

Draft Council Meeting Minutes

Idaho Council on Developmental Disabilities

Thursday, April 25, 2013 - 8:30 am – 5:00 pm

West Conference Room, Joe R. Williams Building

700 W. State Street, Boise, Idaho

MEMBERS PRESENT

Toni Belknap-Brinegar, Shiloh Blackburn, Dona Butler, Ritchy Cardwell, Jean Christensen, David Dekker, Jane Donnellan, Raul Enriquez, Julie Fodor, Jo Lynn Garrison, Jenniffer Halladay, Allison Lowenthal, Debra Parsons, Joe Raiden, Colleen Sisk, Joni Sullivan, Paul Tierney, Jacquie Watson, Denise Wetzel

MEMBERS ABSENT

Jim Baugh, TeRonda Robinson

GUESTS

Pam Blackburn, Acena Dekker, Representative Grant Burgoyne

STAFF PRESENT

Marilyn Sword, Amanda Holloway, Tracy Warren, Christine Pisani, Shane Carlton, Suzie Hanks

WORK TEAM MEETINGS

Work Team Meetings (concurrent) 8:30 a.m. to 9:30 a.m.

- Employment
- Education
- Leadership
- Capacity Building

MEET IN COMMITTEES

Council Committee meetings (concurrent) 9:45 a.m. to 11:45 a.m.

(See separate committee minutes for details)

- Membership
- Public Policy
- Governance

RECOGNITION AWARDS - Noon – 1:00 p.m.

Recognition of Representative Burgoyne and Senator Hagedorn

Recognition of retiring Council members

FULL COUNCIL CALL TO ORDER

Denise Wetzel called the meeting to order at 12:55 p.m.

ANNOUNCEMENT

Denise announced that Colleen has chair nomination forms for those that would like to fill one out. The election will be held during the full Council meeting on Friday. Nomination forms should be turned in prior to the start of the meeting on Friday morning.

PERFECTION OF AGENDA

Marilyn will be giving the financial report because Amanda is out this morning.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The Council reviewed the January 2013 minutes. Alison Lowenthal's first name is spelled wrong on page 1 of the January 2013 Full Council minutes.

Jean Christensen moved to approve the January 2013 meeting minutes as amended; seconded by Colleen Sisk. Motion carried.

CHAIR'S REPORT – Denise Wetzel

Denise will be giving a presentation Friday on meetings that she has attended about community asset building. She had the opportunity to practice her presentation on the Moscow SALN Chapter.

Denise has not had many new people looking for a support broker but just received a call today. Things may pick up next month as the transition deadline approaches for Children's Redesign.

Denise has been helping with the Moscow SALN Chapter and they held a very successful raffle. The chapter raffled off an IPAD and made over \$600. Larkin Seiler sold the winning ticket and Denise and Rachel Raiden delivered the IPAD to the winner. The majority of the Moscow chapter will be attending the Self-Advocacy Conference in May.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT – Marilyn Sword

Over the last quarter Marilyn has been focused on legislative activities. Marilyn has been working on the Collaborative Work Group on Adult DD Services and will have a report later in the meeting.

During the session, Council members went to the statehouse to meet with their legislators. In one instance, Joe Raiden and Roger Howard from LINC called on a senator who was unable to be at the Health & Welfare hearing. When Joe presented a copy of his personal testimony to her, she was very abrupt and threw his testimony in the garbage. Marilyn has scheduled a

meeting with the Pro Tem to discuss the Senator's behavior. There have been a number of complaints about this senator since the beginning of the session.

A transportation provider in Eastern Idaho area has requested that the Council provide a letter of support to the Mayor of Idaho Falls for funding for the transportation provider because there is a risk of that funding being pulled. The provider sent some data to use in composing the support letter.

Suzie Hanks has joined the Council to support Council members who may need or want additional information, support or clarification during and between meetings. The Council has postponed hiring a half-time public information specialist to work on the website, Facebook and to do outreach and awareness activities. Due to sequestration, the Council will be losing about \$20,500 between now and the end of the federal fiscal year. The Council will look at the potential of contracting with a firm to take on maintaining the website.

Marilyn and Shane have met with Kelly Bolen with Idaho Parents Unlimited to setup a template for the Council to use for their newsletter. The Council hopes to have an electronic newsletter out prior to the July Council meeting.

March was Developmental Disability Awareness month and the Council was able to put together a small campaign for each work day of the month. There were postings on Facebook linked to resources, organizations or programs relating to developmental disability awareness. There was a large increase in traffic on the Council Facebook page during the month of March. This may be a format that can be used for Disability Employment Awareness month in October.

FINANCIAL REPORT – Marilyn Sword

Marilyn presented the financial position report.

Debra Parsons moved to accept the financial position report as presented; seconded by Dona Butler. Motion carried.

REPORT ON THE LEGISLATIVE SESSION & DISABILITY ADVOCACY DAY

Council members reviewed the 2013 Final Legislative Report. See handout.

ADRC PRESENTATION – Raul Enriquez

Raul showed a PowerPoint presentation on Idaho's Aging & Disability Resource Centers. See handout.

PROJECT UPDATES

EMPLOYMENT FIRST – Tracy Warren

Tracy shared the first few slides of the Employment First presentation that will be shown at the 2013 Possibilities of All Abilities Conference at the end of May.

The Collaborative Work Group on Adult DD Services (CWG) has been working to define what should be included in Idaho's benefit package for adults with disabilities. The Employment First Consortium has made recommendations to the CWG on which employment support services could be paid for by Medicaid and included in Idaho's benefits package. The Employment First Consortium looked at guidance provided in 2012 by CMS and decided to recommend that all of those services be included in Idaho's benefits package. *See handout* – IEFC Recommendations: DD Benefits Package – Employment Services.

The Able to Work website is now live and can be viewed at www.AbletoWork.idaho.gov. The website is broken into three areas of emphasis.

- People with disabilities – Information to assist job seekers with disabilities find employment.
- Hiring your workforce – Information for employers that may have questions about hiring individuals with disabilities.
- Service providers – Information to assist service providers in making appropriate referrals.

The Able to Work website also has a helpful resources tab that links people to other state agencies, centers for independent living and community rehabilitation providers.

Tools for Life

The Tools for Life Conference was held in Boise on March 7-8 with an Employment theme. Council staff coordinated an Employment Track Workgroup that planned and secured conference keynote presenters, a local employer panel, and all employment track sessions.

There were 267 attendees, including 134 students from 33 school districts. Highlights of the conference included dynamic keynote presentations by John Evans and Dwayne Dyer; a panel of local employers who provided important tips to students about applying for and being successful in a job; the It's My Business Expo; and evening parent sessions.

The first Idaho "It's My Business Expo" was held as part of the Tools for Life conference in Boise. Eight entrepreneurs participated in the Expo. They all had display tables with informational materials about their business, how they got started, resources they used, etc. Four of the participants had products for sale at the Expo and did very well. The Expo opened on Thursday afternoon and the evening reception was open to the public. Approximately 125-150 people visited the Expo over the 2 days. This event will be continued at future conferences.

Workstrides

Workstrides is a program that Idaho Vocational Rehabilitation (IDVR) is implementing this year. The program is meant to help transition age youth and young adults with disabilities to identify their strengths and weaknesses and help identify a vocational goal as well as work readiness. IDVR has experienced success and overall positive feedback from participants. The training is very interactive and individuals attend for one week of half days - a total of 20 hours. IDVR will be encouraging transition students to attend these trainings in the summer as appropriate, as well as possibly winter break as feasible. Times and locations vary throughout the state, but are being run about monthly, so there are a number of opportunities. The IDVR counselors will refer individuals to this program and classes are facilitated by IDVR staff.

Idaho Employment First Initiative Website

The Council has secured the domain address of employmentfirst.idaho.gov and Tracy will begin work soon to develop content for the site. She will work with Access Idaho to design and layout the initial site and then Tracy will maintain and update the information on the site going forward.

Employment First Community of Practice (EFCoP)

Being part of the EFCoP allows Idaho Employment First Consortium (IEFC) members to access information and resources including free monthly webinars with national experts talking about topics and issues related to the implementation of Employment First practices. The IEFC also has a state page for Idaho on the ePolicyworks website so that licensed Consortium members can upload and share information that is currently being worked on. Members can also review information and resources developed/shared by other states.

Workshops

The Keys to Accessing the Power of Work workshops are being held this spring at the Lewiston Department of Labor office on May 6th and at the Payette Department of Labor office on May 16th. Training will be provided by Scott Hoover, Idaho Work Incentive Coordinator from DisAbility Rights Idaho. This easy-to-understand interactive workshop will help you make informed choices about work. The training will answer questions to the following:

- Can I still keep my cash/health benefits?
- How will work affect my benefits?
- Which work incentives help transition age youth?

INCLUSIVE EDUCATION INITIATIVE - Alison Lowenthal

Alison reviewed the Inclusive Education Initiative handout outlining the Council's plan objective and current activities. The Inclusive Education Task Force will be meeting in June/July to develop strategic activities for the next 6-12 months.

Tracy mentioned that the newly revised Moving On Transition Binder is now on the Council website and available to download. The new materials include the parent/student friendly version of the graduation guidance document and a transition timeline. The binder is being translated into Spanish and will be available by the end of the school year.

COLLABORATIVE WORK GROUP ON ADULT DD SERVICES – Marilyn Sword

The Collaborative Work Group on Adult DD Services web page can be found at <http://www.icdd.idaho.gov/projects/Adult%20Services/ASR.html>. A link at the bottom of the page will take you to meeting minutes and handouts for those interested in reading about the group's progress. The CWG will be meeting next on May 7th, 2013. Most of the last meeting was spent taking the information gathered by nine people on the CWG, each of whom researched a different state and brought back information about that state's system. The service arrays in each state were compared to the services provided in Idaho and the group found that Idaho has a good array of services. A couple of states combine their mental health and DD system, so their service arrays looked a little different than Idaho's. During the next CWG meeting members will be clustering services into the following three services groups: employment, developmental therapy or other community based prevocational services, and residential services. Katherine Hansen and Jim Baugh have the lead in developing the discussion and starting to develop some specific recommendations about service packages for adults in Idaho. Effective July 1, 2013, the services that are in Idaho's state plan for adults will be moved over to a 1915i waiver. This will allow more latitude in the service array for people who are not waiver eligible. Currently, individuals that are not eligible for institutional level of care, cannot get the menu of services available to people on the waiver.

The CWG is currently discussing eligibility determination and budgets for adult services. The Scale of Independent Behavior-Revised (SIB-R) and the Inventory of Individual Needs are tools currently used in determining budgets. The Inventory of Individual Needs is lacking in questions that will inform or increase a budget that has employment goals in it. If a budget is developed and it is inadequate to provide employment supports, it cannot be increased to add employment supports. Budget reconsiderations are only looked at for issues of health and safety. This has had an unintended consequence of removing employment supports for a lot of people. Rather than trying to do it after the budget is developed, there needs to be a way to build those employment supports into the tool that determines the budget. An alternative to the SIB-R is the Supports Intensity Scale (SIS) which appears to be a bit better but still requires the use of an inventory of individual tool. It appears that the SIB-R might not be able to be upgraded to work with newer computer systems even though our service system in that tool. Switching over to something like the supports intensity scale may be necessary because we may not be able to continue using the SIB-R with newer computer systems. The CWG will need to provide input on what future assessment tools need to look like and that those tools have the ability to be upgraded as computer systems are upgraded.

The CWG has also the future of services under managed care in Idaho. They have been getting regular updates on the behavioral health managed care model which will start July 1st and impact mental health services and substance abuse treatment. Updates have also been provided to the CWG on managed care for people who are dually eligible for Medicare/Medicaid. The implementation date for that has been pushed back 3 months to March 1, 2014. Marilyn provided Art Evans with information received from the State of Florida which requires the Managed Care Organization (MCO) to be able to demonstrate the capacity to manage long term services and supports to people with developmental disabilities before those will be included in their managed care plan. Most MCOs are insurance carriers and have little to no experience with these services. There was a discussion early on in Idaho about carving those services out and continue having these as a fee for service system. The decision has not yet been made on whether or not the long term supports will be in a managed care delivery system yet. Jean indicated that as implementation draws nearer, the department might have the ability to carve those out. CMS has given some inclination that they would be ok with that. The “carve out” would just be for waiver services; all other Medicaid services for people with developmental disabilities would still go through the managed care organization. There needs to be some type of collaboration between the managed care units for people that are going to have two ways of doing business and how that would work together. Some of the states have done this by the state themselves being the managed care organization. Some states have put together provider networks that have been the managed care organizations. The goal is that the service coordinator would be the link to the two so there would be someone still coordinating the services.

JAVA – Christine Pisani

Christine presented at the Justice Alliance for Vulnerable Adults yesterday on violence toward people with developmental disabilities in Idaho. She learned that the Southwest Area Agency on Aging, that houses Adult Protection services locally, has only four investigators that are responsible for ten counties. When a call comes in reporting an incident, investigators have 72 hours to respond. Christine spoke with Sarah Scott and was informed they are barely able to keep up with the amount of calls that come in.

SALN – Christine Pisani

A contract is in place to fund SALN for a second year. The focus this year will be to get support in place for the individual chapters. Having paid support is critical to keep the chapters growing and moving forward.

POSSIBILITIES OF ALL ABILITIES CONFERENCE – Christine Pisani

Christine recognized Colleen Sisk, Paul Tierney, Toni Belknap-Brinegar, Don Alveshire, Jim Baugh, Julie Fodor and the agencies they represent for their financial support for the 2013 Possibilities of All Abilities Conference.

Christine distributed the conference schedule at a glance to Council members. All of the conference sessions are being presented by individuals with disabilities.

Joelle Brouner, the opening keynote speaker, is a person who has a developmental disability who is the Executive Director of the Washington State Voc Rehab Council. She comes from a background of working on employment as well as violence toward people with disabilities. She will be speaking on finding your own personal power and how that relates to protecting yourself from being a victim of abuse.

Larry Bissonnette and Tracy Thresher, the stars of the Wretches & Jabberers movie, both have Autism and were not given the means to communicate until much later in life. They were given laptops and some technical assistance and are now communicating through their laptops. They have traveled around the world meeting self advocates in other countries who use laptops to communicate and to spread the word that people with Autism have much to offer. Larry has a blog and writes about his experiences and the travels. He is also an artist and is shipping some of his artwork to be displayed at the conference. Tracy and Larry are supported by two extraordinary support people, Pascal Cheng and Harvey Lavoy. Pascal and Harvey travel with Tracy and Larry and have supported them for years.

The Council and the Treasure Valley Autism Society will be hosting an evening at Boise State University to show the Wretches & Jabberers movie. Boise State's Public Policy Department as well as their Special Education Department will be co-sponsoring this event. This event is free to the public and flyers are available for those interested.

Christine has been working with Marsha Franklin with Idaho Public Television who does the show Dialogue. She is very interested in interviewing Annette Lutes, a teacher with Black Canyon High School in Emmett. Annette has worked hard to raise the money to provide her students, all of whom have communication barriers, with IPADs. Her students are now able to communicate and do amazing things with their IPADs. Marsha is working to arrange a photographer for the interview. Paul Tierney will be driving Larry and Tracy to Emmett to meet the kids at the Black Canyon High School. Marsha will be filming the interview with Larry and Tracy. The interview and clips from the Wretches and Jabberers movie will be aired on Dialogue.

There are two charter buses that are being provided to transport conference attendees to and from Boise, one from northern Idaho and one from the east. There is no cost to ride either bus but there are limited accessible spots on each bus.

CAPACITY BUILDING – Marilyn Sword

Marilyn will be sending out the nomination form and flyer for the Community Inclusion Award to Council members and they will also be posted on the website. The deadline for nomination is June 21, 2013. This is for any organization, club, business or group that includes people with

disabilities in a natural way. The Council has awarded two of these; the first to the KROC Center in CDA and the second was to the Treasure Valley YMCA – Caldwell Branch.

Council adjourned for the day at 4:03 p.m.

Friday, April 26, 2013 - 8:30 am – Noon

MEMBERS PRESENT

Toni Belknap-Brinegar, Shiloh Blackburn, Dona Butler, Ritchy Cardwell, Jean Christensen, David Dekker, Jane Donnellan, Julie Fodor, Jo Lynn Garrison, Jenniffer Halladay, Alison Lowenthal, Debra Parsons, Joe Raiden, Colleen Sisk, Joni Sullivan, Paul Tierney, Jacquie Watson, Denise Wetzel

MEMBERS ABSENT

Jim Baugh, Raul Enriquez, TeRonda Robinson

GUESTS

Pam Blackburn, Acena Dekker

STAFF PRESENT

Marilyn Sword, Amanda Holloway, Tracy Warren, Christine Pisani, Shane Carlton, Suzie Hanks

FULL COUNCIL MEETING

CALL TO ORDER

Denise Wetzel called the meeting to order at 8:30 a.m.

REPORT ON THE NATIONAL LEARNING COLLABORATIVE ON COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT – Denise Wetzel

More than 20 DD Councils from all over the country that wanted to learn more about community building attended the Learning Collaborative on Community Engagement put on by John McKnight from Northwestern University in Chicago November 29-30, 2012. Real examples were used of communities that John helped get started.

At the end of February, Denise went to a meeting at the Kettering Foundation in Dayton, Ohio. The Kettering Foundation is a civic engagement organization. The Foundation was very interested in what DD Councils around the country had tried in the area of community building. There were a lot of examples presented.

Denise shared her PowerPoint presentation on Community Development summarizing what she learned from John McKnight November 29-30, 2012 in Chicago. [See presentation handout.](#)

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Consumer Leadership Caucus – Dave Dekker

CLC did not meet during this meeting but will be having a conference call in the next couple of weeks.

Membership Committee – Colleen

There were 10 phone interviews that were conducted by the Membership Committee. Committee members spent the bulk of the committee meeting reviewing the notes from those interviews and putting together recommendations for the Governor. Tracy will get these recommendations to the Governor's Office.

Committee members reviewed the full Council evaluation notes from the last meeting.

Because we will have new members during the July meeting, it is important for those who have not completed their bio's to get one turned in to Tracy. There will be some activities during the July meeting that will use that bio information. This will help our new members get to know everyone. New member orientation will be the day before the July Council meeting. Any Council member can be part of new member orientation.

Governance Committee – Debra

The committee had a lot of discussion on three conference funding requests that were received. We had talked last meeting about changing our policy of only funding one person to go to each conference. We decided that since the money is not being used, we could adjust that and if we had two people that wanted to go to the same conference but were from different locations geographically, it would be ok to fund both. Two of the applicants that were received were for the same conference but the applicants are from different areas of the state. All applications received were approved.

Marilyn discussed Council funding and the effects sequestration will have on Council operations.

Public Policy – Joe Raiden

Committee members discussed the legislation presented during the last session.

Rob Luce, Chad Cardwell and Art Evans joined the committee to discuss a letter that recently came out from Dick Armstrong regarding Children's Services Redesign. There will be a stakeholder meeting next Friday from 1:00 – 3:00 that will include Art Evans, Chad Cardwell, Jim Baugh and Amy Cunningham from DRI, Angela Lindig from IPUL, Christine Pisani, Marilyn Sword, Amanda Holloway, Denise Wetzel, Jacque Watson and Representative Grant Burgoyne. They will be discussing issues regarding Children's Redesign.

An outcome in the newly amended contract with the Self Advocate Leadership Network is to have a stronger presence of self advocates involved in the actual trainings during Disability Advocacy Day so that we can demonstrate leadership and involvement of self advocates in public policy issues.

Dave Dekker moved to accept the committee reports; seconded by Debra Parsons. Motion carried.

MEMBER REPORTS

Debra Parsons – Debra had a good visit with her brother who is recovering from cancer. In her absence, her husband had to deal with the issue of the children being dropped from Medicaid.

Joni Sullivan – Joni’s son Ryan is still attending NIC. Since Joni did not reapply for the Council, she will be volunteering with the board for Specialized Needs Recreation in Coeur d’Alene.

Colleen Sisk – Colleen has been focused on helping families transition their children into the redesigned services. Her business is serving about 55 kids now and a couple of years ago only had 8 kids.

Jennifer Halladay – Jenn had some personal health issues that she has been dealing with since before the last meeting. She was able to attend Advocacy Day at the Capitol with her daughter Sam.

Paul Tierney – The Autism Society is doing their annual run for Autism awareness tomorrow at Veteran’s Memorial Park at 9:00 a.m. There is a family stroll and then a 5k run. Paul encouraged everyone to take advantage of the Wretches & Jabberers event at Boise State.

Alison Lowenthal – Alison will be going to North Carolina for the national Secondary Transition Technical Assistance Institute. The State Department of Education is working on their new five year plan and a new state performance plan. The Office of Special Education Programs has the new state performance plan out for public comment because there are going to be some changes to it. One of the changes will be more emphasis on the post school outcomes for students.

Idaho has been selected to be a state working intensively with the national Secondary Transition Technical Assistance Institute this summer. This will mean intensive professional development and technical assistance from them. The SDE is also working with the Blaine County school district to setup some intensive technical assistance for them because they are in the process of developing a community based 18-21 program, that can hopefully be used as a model for other districts. Alison is working closely with Vocational Rehabilitation and the Idaho Commission for the Blind and Visually Impaired to develop a collaborative training to be held in regionally in September for teams of school district and VR staff. The focus is on

increasing the collaboration between districts and streamline that process more around the state to increase and support that transition from school to adult services.

Julie Fodor – This past year, the CDHD has been working on setting up a doctoral training program in Autism and other neurodevelopmental disabilities. Students are enrolled and are participating with the Utah Leadership, Education and Neurodevelopmental Disabilities program. The training is for two years. The first year is general disabilities knowledge including a lot of advocacy information and the second year is focused specifically on Autism.

Julie has recently been working with Saint Luke's and Northwest Behavioral Health to submit a letter of intent for an Autism training network program in Idaho. Hopefully we will get the opportunity to submit a full application and bring this program to Idaho.

Julie is finishing up her term as AUCD's president. It's been a great experience and she has learned much in the last year working on the national level. She was invited to the White House in December as one of the national leaders and community leaders in the disability field that were brought in for that session.

Marilyn – Marilyn received an email this morning about a mental health clinic provider in the Magic Valley called Seasons of Hope. Their offices in Twin Falls and Burley were just closed because of fraud allegations.

Denise Wetzel - Denise attended a parent led consultation through URLEND (Utah Regional Leadership Education in Neurodevelopmental Disabilities). She was able to connect with various professionals throughout the northwest through a web-based meeting and ask for advice to help her sons.

Denise recently ran into Amber Blalock at a resource fair in Lewiston on behalf of Families Together. Amber presented to the Council about what she learned at the Amputee Conference. Amber and her family had just moved to Lewiston a couple of weeks ago.

Shiloh Blackburn – Shiloh's youngest brother and his wife just had a second son.

SALN was able to renew the contract with the Council for another year. There will be officer elections held at the Self-Advocacy Conference. Shiloh will not be running for president again.

Joe Raiden – Joe's lawn care business has really taken off this year after having a rough last year due to injury. His family is doing well and he is looking forward to the Self Advocacy Conference.

Ritchy Cardwell - After the January meeting, Ritchy was struggling due to losing his Medicaid which caused him to stop taking his medications. With help from the crisis team, Ritchy was

able to get his Medicaid and get back on his medications. Ritchy just recently started working again after being without work for a few months.

Jane Donnellan – With her responsibility for all the state and federal plans at VR, this is a fairly busy time of year for Jane. Their state strategic plan is completed and they are currently in the process of finishing up their state plan that goes to the Rehabilitation Services Administration (RSA). That will be posted for public comment sometime in early June for about 2 weeks. An email will be sent out with links so look for that information.

During the legislative session, VR had their rules approved. Their field services policy manual is incorporated by reference in rule which means that every time they change field service policy, it must go through the rule promulgation process and legislative approval. They will be working to remove that. We did a considerable amount of work over the past year updating that field services policy manual to be in line with our federal regulations to enhance best business practice. It's been a huge effort on a lot of peoples' part, including Disability Rights Idaho, who was involved in that process. In June, there will be teams, including DRI advocates, who will travel to the regions to train VR staff. VR has also enhanced mediation and the appeals process in their rule making process. Jane had the pleasure of presenting the rules to the House subcommittee.

During the session, VR did get appropriations to increase funding for the Council for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing. They are really just a pass through with our agency. There was an approval of \$16,500 and that was to enhance interpreter services and outreach for the Council. In addition, there was an additional \$170,000 given toward the Extended Employment Services Program. A large part of that was to increase the provider reimbursement rate. Howard Fulk, who is the manager of that program, is working to see how that is going to affect the EES waiting list for long term support services.

VR is required every three years to complete a Comprehensive Statewide Needs Assessment. They have contracted with an entity to do that and are working to develop surveys to use. There will be a customer survey, a partner/staff survey and an employer survey. They want to know what employers may or may not know regarding disabilities as well as reasonable accommodations. They will also be holding focus groups and hope is to wrap up the Comprehensive Statewide Needs Assessment in October. VR will share the results of the surveys and focus groups with the DD Council.

Toni Belknap-Brinegar - Toni is on the disciplinary team for the Valley View School Board and has been asked to be part of every disciplinary hearing that involves a student on an IEP. She is fortunate that her employer is supportive of not only Toni's time but of advocating for people with disabilities. They are providing funding to send any clients they serve to the conference if they cannot afford to pay for the registration fees.

Jean Christensen – Since 2011, the Department has been in a lawsuit against the Adult DD Program about their notices in relations to the budget and the information that is provided about the budget. Jean has been processing appeals and sitting in hearings for the last couple of years. The notice and the information supporting the notice have been finalized and it went back through the plaintiff's attorney. Medicaid is hoping to come to a compromise with them about the information provided. CMS has said that DHW has provided much more than what is required.

Jean is on the Employment First Consortium and the Collaborative Work Group on Adult DD Services. I've been in this business for over 25 years and not much has changed around support systems in relation to the waiver and the supports provided. She is especially excited about the employment focus. She hopes that these efforts will change the mental model of our state regarding people with disabilities working. She is also excited about the redesign because it has been an interesting look at other states. Idaho's benefit package is pretty good in relation to some of the other states sampled, but there are ways to improve our package and hopefully make some recommendations soon.

Dave Dekker – On the March 27th Dave had a successful hernia surgery. He has been off pain medication and is now pain free. In the year since his bypass surgery, Dave has lost 215 pounds. Dave is excited to attend the Self Advocacy Conference. This will be the first time he has attended.

Jacque Watson – Jacque had the opportunity to work with the Idaho Assistive Technology Project and help MCH fund the Tools for Life Conference. She attended the conference and appreciated seeing all of the young people and just how excited they were to be there. John Evans was the opening speaker and he was amazing. The Department will likely provide funding for this event for the next four years. Something that came out of the Tools for Life conference that was the Children's Special Health Program has created transition binders for three different age groups. The binders are being used to empower youth or children with special health care needs to start taking part in their health care and eventually take over and become responsible for their own health care. The three age groups are elementary to junior high, junior high to high school and high school to college or workforce. The Children's Special Health Program's Care Coordinator, who is an RN, was at the Tools for Life Conference to market the transition binder kits. During the conference, 400 kits were distributed.

For several years, the Children's Special Health Program has funded clinics at St. Luke's for children genetic metabolic disorders. Doctors are brought in from Oregon, because Idaho does not have any specialty genetic or metabolic physicians here, especially pediatric physicians. On a monthly or quarterly basis, these doctors would hold clinics; the waiting list for the clinics is long. Recently, St. Luke's expressed interest in taking on these clinics. Since the state is not in the business of providing direct care to patients, they are negotiating the contract with St. Luke's to take over the operations of the genetic and metabolic clinics. The state will provide

partial funding. St. Luke's is currently establishing an employment relationship with the doctors that the clinics would bring in. Currently the genetic clinics are only available at St. Luke's in Boise. They are available statewide and available regardless of ability to pay. If you sign up for the Children's Special Health Program while at the clinic, your consultation will be paid for. Metabolic clinics are held in north Idaho twice a year. If a family needs to travel to Boise from anywhere in the state, travel expenses are reimbursable.

The Maternal & Child Health Program is exploring the medical home initiative and how the medical home is the new provision of care for both adults and children that have elevated needs or special needs. The Medicaid CHIP Project has a couple different pilots that they are doing with pediatric providers solely for children on Medicaid. MCH has partnered with them and are looking to do medical home pilot sites in Idaho Falls and Pocatello. A care coordinator will be stationed in Regions 6 and 7 to allow for the medical home care coordination to occur at rural pediatric sites that probably don't have the resources to have a care coordinator or conduct a medical home at the level it needs to be done. We will have a shared care coordinator to do medical home at rural sites for kids with special healthcare needs. MCH is in the early stages of developing the contracts but it looks like it is something that is going to move forward.

ELECTION OF COUNCIL CHAIR FOR THE 2013 – 2014 TERM

Denise Wetzel was nominated to serve as Chair for a second term. There were no other nominations. Denise was elected as the new Council Chair by unanimous consent. Her name will be forwarded to the Governor for recommendation for appointment.

FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

Five-year plan direction

Team building – new members

Member training – Communications & Body Language

Valley Regional Transit – Treasure Valley transportation news

Executive Director Evaluation

Adult Protection presentation

Report on the 2013 Possibilities of All Abilities Conference

Children's Redesign implementation

Conference funding reports from attendees

Selection of work teams and committees

Vice-Chair and Consumer Rep elections

MEETING EVALUATION

Meeting evaluations were collected from Council members

ADJOURN

Meeting adjourned at 11:10 a.m.