

July 10, 2025 Executive Committee Minutes

Attendee Council Members: George Thompson, Wendy Andersen, Kevin Harris, Casey Wilkinson, Charlene Wyatt Sauer

Council Staff: Brooke Lovelace, Carlyn Crowe, Lindsay Hommer

Other Council Members: Nicole Nosbisch

A meeting of the Iowa Developmental Disability Council (DD Council) Executive Committee (EC) was held on July 10, 2025. The meeting was called to order at 9:20 AM by Thompson.

Budget Outlook:

- The DD Council is in the President's budget for 2026 at a funding level of \$1 million less spread over all 56 Councils.
- There may be a delay in us getting our Notice of Award for funding.
- Health and Human Services (HHS) will more than likely not float the DD Council funds to cover expenses past December.
 - The DD Council does have remaining funds from the previous year.
- The DD Council will continue to advocate for the University Centers for Excellence in Developmental Disabilities (UCEDD) and Disability Rights Iowa (DRI) to have full funding.
- The DD Council is providing sponsorships again.

Budget Review:

- Line items that are over budget:
 - HHS Costs - \$20,000 over budget. These costs are for a percentage of salaries of HHS administrative staff.
 - DAS HR fees. These costs are for training, Workday, and hiring fees.
 - Phone and ICN costs. HHS was not paying the phone bills for approximately a year so we are paying for these costs now. The phone bill is paid through March 2025 currently.
- HHS allotment of \$35,000/year has been the same for decades. The DD Council is now paying much more in fees to HHS. The Council may ask HHS to increase their allotment to the Council.
- Thompson asked what the amount of National dues is. The amount is \$6,687/year.

Creating change with and for persons with developmental disabilities so they can live, work, learn and play in the community of their choosing.

- HHS costs were increased when the Department of Public Health was merged into HHS.
 - It is being looked into as to why we are currently paying 3% of the Medicaid Director's costs. This seems high.
- Even though the DD Council will go over the \$433,000 budgeted for admin costs this year, we will not exceed the Admin Cap.

New Member Orientation:

- Tentatively September 3rd, 10 AM – 12:30 PM.

Make Your Mark Update:

- First day will be keynote speaker Matthew Shapiro, legislative panel, lunch with legislators, two breakout sessions in the afternoon, and a social evening with a comedy hour and a talent show.
 - The Arc of Iowa through the Julie Beckett Foundation is paying for the dinner.
 - They are also offering scholarships for people to spend the night during the conference.
- The second day will be Zach Mecham as keynote speaker, breakout sessions, lunch, awards, and prizes.
- The Council has \$26,000 in sponsorships so far.
- More exhibitors are needed but it's early still.
- Lovelace will ask Brady to perform a song during breakfast to promote the Talent Show that evening.
- Thompson, Wilkinson, Wyatt Sauer, Harris, and Andersen have agreed to be volunteers for the conference.

Workplan/Stateplan:

- The next meeting for the state plan committee is July 22nd.
- Hommer will send out a Doodle poll to find a date in August for the state plan committee to meet for 1.5 hours.
- Lovelace stated she will do a quasi-Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities, and Threats (SWOT) analysis during the first meeting.
- Lovelace would like to people to think about what the Council is doing well now that is having a great impact and what the Council would like to continue to do

and things the Council is not doing well. The workplan can be used as a guide for this part.

- For the Opportunity section, Lovelace would like people to look at the final report of the needs assessment by Canary Consulting and think about opportunities of things we could do new or different.
- Lovelace would then like to talk about threats if there is time
- Lovelace shared a state plan scoring sheet that she would like to discuss at the July 22nd meeting.
 - She would like to review the impact of activities that are currently being done.
 - She would like to look at areas of work that other agencies are doing and partner or support their work.

Cultural Diversity:

- Lovelace suggested creating an ad hoc recruitment committee for when the Council needs to add new members.
 - This would start in November.
- The Council would like to be more diverse.

Other Items:

- New member questionnaires that have not been completed need to be completed as soon as possible.

Adjourn:

Harris made a motion to adjourn, and Wilkinson seconded the motion. The meeting adjourned at 10:15 AM.

Action Items:

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- Lovelace will ask Brady to perform a song during breakfast on the first day of MYM! conference to promote the Talent Show that evening.
- Hommer will send out a Doodle poll to find a date in August for the state plan committee to meet for 1.5 hours.