

MADE BY: Robert Schier III

SECOND: Jamie Thomas

The motion **passed** unanimously. (February 2023 Meeting Materials, Tab 9)

4. **Chair's Remarks**

- A. Member Absences: Chair Cortez reported the expected absences of Maverick Crawford Andy Crim, and Holly Riley, Health and Human Services – Older Americans Act programs. She also noted that Elizabeth Danner from TEA is attending in a non-voting capacity.
- B. Chair's Quarterly Activities: Cortez reported her recent work related to mental health services and supports.

Cortez reviewed the TCDD financial reports which highlight funds available for grants based on 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**

Finance and Grants Director Valldejuli discussed the Grants Monitoring Report noting that five new projects started during the quarter, no projects ended during the quarter, and 12 projects are in the final year of funding. Nine projects will be considered for continuation funding at the May meeting. It was reported that Chair Durham approved a budget increase of \$1,648 to the University of North Texas Health Science Center for the Treatment of Substance Use Disorders project and that the Arc of Texas will not continue with the final year of the Advanced Leadership Training for Professionals project due to lack of staff.

Valldejuli 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.

Valldejuli reviewed the TCDD State Plan and Current Grantees Summary documents.

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

Committee Chair Cortez presented an executive summary for a TCDD Storytelling project. This project would collect, summarize, and distribute stories and personal experiences across the multiple areas of a person's life. It would seek professional writers and photographers to connect with people with DD about their experiences related to the TCDD Public Policy Priorities and other topics in the TCDD State Plan. The project would also provide assistance to TCDD sub-grantees on collecting and summarizing both individual and systems change stories within their projects. Funding is proposed for one project at \$300,000 per year for up to five years.

MOTION: To recommend Council approval of funding of up to \$300,000 per year, for up to five years, for up to one TCDD Storytelling project.

MADE BY: Scott McAvoy

SECOND: Robert Schier, III

The motion **passed** unanimously.

Cortez next presented an executive summary for a Medical Self-Advocacy project. This project would develop education and skill-building training to empower patients with DD to better advocate for their health care needs. Funding is proposed for one project at \$125,000 per year, for up to five years.

MOTION: To recommend Council approval of funding of up to \$125,000 per year, for up to five years, for up to one Medical Self-Advocacy project.

MADE BY: Ivy Goldstein

SECOND: Robert Schier, III

The motion **passed** unanimously.

Members had additional discussion on the potential for TCDD initiatives on case management/information and referral services, futures planning geared toward individuals with IDD as well as grandparent guardians, recreation and learning, financial literacy partnerships, and expansion of peer support.

8. **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.

MOTION: Recommend Council approval of 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) TCDD Storytelling Project
- 5) Medical Self-Advocacy

MADE BY: Scott McAvoy

SECOND: Jamie Thomas

The motion **passed** unanimously.

9. **Future Agenda Items**

Members requested future discussion topics to include a presentation on the previous futures planning project from Family to Family Network.

10. **Legislative Visit Preparation**

TCDD Policy Analyst Sabrina Gonzalez provided logistical details for members advocacy visits at the Texas State Capitol.

11. **Other Discussion Items**

The next Committee meeting will be held in conjunction with the next Council and Committee meetings scheduled for May 3-5, 2023.

Adjourn

Chair Cortez adjourned the meeting at 12:02 p.m.

Beth Stalvey, Secretary to the Council Date