

## February 3, 2023 Legislative Committee Minutes

**Attendee Legislative Committee Council Members:** Roxanne Cogil, Hugh Kelly, Matthew Conaway, Brady Werger, Mark Smith, Rob Roozeboom, Carol Cross, Steve Steveson

**Absent Council Members:** Kristen Aller, Brittney Drinovsky

**Council Staff:** Brooke Lovelace, Carlyn Crowe, Lindsay Hommer

### Suggestions on Input Position Paper

The paper states to “not assume that a person with a disability wants to be cured.” Cogil stated that her daughter would like a cure. Cogil asked who the audience is for this paper. Lovelace stated it is for legislators. Cogil stated she liked the part about inclusion. Cross stated that some people do want cures but we also need to focus on inclusion because they are both important points. Cogil asked if the goal of the paper is for the legislators to include people with disabilities on decisions. Lovelace stated that is exactly the goal. Cogil suggested we use bullet points instead of paragraphs. Lovelace stated she would continue to work on this piece. Lovelace stated that we are also putting together a one-pager stating what a disability is for National Disability Awareness Month. This position paper may accompany the one-pager we send to legislators. The DD Council may email and provide hardcopies to legislators but will discuss more about distribution methods at a later time.

### Feedback and Comments On Legislative Breakfast

Crowe stated there was great participation and great conversations happened and are continuing as a result of the breakfast. Werger thanked Crowe and Lovelace for their support. Werger stated he spoke with his senator, Director Kelly Garcia, and a couple of other legislators. Kelly stated he got to meet his Representative, Helena Hayes and thought the event went very well. Cogil thought it was a great event. Cogil spoke with Representative Timi Brown-Powers. Cogil asked if there is going to be a summary presented about the Mathematica proposal presented at the next Council meeting. Lovelace stated this will not happen at the next Council meeting but will in May. Lovelace stated there are some really good recommendations in this proposal. Cogil asked if there is a recommendation for a one waiver system for the State of Iowa. Lovelace stated the recommendation is for a two or three waiver system. The goal is to make the system equitable and the budget is based on the need of the person. The link to the summary of the report is : <https://hhs.iowa.gov/sites/default/files/iowa-CBSE-Final-Evaluation-Report.pdf>

Roozeboom spoke to Representative Lynn Evans, Senator Pam Jochum, and Representative Josh Turek. Crowe stated that she interviewed Representative Turek for this week’s Capitol Snapshot and it is a great interview. It will come out on Monday morning. Smith stated he

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spoke with a number of people. He did not see his representatives there. Getting people off the waiting lists and transportation were big issues. Also, the Director of Vocational Rehabilitation, Dan Talon, was there and he said he would give Smith a call about art programs. Steveson stated he didn't talk to anyone but his daughter, Carly, spoke with some legislators.

## Legislative Breakfast Plans for Next Year

Crowe stated next year's legislative breakfast is scheduled for January 24<sup>th</sup> in the afternoon. There will be several other disability related organizations there that day.

## Upcoming Event March 9 – Disability Awareness Month Resolution

Crowe stated that the DD Council has been working with Representative Art Staed. We have drafted a resolution naming March as Disability Awareness Month. Representative Staed has agreed to introduce this on March 9<sup>th</sup>. The DD Council would like Council members at the Capitol at 8:00am that day. Lovelace stated Emma Boza reached out to Art Staed to have March recognized as Disability History Awareness Month as well as Disability Awareness Month. March is nationally Developmental Disabilities Awareness month. Werger will reach out to Senator Costello to see if the Senate will also do the resolution. We will invite our partners but there are accessibility issues and limited seats in the gallery. The event can be seen on livestream though.

## Bill Watch/Updates

Crowe stated there was a bill that was introduced and went to subcommittee right away about guardianships and conservatorships. The DD Council is analyzing to see what the bill is all about. This bill is really complicated. The bill passed out of sub-committee even though a lot of people wanted the wording changed and it will look very different in the end. The state government realignment bills came out in both the House and the Senate. The bill numbers are HSB126 and SSB1123. The Medicaid report is also now available. Crowe stated that at the federal level, the Senate reintroduced the Better Care Better Jobs Act. It was reintroduced by Senator Bob Casey and this is a funding bill that could impact Medicaid funding in Iowa. If we get more information, we will share.

## Action Items

Lovelace to continue work on Input Position Paper

Werger to reach out to Senator Costello about Disability Awareness Month

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