

Committee
Members Present

Meridith Silcox,
Committee Chair
Lauren Chenoweth,
TWC
Gladys Cortez
Andrew Crim
Elizabeth Danner, *TEA*
Mary Durham, *Council*
Chair
Ivy Goldstein, *DSHS*
Katlyn Le, *HHSC Older*
Americans Act
Juan Carlos Lopez
Scott McAvoy
Amanda Miles
Jamie Thomas
Kim Torres

Committee
Members Absent

Maverick Crawford
Robert Schier III

Guests Present

Vahid Behzadi
Brynn Biggs
Stefan Cole
Mario Contreras
Beatrice Degree
Christopher Jenkins
Lauryn McNeil
Katie Snelling
Beth Swedeen
Deborah Wallace

Regional
Coordinators
Present

Erin Fogarty
Morgan Foster
Alexandra Venegas

Staff Present

Beth Stalvey, *Executive*
Director
Crystal Goodwin
Mitchel Griffin
Genessee Klemm
Evan Marczynski
Richard Rendon
Cass Schnautz
Melanie Teague
Rey Valldejuli

Call to Order

The Project Development Committee of the Texas Council for Developmental Disabilities convened on Thursday, May 2, 2024, at the Hyatt Place Houston Medical Center, 7329 Fannin St., Houston Texas, 77030, as well as virtually using the Zoom platform. Committee Chair Meridith Silcox called the meeting to order at 1:40 pm. A quorum was present.

1. Introductions

Committee members, staff and guests were introduced.

2. Presentation: Early Choices Matter – Wisconsin Board for People with Disabilities.

Beth Swedeen from the Wisconsin Board for People with Disabilities presented on WBPD's efforts to provide information to families before transitioning into adulthood. Swedeen highlighted areas such as

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Supported Decision Making as a legal alternative to guardianship and policies put in place in Wisconsin that would make that path easier. Swedeen noted the trainings and materials created by the Wisconsin Board for People with Disabilities and the forward progression of developing new materials. Swedeen discussed that the focus is on two groups, birth to three years of age as well as long-term care waiver recipients.

3. Executive Summary: Choices Making Among Youth Age 0-14: A Foundation for Self-Determined Lives

Executive Director Beth Stalvey presented an executive summary for Choices Making Among Youth Age 0-14: A Foundation for Self-Determined Lives with proposed funding for one project for up to \$300,000 per year for up to five years. Committee members discussed roadblocks with self-advocacy in schools and ideas to address issues related to self-advocacy for children with IDD. Members reviewed the executive summary and discussed adding components regarding partnering with an organization that has access to peer support, targeting school districts and ECI Programs in Texas and providing details on required outcomes and data.

MOTION: To recommend Council approval of funding for up to \$300,000 per year for up to five years for Choice Making Among Youth Age 0-14: A Foundation for Self-Determined Lives with the additions noted by the Committee.

MADE BY: Gladys Cortez

SECOND: Scott McAvoy

The motion **passed** unanimously.

4. Public Comments

Stefan Cole provided public comment regarding working with schools to advocate for students with DD.

5. Consideration of February 8, Minutes

The minutes were reviewed and included corrections on the motion to approve the November 2, 2023 minutes to show that it was made by Jamie Thomas with Scott McAvoy as the Second and to correct the date of November 2, 2024 to November 2, 2023.

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MOTION: To approve the minutes of the February 8, 2024, Project Development Committee meeting with the listed corrections.

MADE BY: Scott McAvoy

SECOND: Andy Crim

The motion was **passed** unanimously.

6. Project Sustainability

Executive Director Stalvey reported on projects that have ended during the past quarter referencing the grants monitoring report. She discussed projects that have recently ended, focusing on a recently completed dental project and ways the Council could expand on that project. Committee Chair Meridith Silcox further discussed sustainability in regards to dental healthcare as well as resources that exist to keep projects going after grant funding is completed.

7. State Plan Discussion

Executive Director Stalvey led a discussion about the FY 2021 – FY 2026 TCDD State Plan and asked Committee members to reference the State Plan when thinking of new project ideas. Stalvey stated that the State Plan should be looked at by the Committees each quarter to see what projects are beginning, ending, or which goals and objectives should be focused on at the next meeting. Committee members discussed the Executive Committee decision to not award a TCDD Storytelling grant and asked staff to explore other options to execute the objectives of this Request for Applications. Committee members requested an executive summary on dental support and behavioral support. Silcox moved the discussion to the future of Advocacy. Committee members discussed what advocacy looks like to different generations and how those generations are advocating for themselves and the disability community as a whole. The Committee requested an executive summary on Self-Advocacy for Different Generations.

8. Future Project Funding Priorities

The Committee evaluated the Future Project Funding Priorities List. Members reviewed the list as provided by staff and made the following changes to the Future Project Funding Priorities List:

1. Choices Making Among Youth Age 0-14: A Foundation for Self-Determined Lives

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2. Medical Self-Determination
3. Culturally Competent Family Supports
4. Prevention and Response to Sexual Offenses: Medical and Therapeutic Professionals
5. Prevention and Response to Sexual Offenses: Criminal Justice Response to Cases Involving People with IDD

MOTION: To recommend Council approval of the Future Project Funding Priorities List as revised by the Committee.

MADE BY: Gladys Cortez

SECOND: Jamie Thomas

The motion **passed** unanimously.

9. Chair's Remarks

Committee Chair Silcox reviewed the expected absences of Maverick Crawford and Robert Schier III.

Silcox reported on her activities during the previous quarter as well as funds available for future projects.

10. Member Quarterly Activities

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

11. Staff Reports

Committee Chair Silcox reported on the projects that have ended this quarter and projects that are ending this year. Silcox also noted the 10 applications for continuation grant funding that will be reviewed in August. Silcox reported on the project closeout reports and reminded members that these can be utilized to review a project's accomplishments and highlights after the projects have ended.

12. Future Agenda Items

Members requested future discussion topics to issues discussed during the Public Policy Fellows presentations.

13. Other Discussion Items

The next Committee meeting will be held in conjunction with the next Council and Committee meetings schedule for August 7-9, 2024.

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Adjourn

Committee Chair Silcox adjourned the Project Development Committee at 4:58 PM.

Beth Stalvey, *Secretary to the Council* Date