



# Vermont Developmental Disabilities Council

---

100 State Street  
Montpelier, Vermont 05633-0206

(802) 828-1310  
[vtddc@vermont.gov](mailto:vtddc@vermont.gov)  
[www.ddc.vermont.gov](http://www.ddc.vermont.gov)

## EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING

September 9, 2024

Join Zoom Meeting:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84542831908?pwd=eDdGQWpEYVA0TGcwOVp4SGZyUVBJZz09>

Passcode: 963990

## Agenda

**NOTE:** Because Kirsten cannot be present, her report is attached.

- 10:00 Welcome & Adopt Minutes from August 6, 2024 (5 minutes)
- 10:05 Chair's Report
- Potential new member from AHS Central Office
  - Update on survey with members.
  - Update on hiring a Peer Support Specialist
- 10:30 Setting Agenda for Oct. 10 Quarterly Meeting.
- New DAIL Commissioner Dr. Jill Bowen, 1:00 pm  
*How shall we use this opportunity?*
  - Rep. Theresa Wood and Rep. Tom Stevens have been invited to lunch
  - Program Committee Report – GMSA grant, Vote
  - Chair's Report – call for filling leadership opportunities
  - Executive Director's Report

*The next Executive Committee Meeting is **November 4, 2024, 10-11 am** – via Zoom*

*Next Quarterly Meeting is **October 10, 2024, 10 am – 2:30 pm***

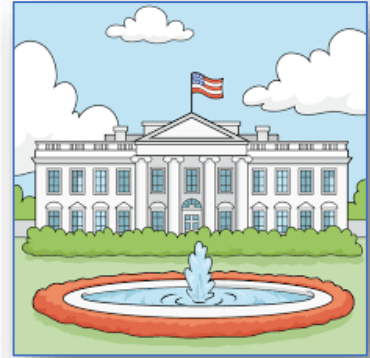
*At the Waterbury Office Complex, Waterbury VT and online*

---

### I. Program and Outreach

#### White House Event

Kirsten and self-advocates David Frye and Thomas Caswell are traveling today to Washington DC. They were invited to a White House Ceremony marking the anniversary of the Americans with Disabilities Act. The President and Dr. Biden are expected to be there.



#### Leadership 2024-25

Plans are moving forward quickly for this year's Leadership Training Series. Weekend 1 will be in Montpelier on Nov. 2-3 with GMSA acting as the lead trainer. Weekend 2 will be Dec. 7-8 in Middlebury with Amy Schollenberger from Action Circles acting as the lead trainer.

You may remember that this group was disappointed to hear the series has been cut back from 3 weekend to 2 weekends. For this reason, Kirsten is working with the Leadership Planning Team to provide more training during the legislative session. Trainees will be strongly encouraged to "Make a Date" with Sue to visit the Statehouse. The Council will work with GMSA to create a closing even in the spring with more training and a graduation ceremony.

### II. Financial Issues

#### Year 4 begins!

October 1 is the beginning of a new federal fiscal year. This is the 4<sup>th</sup> year of our Five-Year State Plan.

#### Flat Funded Again

At this time of year, we pay attention to how Congress is moving forward with the federal budget. Unfortunately, it is unlikely that Congress will pass a budget for the year that begins Oct. 1. They will adopt a "continuing resolution" through at least December 1, possibly later. This means the Council needs to assume it is "flat



funded,” meaning we will have the same appropriation as last year – about \$520,000. We already built our budget based on this assumption.

### **Money from the Pathway to Partnership Grant Secured**

We finally have a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with DAIL that promises us \$350,000 over five years to work on 3 of our Objectives:

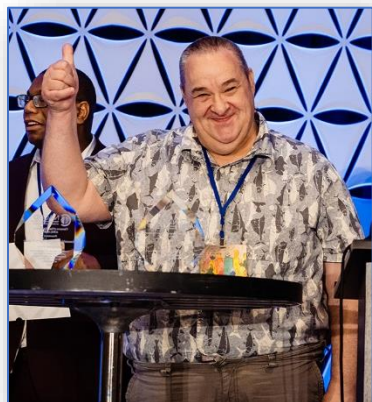
- Promoting alternatives to guardianship.
- Building an online resource for parents of adults with I/DD.
- Promoting customized employment through training

This money comes for a large grant that Kirsten helped the Division for the Blind and Visually Impaired to apply for. With the MOU in place, we can now begin projects under these 3 objectives.

## **III. Operations**

### **Work Plans Filed on Time**

With the input of the Program Committee, Kirsten was able to file revisions to our Year 3 Work Plan. Having good revisions makes it easier for Kirsten to file out Federal Report in January. She also filed a Year 4 Workplan, though this will have to be updated in a year.



### **Peer Support Specialist**

Kirsten and Anastasia have hired David Frye to provide peer support to our self-advocate members. He will also help keep the Vermont DD Council active on the national self-advocacy committee at the National Association of Councils on Developmental Disabilities (NACDD). David will be a contractor for the Council. His contract begins Oct. 1.