

## **Council Members Present**

Mary Durheim,  
*Council Chair*  
Ronnie Browning  
Debbie Carlisle  
Bill Coorsh  
Gladys Cortez  
Kyle Cox  
Maverick Crawford  
Andrew Crim  
Juan Carlos Lopez  
Amanda Miles  
Scott McAvoy  
Angie Panzica  
Michael Peace  
Robert Schier III  
Eric Shahid  
Lora Taylor  
Kim Torres  
Meagan Orsag, *A&M CDD*  
Ivy Goldstein, *DSHS*  
Justin Porter, *TEA*

## **Council Members Absent**

Sean Jackson  
Kathrine Layman,  
*HHSC Title XIX/Medicaid*  
Sandra Magana, *TCDS*  
Holly Riley,  
*HHSC/Older Americans Act of 1965*  
Jonas Schwartz, *TWC*  
Meridith Silcox  
Jamie Thomas

## **Guests Present**

Christine Reyes  
Jennifer Nguyen  
Jonathan Jardine  
Kathleen Chavez  
Linda Litzinger  
Lauryn McNeil  
David Fray  
Mashid Mahajeri  
Jewell Coleman  
Beatrice Destee  
John Berens  
Allison Hall  
Lea Meischein  
Floyd Browning  
Mario Contreras  
Amy Litzinger

## **Regional Coordinators Present**

Morgan Foster  
Rosa Guel  
Alexandra Venegas  
Erin Fogarty  
Canen Melton

## **Staff Present**

Beth Stalvey,  
Executive Director  
Kai Brewer  
Lauren Gerken  
Sabrina Gonzalez Saucedo  
Crystal Goodwin  
Mitchel Griffin  
Genessee Klemm  
Le Lien  
Linda Logan  
Evan Marczyński  
Sylvia Medina  
Richard Rendon  
Mary Rochford  
Cass Schnautz  
Melanie Teague  
Brianna TenBrink  
Rey Valldejuli  
Koren Vogel

# Committee of the Whole Cont.

Meeting Minutes  
November 2, 2023

## Call to Order

The Committee of the Whole of the Texas Council for Developmental Disabilities convened on Thursday, November 2, 2023, at the Hilton Houston Post Oak, 2001 Post Oak Blvd., Houston, Texas 77056, as well as virtually using the Zoom platform. Council Chair Mary Durham called the meeting to order at 9:09 a.m. A quorum was present.

## 1. Introductions

Council members, staff and guests introduced themselves.

## 2. Public Comments

Linda Litzinger from Texas Parent to Parent provided comments on the end of continuous Medicaid enrollment in Texas. One written comment was distributed to members of the Committee from Christine Stone, a parent advocate in the Fort Worth area regarding physical accessibility at public schools.

## 3. Issue Spotlight: Oral Health and IDD

Executive Director Beth Stalvey discussed the existing healthcare disparity for individuals with developmental disabilities, particularly in accessing dental care. Stalvey noted that the Committee of the Whole's focus for the day would be on the challenges faced by people with IDD in accessing dental services and to share perspectives and experiences.

### A. University of Texas Health Science Center at Houston

David Fray discussed the goals of this project which includes connecting families to care and training healthcare teams for collaboration over a five-year period. Self-Advocate Beatrice Destee shared her personal journey to oral health, highlighting past challenges, the impact of autism, and positive experiences at the UT dental school. Fray discussed their collaboration with branchly.com and Dr. Allison Hall explained how the directory connects clinicians with individuals in a dental network. Fray also discussed collaboration with the American Academy of Developmental Medicine and Dentistry in enhancing education for dentists, nurses, and physicians.

### B. Baylor College of Medicine

# Committee of the Whole Cont.

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John Berens emphasized the need for a shift away from invasive interventions such as IV sedation and anesthesia. He discusses a pilot program that demonstrates how a significant number of people can successfully undergo dental procedures with minimal behavioral support. Berens calls for changes in reimbursement models, better access to behavioral therapy services, and increased collaboration between primary care and dentistry. He also suggested extending similar approaches to address other invasive medical procedures.

## C. City of Laredo Health Department

Christine Reyes addressed the limited access to oral health services, particularly for its predominantly Hispanic population. Reyes highlighted solutions including enhancing health literacy, establishing a special care dental center for individuals with disabilities, and recognizing the importance of inclusivity in healthcare. Reyes discussed the "All Kinds of Minds" master plan, which aims to facilitate the transition from childhood to adulthood, provide comprehensive healthcare, and foster community inclusion.

## 4. State Plan Strategies for Oral Health

The Committee discussed state plan strategies for oral health.

## Adjourn

Council Chair Durham adjourned the Committee of the Whole at 11:58 a.m.

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Beth Stalvey, *Secretary to the Council*    Date