

## **Committee**

### **Members Present**

Mary Durham, *Council Chair*

Eric Shahid

Angie Panzica

Meridith Silcox

Jamie Thomas

### **Council Members Present**

Gladys Cortez

Andrew Crim

### **Guests Present**

Vahid Behzadi

Brynn Biggs

Cynthia Burrow

Beatrice Degree

Roni Jo Frazier

Christina Gushanas

Christopher Jenkins

Linda Litzinger

Christine Reyes

Tami Shetron

Samantha Spencer

Deborah Wallace

### **Regional Coordinators Present**

Rosa Guel

Erin Fogarty

Morgan Foster

Canen Melton

Alexandra Venegas

### **Staff Present**

Beth Stalvey, *Executive Director*

Kai Brewer

Scott Daigle

Crystal Goodwin

Mitchel Griffin

Lauren Gerken

Genessee Klemm

Linda Logan

Evan Marczynski

Richard Rendon

Cass Schnautz

Melanie Teague

Brianna TenBrink

Rey Valldejuli

Koren Vogel

## **Call to Order**

The Executive Committee of the Texas Council for Developmental Disabilities convened on Wednesday, May 1, 2024, at the Hyatt Place Houston Medical Center, 7329 Fannin St, Houston, TX 77030 as well as virtually using the Zoom platform. Mary Durham called the meeting to order at 2:00 P.M. A quorum was present.

### **1. Introductions**

Committee members, staff and guests were introduced.

### **2. Public Comments**

Public comment was provided by Linda Litzinger from Texas Parent to Parent regarding dental appointment availability for people with disabilities.

### **3. Consideration of February 7, 2024, Minutes**

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

**MOTION:** To approve the minutes of the February 7, 2024, Executive Committee meeting as presented.

**MADE BY:** Jamie Thomas

**SECOND:** Eric Shahid

The motion **passed** unanimously.

#### **4. TCDD Quarterly Financial Reports**

TCDD Finance and Grants Director Rey Valldejuli reviewed the summary of funds for FY 2023 – FY 2026 highlighting the use of remaining funds from FY 2022 and FY 2023. Valldejuli noted that TCDD has not yet received the full allotment of funds for FY 2024 but anticipates that the funds will be received in the next few months. Valldejuli discussed grants that ended this quarter totaling approximately \$600,000.

Valldejuli discussed the current grantee report and the stipend expenditure report highlighting the stipends that were awarded for FY 2024.

#### **5. Continuation Grant Awards**

Chair Durham read a statement regarding Conflict of Interest prior to the consideration of funding for grant projects, reminding members, staff, and guests to excuse themselves from the conversation if a conflict of interest exists.

Finance and Grants Director Rey Valldejuli presented the executive summary for the Establishing and Inclusive Four-Year Postsecondary Education Program at Texas State University.

**MOTION:** To approve up to \$99,998 in continuation grant funding to Texas State University for the third year of a four-year Establishing an Inclusive Four-Year Post-Secondary Education Program project.

**MADE BY:** Angie Panzica

**SECOND:** Jamie Thomas

The motion **passed** unanimously.

Valldejuli presented the executive summary for the Trauma Informed Care for Transition Age Youth with IDD project at Meadows Mental Health Policy Institute for Texas

**MOTION:** To approve up to \$100,000 in continuation grant funding to the Meadows Mental Health Policy Institute for Texas for the third year of a four-year Trauma Informed Care for Transition Age Youth with IDD project.

**MADE BY:** Jamie Thomas

**SECOND:** Eric Shahid

The motion **passed** unanimously.

Grants Coordinator Melanie Teague presented the executive summary for the Sexual Assault Prevention and Response project at University of Massachusetts Medical School.

**MOTION:** To approve up to \$149,347 in continuation grant funding to University of Massachusetts Medical School for the fifth year of a five-year Sexual Assault Prevention and Response project.

**MADE BY:** Meridith Silcox

**SECOND:** Jamie Thomas

The motion **passed** unanimously.

## 6. New Grant Awards

### A. Targeted Disparity – Increasing Employment Opportunities for Adult Texas with IDD in South Texas

TCDD Senior Policy Analyst Lauren Gerken presented applications for the Targeted Disparity - Increasing Employment Opportunities for Adult Texans with IDD in South Texas Request for Applications (RFA). A total of two applications were received, and both applications met the criteria for independent peer review panel and staff review. The Council previously approved the funding for one project for up to \$125,000 per year for up to two years. The purpose of this project is to address targeted disparity and barriers to employment for people with DD in South Texas.

Committee members discussed applications from Special Olympics Texas, Inc. and The Valley Association for Independent Living (VAIL)

**MOTION:** To not fund Special Olympics Texas Inc.'s project for the TCDD Increasing Employment Opportunities for Adults with DD in South Texas RFA.

**MADE BY:** Angie Panzica

**SECOND:** Meredith Silcox

The motion was **passed** unanimously.

**MOTION:** To fund The Valley Association for Independent Living (VAIL)'s "South Texas Employment Collaborative" project for the TCDD Increasing Employment Opportunities for Adults with DD in South Texas RFA.

**MADE BY:** Jamie Thomas

**SECOND:** Angie Panzica

The motion **passed** unanimously.

#### B. TCDD Storytelling Project

TCDD Public Policy Director Scott Daigle presented applications for the TCDD Storytelling Project Request for Applications (RFA). A total of ten applications were received, and 7 applications met the criteria for independent peer review panel and staff review. The Council previously approved the funding for one project for up to \$300,000 per year for up to five years. The purpose of this project is to provide technical assistance to TCDD state plan sub-grantees on collecting and summarizing both individual and system change stories within their projects.

Committee members discussed applications from The Arc of Texas, Art Spark Texas, Community Options, Inc. Rice University, Sam Houston State University Strategic Education Solutions, LLC. and Texas State Independent Living Council.

**MOTION:** To not fund any application presented for the TCDD Storytelling project RFA.

**MADE BY:** Meredith Silcox

**SECOND:** Angie Panzica

The motion **passed** unanimously.

## **7. Grant Activities Reports**

Valldejuli discussed the grants long-term report, risk assessment, state plan, and current grant summary along with project closeout reports. Valldejuli outlined projects in their final year of funding with plans for continuations reviewed for the August council meeting. Valldejuli noted the risk assessment showed moderate risk for some grantees due to late submissions. Executive Director Beth Stalvey concluded with a review of project closeout executive summaries.

## **8. Chair's Report**

Chair Durham reported the expected absences of Michael Peace and Maverick Crawford and noted several members who will participate virtually.

## **9. Executive Director's Report**

Executive Director Beth Stalvey reported stipends awarded during the quarter:

1. Jewish Family Services Houston: Translation Stipend for up to \$3,000 for the "ReelAbilities Houston Film and Arts Festival" February 4-15, 2024, in Houston.
2. Jewish Family Services Houston: Speaker Stipend for up to \$7,500 for the "ReelAbilities Houston Film and Arts Festival" February 4-15, 2024, in Houston.
3. Texas A&M University Health Science Center: Speaker Stipend for up to \$7,500 for the "ABA Training Conference for Chinese American Families with Developmental Disabilities", February 24, 2024, in Sugar Land.
4. Chrysalis Spectrum LLC: Event Stipend for up to \$7,480 for the "Disability Comic Con: With Great Power Comes Great Responsibility", April 27, 2024 in Houston.
5. Chrysalis Spectrum LLC: Speaker Stipend for up to \$7,500 for the "Disability Comic Con: With Great Power Comes Great Responsibility", April 27, 2024 in Houston.
6. Chrysalis Spectrum LLC: Translation Stipend for up to \$3,000 for the "Disability Comic Con: With Great Power Comes Great Responsibility", April 27, 2024 in Houston.

7. Manifest Academy: Event Stipend for up to \$7,480 for the “Manifest Academy Self-Determination Camp”, June 28-29, 2024 in San Antonio.
8. Lone Star College – Montgomery: Speaker Stipend for up to \$2,500 for the “Neurodiversity Awareness Month – Get Connected!”, April 10-25, 2024, in Houston
9. Children’s Disabilities Information Coalition: Event Stipend for up to \$7,490 for the “35<sup>th</sup> Annual children’s Disabilities Symposium”, April 6, 2024, in El Paso.
10. Children’s Disabilities Information Coalition: Speaker Stipend for up to \$5,161 for the “35<sup>th</sup> Annual children’s Disabilities Symposium”, April 6, 2024, in El Paso.
11. Children’s Disabilities Information Coalition: Translation Stipend for up to \$900 for the “35<sup>th</sup> Annual children’s Disabilities Symposium”, April 6, 2024, in El Paso.
12. Manifest Academy: Speaker Stipend for up to \$6,198 for the “Manifest Academy Self-Determination Camp”, June 28-29, 2024, in San Antonio.

Director Stalvey provided staff updates to note the vacant position for Policy Analyst as well as the vacant West Texas Regional Coordinator position.

Stalvey reviewed the recently appointed agency representatives on the Council then discussed the Annual NACDD conference in July and noted the grantees who have submitted to present. Stalvey discussed the upcoming legislative session and reported on TCDD’s State Plan highlighting that TCDD is entering year four of five.

## **10. Conflict of Interest Disclosures**

Committee Members reviewed updated conflict of interest disclosure information for Council Members and staff. No concerns were noted.

## **11. Other Updates**

The next scheduled Executive Committee meeting will be held in conjunction with the Council meetings scheduled for August 7, 2024.



TEXAS COUNCIL for  
DEVELOPMENTAL  
DISABILITIES

## Executive Committee Cont.

Meeting Minutes

May 1, 2024

### **Adjourn**

Chair Durham adjourned the Executive Committee at 4:01 PM.

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Beth Stalvey, *Secretary to the Council*    Date