

**Vermont Developmental Disabilities Council
Executive Committee Meeting Minutes ~ January 5, 2017**

VTDDC Offices, Berlin

Approved February 6, 2017

Present: Fred Breunig, Catherine Hybels, Cinn Smith, Kay Stambler
Absent: Terry Holden
Support Staff: None
Guests: None
VTDDC Staff: Kirsten Murphy, Chelsea Hayward, Susan Aranoff

1. Welcome and Minutes:

The draft minutes from Decembers Executive Committee Meeting had not yet been circulated, and will be completed and reviewed at the next meeting.

2. Updates RE Policy Issues:

Susan Aranoff will coordinate the Policy Committee.

Susan Aranoff will be developing a legislative-tracking spreadsheet, and identifying committee appointments with a “cheat sheet”. VTDigger is a great resource. She hopes to follow-up with the Vermont Workers Center on healthcare reform.

Members reviewed VTDDC’s new “social service workers” infographic that has key points about turnover and cost among agencies.

With the support of the Policy Committee, staff have submitted extensive comment on the new Developmental Services rules. They developed consensuses among key developmental disability organizations about six statements on Vermont’s healthcare reform. These will be sent to Secretary Gobeille, pending approval by one additional organization (the Disability Law Project).

3. Charge to the Policy Committee:

Motion: Kay makes the motion to accept the Charge as drafted. Cinn seconded. Motion passed: 4-0-0.

A charge will be drafted for the Program Committee.

The Executive Committee Meeting adjourned.

The Program Committee Meeting began.

4. SEEDS:

\$30,000 of \$60,000 of the SEEDS budget had already been obligated at the December Quarterly Meeting.

- *Vermont Family Network*: The Vermont Family Network resubmitted their SEEDS application. Committee members discussed:
 - The terms and benefits to funding the application.
 - How the application asked for additional funding.
 - Its evaluation process.
 - How it will build its contacts.
 - The Council’s definition of a “quality product”.

Motion: Cathy made the motion to recommend to the full council that they fund Vermont Family Networks SEEDS proposal at \$15,000 for a 6-month period with the stipulation that VFN: 1) expands its evaluation metrics, 2) give VTDDC access to their community contacts pending negotiation, 3) distribute VTDDC’s brochure to new contacts, and 4) be made aware that VTDDC expects robust reporting with specificity. Kay seconded. **Motion passed: 4-0-0.**

A grant agreement will be negotiated prior to the recommendation. The policy committee instructed Kirsten to craft language for the Vermont Family Network based on those stipulations.

The next SEEDS RFP will be posted January 6th. Questions by January 27th. Deadline will be February 22nd. Program Committee decisions will be Monday, March 6th, 2017.

5. Goal Three- Workplan (continued from December):

- *Objective 3.1* More proactive services instead of reactive services. Get a work-group together to build an awareness campaign that “disability is natural”.
- *Objective 3.2* Staff will monitor the development of the new System of Care Plan and testify as appropriate, seek technical assistance from the Disability Law Project, monitor implementation of the HCBS Rule, and create accessible information for advocates.
- *Objective 3.3* This was accomplished this year because VTDDC staff are completing the external grant with Vermont Healthcare Innovation Project and e-learning tools.
- *Objective 3.4* Choices for Care program provides help to about 700 people with disabilities. The program was originally designed for seniors so it does not include support for employment. The parity must be based on whether needs

are being met, not how much money they received. VTDDC will outreach, monitor, and understand the needs of those 700 people with disabilities.

- *Objective 3.5* There is an opportunity in the System of Care plan to advocate for families. Legislative advocacy is the best avenue.

6. Request for Proposals:

The Program Committee asked Kirsten to create a scope of work for an RFP that will ask for a grassroots coordinator at \$25,000, for six months and renewable based upon performance and availability of funds, who will organize the cross-disability movement in Vermont. The RFP will be voted on by the full Council at the special session which will take place by phone on Thursday, January 19th, 2017.