NACDD Board of Directors Meeting via Zoom—July 12, 2021

Attendees: Jeremy Norden-Paul (WA); Val Bishop (SC); Shannon Buller (WY); Eric Stoker (UT); Vicky Davidson (MO); Beth Swedeen (WI); Dan Shannon (MA); Steve Gieber (KS); Julie Horntvedt (ND); Kim Mercer-Schleider (IL); Aaron Carruthers (CA)

NACDD: Donna Meltzer, Robin Troutman; Angela Castillo-Epps; Sheryl Matney; Rafael Rolon-Muniz; Erin Prangley

Guests: Ryan Revell (IN); Arlene Poncelet (SD); Brett Williams (MI); Val Breen (FL); Darryle Powell (AL)

Meeting called to order at 1:06 pm

**Meeting minutes**- Vicky Davidson

**Motion to approve board minutes from April 14th**—Eric Stoker made the motion and Dan Shannon seconded. Motion approved by unanimous vote at 1:08 pm.

**President’s Remarks**—Steve Gieber

We lost a member of our Board, Jean-Marie Lawrence earlier this summer. We are of course all saddened by this loss for her loved ones, the TN DD Council, and our Board. We were only just getting to know Jean-Marie. Is there anything we should do in her memory? Discussion included the following:

* Jeremy Norden-Paul said that he would send around some of the memorials that were being sent around in Tennessee and see where we can add something from NACDD.
* Have a moment of memory/reflection for Jean-Marie and other people who have passed in the past year that were active in our network and at the September General Assembly meeting. Have someone from Tennessee (Wanda) to speak specifically on Jean-Marie but also have Steve discuss in his President’s report and then a separate moment of silence.

TAI begins this week (13th, 15th, 20th, and 22nd) – thanks to the ITACC team for putting that together for us. Our Annual Conference is also around the corner, August 2-5 and thanks to Robin and the Planning Committee for that work.

We also have been preparing for the RFP for the new ITACC contract. Last time we met, this board approved allowance for Donna to hire a consultant to help with the contract to ensure we would be ready on time with an outstanding proposal. Donna hired Angela Ostrom (who is also working on several other contracts with NACDD, including our vaccine awareness campaign). Once the RFP is posted, the staff team will review, tweak, and get the contract ready for submission. In the next week or so, Donna will be sending out a template of a support letter for Board members and Council EDs to write in support of the contract. She will collect the letters to accompany our submission of the ITACC contract.

With the COVID Delta variant prominent in many states, and still not enough people having received the vaccine to reach herd immunity, we continue to put the push for vaccination across the country and through our vaccine campaign. This month, the campaign is focusing on parents of children with disabilities whose first language is Spanish, as well as on native Hawaiians. NACDD is also applying for additional funding for this campaign as it seems it will be needed longer than originally anticipated.

**CEO Report—Donna Meltzer**

Questions

Kim Mercer-Schleider—Regarding the opportunity on futures planning, is NACDD still looking for 10 councils or have we filled the spots?

Donna noted that yes, we are still looking for potential states/territories that would be interested in the first iteration of the community of practice, but until we have confirmation of the grant, we will hold on providing additional information. If we get the grant, NACDD and the partners will circle back with those states that are still on the fence.

**Committee Reports**

**SAC- Eric Stoker**

The NACDD Self-Advocacy Committee met on June 25, 2021. Information was shared about the NACDD Annual Conference and the August 4, Self-Advocacy Events – Award Ceremony and Panel Discussion. Shared date, time, and that it is free for all self-advocates to attend by Zoom with registration. The SA Discussion Series and some of the recent topics were also discussed.

The new DIAL call-in line and its purpose was also discussed. Donna Meltzer shared the information about how to call the DIAL program for support and noted that people with disabilities are welcome and encouraged to apply to work for the call-in line. The group did not share much information about working with SARTAC.

Donna Meltzer shared information about NACDD’s COVID Vaccine Campaign and how to get involved. Allie talked about being a teacher with a head injury and her experience with the vaccine and how she has shared it with her students. She offered to do something with Donna for the campaign and Donna will follow-up. Allie is also interested in sharing some materials/resources on TBI that she has and would like to share more about her resources and teach how to build advocacy connections with state/local brain injury groups. Everyone likes attending these meetings and wants to continue to learn more about what is available for advocacy and what councils should do. The SAC will meet again in September.

**NACDD SA Discussion Series**

The Series met on June 17, 2021. The topic was Supported Decision Making and other alternatives to Guardianship. SARTAC developed an accessible flyer for the meeting and shared it widely with their listservs. NACDD’s sister agencies, AUCD and NDRN also shared the invitation with their networks as well. There were over 60 people in the meeting from all over the country. The discussion starters were Allison Hall and Jordan Anderson who discussed Center on Youth Voice, Youth Choice. Santa Perez also gave a speech on her and her state’s work on the topic of Supported Decision Making. A follow-up email was sent to all participants with multiple resources, SDM templates and other links to support advocates to continue learning and acting on the topic. There will be no SA Discussion Series in July. For August, all of the SA Discussion Series members have been invited to attend the NACDD Annual Conference’s self-advocate panel on August 4th. Regularly scheduled SA Discussion Series meetings will resume in September.

**Nominating Committee- Shannon Buller**

The nominating period has now closed. We had reopened the search to get more diversity and received an additional nomination from a parent advocate in Arizona. In addition Santa Perez expressed interest in running for Jean-Marie’s last year of her term. We are also looking for one or two additional people to serve on the nominating committee.

**Question**—Jeremy Norden-Paul asked if we have done a shout out on the weekly Wednesday network call and have current board members share a few words as well. Since we have time before the materials have to go out to the membership, we can open it up an additional 10 days (close on July 23rd) and will discuss on the 7/14 call.

**Finance Update—Julie Horntvedt/Robin Troutman**

As Donna reported in her comments, we are doing well financially due to limited expenses and increased grant revenue. A small group is looking at the current dues formula to make it fairer for all the councils, and they met with the states with the largest allotments. The group is reconvening to work on different scenarios and will get back to those councils soon. We ideally wanted to have this voted on in September, but given timing, we will likely have a vote at a special session.

**Policy Committee—Erin Prangley**

The Public Policy Committee (PPC) held meetings in April, May and June to review federal legislative priorities, including President Biden’s American Jobs Plan and American Family Plan, Better Care Better Jobs Act ($400B HCBS funding), COVID-19 related legislation, and FY2022 appropriations and heard from committee task forces.

Kristin Britton resigned from the chair and has accepted a job with the Massachusetts state government. Brett Williams is the acting chairperson. Brett is currently the Policy Analyst at Michigan Developmental Disabilities Council and has actively served on the committee for several years.

**PPC MEETINGS**

The April meeting focused on the administrative win of a new Partnership with CDC to Increase Access to COVID-19 Vaccines ($4M to DD Councils). State Policy Task Force reported out that they are focusing on the American Rescue Plan and how states are implementing funding for people with I/DD. Robin Troutman gave a report on the Disability Policy Seminar.

The May meeting included a deep dive on the HCBS Access Act and Biden proposals: American Jobs Act; American Families Act. Work continued on the House and Senate appropriations letters. The State Policy Task Force reported and shared best practices on state vaccine funding practices. The Medicaid Task Force reported out on a meeting they had with the National Health Law Program about obtaining technical assistance on Medicaid Waivers. Robin Troutman reported that DPS was a success with 1100 people registered (usually 900 attend in person) and very good participation from the councils because the virtual option allowed more people to attend (especially for those with medical needs), and this option was less expensive which was important.

The June meeting focused on the President’s budget which included a $10M increase in the request for DD Councils (from current $79M to $89M) and steps to bring our congressional request in line with the higher amount requested by the president. The committee also discussed policy issues to include in the NACDD annual conference.

**The next Public Policy Meeting is July 15, 2 pm, via Zoom. (Note this is a rescheduled meeting from July 1.)** All NACDD representatives (council members, self-advocates and staff) are welcome to attend.

Join Zoom Meeting at https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82156490017

Meeting ID: 821 5649 0017

One tap mobile

+13017158592,,82156490017# US (Washington D.C)

Call to approve Brett Williams as the new chair of the policy committee—Dan Shannon made the motion and Eric Stoker seconded. Motion passed by unanimous vote at 2:20 pm ET. Brett Williams is the new Public Policy Chairperson.

**Member Services Committee—Robin Troutman**

The Member Services Committee met on to continue discussions on the 2021 NACDD Annual Conference. The conference will be held virtually on August 2-5th. We have secured BrandLive to be our production company and platform designer. The group also selected the two self-advocacy recipients of the Champions of Equal Opportunity: Sarah Carmany of Michigan and Jena Crafton of Alaska. The ceremony will be on Wednesday August 4th.

**Agenda (All times are Eastern Standard Time)**

**Monday August 2, 2021—How the Biden-Harris Administration is Making Disability Rights a Priority**

2:15 pm-3:15 pm CONFIRMED: Alison Barkoff, Acting Assistant Secretary, Administration on Community Living

INVITED: Kimberly Knackstedt, Director of Disability Policy for the Domestic Policy Council

3:30 pm- 4:45 pm Reflections on the Administration’s Agenda with National Disability Organization CEOs

Curt Decker, National Disability Rights Network (NDRN)

John Tschida, Association of University Centers on Disabilities (AUCD)

Julia Bascom, Autistic Self-Advocacy Network, ASAN

Angela Williams, Easterseals

Mike Brogioli, TASH

MODERATOR: Donna Meltzer, NACDD

**Tuesday August 3, 2021—How Congress is Making Disability Rights a Priority**

2:00 pm- 3:30 pm Hear from key House and Senate offices on the work they are doing on disability rights, and inclusion and equity for people with disabilities

4:00 pm- 5:30 pm Concurrent sessions—How DD councils are working within their state to advance the rights of people with disabilities on major issues

Topics include: Elimination of 14c and Subminimum wage; HCBS/Medicaid; Education; Voting

**Wednesday August 4, 2021—Champions of Equal Opportunity Awards and Self-Advocacy Panel**

2:00 pm- 3:00 pm Champions of Equal Opportunity Awards Ceremony

3:15 pm- 5:00 pm Self-Advocacy panel and Q/A

Moderator, Eric Stoker, Utah DD Council

Lauren Gerkin, Texas DD Council

Lindsey Spoon, Oklahoma DD Council

Will Farrior, South Carolina DD Council

Robert O’Mallan, Guam DD Council

**Thursday August 5, 2021—Innovations by DD Councils**

2:00 pm- 3:30 pm Concurrent Sessions

1. Peer to Peer programs—MI and NC
2. Sexuality Education for People with I/DD: Two Statewide Models
3. Innovations in storytelling with Florida and Georgia
4. Criminal justice and school to prison pipeline--PA
5. Self-Determination/Alternatives to Guardianship with TN, WI, VT

4:00 pm- 5:00 pm Closing Plenary—Representation Matters: Hollywood Moves Towards Change

**Social Media update—Rafael Rolon-Muniz**

NACDD’s social media engagement has increased dramatically in the past year. Rafael has compiled a presentation outlining all of this and it is in the board materials folder. It also talks about where NACDD should go next about how we can better communicate our messages to not only policymakers, but people with lived experience and other organizations.

**Comments from participants:**

Angela Castillo-Epps reminded the group that TAI starts tomorrow and that she is still looking for facilitators for the July 20th COVID 2.0 session. If anyone is interested, please contact her.

**Next meeting-** next board meeting will be in September to finalize the FY22 budget. The Finance committee will meet in August to draft the budget. And the General Assembly meeting is September 9th.