

Kitsap County Developmental Disabilities Advisory Board

Date: March 7, 2023
Time: 5:00 p.m.
Meeting: Communitas, 2nd Floor Training Room
920 Park Avenue, Bremerton

A G E N D A

- 1. CALL TO ORDER**
- 2. INTRODUCTIONS**
- 3. APPROVAL OF February 7, 2023 MINUTES***
- 4. ADDITIONS/APPROVAL OF AGENDA***
- 5. OLD BUSINESS**
 - A. Working Age Adult Policy Implementation**
 - B. Transition Student Update**
 - C. 2023 Virtual Kitsap County Resource Fair Update**
- 6. COMMUNITY INPUT**
- 7. NEW BUSINESS**
 - A. Legislative and Budget Update**
 - B. Advocacy Reports**
 - C. 2023 Community Summit**
 - D. Transportation Committee**
 - E. Affordable Housing**
 - F. Board Officer Nominations**
 - G. DDA/DVR Provider Updates**
 - H. Provider Updates**
 - I. Officer Report**
 - a) Meeting Changes**
 - J. Staff Report**
- 8. ADJOURNMENT**

* = Indicates action item

**KITSAP COUNTY DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES ADVISORY
BOARD MEETING MINUTES**

5:00pm – 6:30pm
Tuesday, February 7, 2023

1. **CALL TO ORDER** – Sandra LaCelle called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m. via Zoom.
2. **INTRODUCTIONS** - Members and guests introduced themselves; attendance was taken.
3. **APPROVAL OF December 6, 2022, MINUTES***

MOTION: Fran Aquiningoc moved to approve December 6, 2022, minutes with Jennifer Acuna seconded. Motion carried.

4. **ADDITIONS/APPROVAL OF AGENDA***

MOTION: Donna Gearns to approve to the agenda with no amendments Jennifer Acuna seconded. Motion carried.

5. **OLD BUSINESS**

a. **Working Age Adult Policy Implementation**

- i. Kelly shared she has a meeting tomorrow with federal employers who attended the A.B.L.E. event in October; they are interested in hearing more about supported employment efforts in Kitsap and how they might participate as an employer in these efforts.
- ii. Kelly also provided updates regarding the Employment First Coalition (EFC) committee and Partners for Work (PFW):
 - PFW Update:
 - The Bainbridge Island Rotary Club is planning to host a mock-interview for job seekers in April; EFC members discussed coordinating with the club's Vocational Services committee and ask to add a job tour in an industry the job seekers identify during the mock interview event.
 - Work continues with the Kingston Rotary club to identify a candidate to hire and serve as a greeter for the club as they have set aside funds to support this position.
 - The Silverdale Rotary club is interested in holding a mock-interview session as well and it was discussed to include a job tour if this event moves ahead.
 - The EFC Committee who presented at the Kitsap Economic Development Alliance (KEDA) at their

annual membership meeting in October continue to work through provider feedback.

- iii. Kelly asked if the board wanted updates to continue to tracking employment since the numbers are continuing to stay in the 70-75% range; the consensus was to provide updates if there is a significant change. A question was asked related to the industries and businesses in which people are employed. Kelly shared she will provide a list of employers at the next meeting.

b. Transition Student Update

- i. Final report on the 2022 School to Work class was discussed, 12 students started, 2 individuals dropped out and ended the year with 5 of the 10 students employed.
- ii. 2023 School to Work class, still one student employed, close to other hires from feedback county staff has received from providers.
- iii. 2024 Job Foundation class has 21 students participating this year; activities are underway as all have chosen a provider.
- iv. Upcoming IEP Workshop/Clinic facilitated by PAVE happening on February 15th at the OESD from 11am to 1 pm. Bullying and Harassment will be the topic covered.

c. Accessible Communities Advisory Committee

- i. Kelly shared an update on the portable ramps that were purchased through the ACAC committee; they are at the Arc and available to be checked out for short term use. To reserve a ramp, contact Tari Quiocho, senior program manager at the Arc, 360-801-4539 or email TQuiocho@penarc.org

6. COMMUNITY INPUT

- a. Melia Hughes, Kitsap County Parent Coalition (KCPC) Coordinator was unable to attend but asked to remind everyone of the upcoming DDA Services and application online event on 2/8/2023 from 4-6pm. Kelly provided a copy of the flyer with the details.
 - i. For upcoming events, see flyers and registration details on the KCPC website: <https://kitsapcountyparentcoalition.org>; for more information contact Melia at 360-373-2502, ext. 100

7. NEW BUSINESS

a. Legislative and Budget Update

- i. Kelly reviewed handouts of the Governor's budget and Bills of Interest: Highlights included:
 - Expansion of Behavioral Stabilization services to decrease unnecessary hospitalizations and out of state

placements; Specialty AFH pilot which includes targeted staff training to increase community living options for clients with co-occurring diagnoses; funding for high school transition students; funds to increase provider rates; extending the unspent funds for the Dan Thompson grant through the next biennium; poverty reduction act to create a non-DDA citizen program and increase the residential personal allowance; and expand children and youth services for those with co-occurring diagnoses.

- There were expressed concerns with proposed rates in the governor's budget for IE and CI services being less than the rates listed in the Rate Cost Study. Agency staffing capacity issues continues to impact services across the state and including effecting the roll-out of concurrent services that began in January.
- ii. Kelly discussed the Dan Thompson Funds; in 2005 the fund was created in honor of Dan Thompson from King County with a designated use for Developmental Disabilities- home and community services. A summary of report takeaways was discussed:
 - What started as \$5M became \$55M as of August 2021 when federal ARPA funds were added to the fund.
 - The additional \$50M needs to be spent on projects by June 2023.
 - Currently \$9M has been awarded with 35 contracts executed.
 - Shannon asked if the expectation is to have all the funds used by the deadline of June 2023. Kelly replied there is a request to have unused funds rolled over if they are not spent but Kelly unsure if this can or does include the ARPA funds. She will report back when she has that answer.
 - Suggestions were made to include transportation contract requests to be added into those fund requests.

b. **Advocacy Reports**

- i. None

c. **Early Childhood Special Education Regional Implementation Team, OESD 114-Mary Rose Dewald and Paola Stepney**

- i. Mary Rose and Paola provided a 20-minute PowerPoint presentation and shared the challenges and vision of the Early Childhood Special Education Regional Implementation Team, OESD. They currently offer classroom and family supports on an evidenced based framework designed to provide tiered support to kids between the ages of 0-5 with a focus is on equity, inclusion and strengthening social

emotional skills. Mary Rose and Paola both shared the details of their respective divisions (Mary Rose does Family Support and Paola does the classroom supports). Their work has currently been provided in Clallam County and South Kitsap, but they are hoping to be able to expand services throughout the Tri-County area.

d. 2023 Virtual Kitsap County Resource Fair

- i. Kelly shared the fair will be virtual again this year and run from April 1, 2023, through June 30, 2023, there will be flyer with the details provided at the March meeting.

e. 2022 DDA Caseload and Cost Report

- i. Each year DDA puts out Caseload and Cost report; the report contains data covering a wide range of areas. Highlights of the report were discussed.

f. 2023 Community Summit

- i. Kelly shared this year's Summit will now offer an in-person option as well as a remote option and is scheduled from June 13-15 in Wenatchee at the Wenatchee Convention Center. The cost to attend in-person has significantly increased and there will be a charge for the virtual option this year. There are scholarships available to those Board members who wish to attend; let Kelly know asap, she is to report an estimated head count to WISE by February 15, 2023. There will scholarships also available to parents, self-advocates, school staff and providers.

g. DDA/DVR Updates

- i. Kim McCarty shared their office is now fully staffed; however, many staff are still in training, so they are not running at 100% just yet as they have supervisors covering caseloads during the new staff training.
- ii. Kim McCarty also noted the expectation of more people moving to paid services in 2023; Kim noted the list of people requesting a paid service is long and the need to get students on the list for employment supports as soon as possible. Specifically stating students who are scheduled to graduate in 2024 should be on the list for requesting a service by summer 2023.
- iii. HCA extended Apple Health Care during the Covid public health emergency. This continued coverage ends April 1, 2023. Individuals should start receiving renewal notices; possible changes to coverage with some individuals no longer eligible; communications coming in the mail.
- iv. Food benefits: February 2023 is the last month for the increased emergency food benefits; they will return to normal

benefit levels beginning March 1st; if your circumstances have changes and you receive services from DDA, contact the local CSO office or a public benefits specialist at 855-873-0642.

h. Provider Updates

- ii. Miranda from Easterseals reported that they are almost at staffing capacity for employment specialists.

i. Officer report

- i. New board members were introduced: Shannon Turner and Jennifer Crider both appointed by the Board of Commissioners
- ii. The March meeting will be held in person, Sandy will not be able to attend, and Donna has agreed to Chair the March meeting.
- iii. March is also the month to nominate chair and vice-chair, Sandy said she is more than happy to continue, should she be nominated, but has scheduling conflicts due to personal events and will not be available on Tuesdays or Thursdays. Discussion was had on possibly moving the day of the week for the meeting and Kelly stated they previously held the meetings on Wednesday evenings. More discussion to be had in March.
- iv. Shannon asked if it was ok to do an early nomination, Sandy said yes, and Shannon stated he would like to nominate Sandy for the Chair.

j. Staff Report

- i. The advisory board has been required to start having a mandatory in-person meeting with a hybrid option as well. Kelly asked for input on how many board members would want to attend in person so she can plan where to regularly hold the meetings. The county has space and technology available, but Kelly also understands not everyone will want to attend the far south end of the County for a meeting.
- ii. Discussion on the upcoming in-person requirement changes to the advisory board meetings to continue at the March meeting.
- iii. Heidi was asked to be a part of the transportation committee; she is planning to attend the next Kitsap Transit meeting. Kelly mentioned a transportation focus group is being pulled together and Heidi requested to participate in the new group. Kelly agreed to send out the details when available

- iii. **ADJOURNMENT** - The meeting adjourned at 6:30 p.m. The March 2023 meeting will be Tuesday, March 7, 2023, it will be held in person with no virtual option available. The meeting location will be at Communitas, 920

Park Ave, Bremerton, WA 98337 on the second floor.

* = Indicates action items

ATTENDANCE

MEMBERS	GUESTS/ORGANIZATIONS	STAFF
<u>Present</u> Sandra LaCelle Donna Gearns Frances Aquiningoc Jennifer Acuna Kathy Loughheed Rae Williams Heidi Scheibner Jennifer Crider Shannon Turner <u>Absent</u> Veola Taylor	Kim McCarty, DDA Kimberly Adams, Parent Advocate Miranda Fort, Easterseals Lindsey Woodruff, Trillium Employment Services Mary Rose Dewald, OESD 114 Paola Stepney, OESD 114	Kelly Oneal Sonya Miles Carrie DuBord-Atkins