

California Department of Developmental Services
Disability Advisory Committee (DAC)

Teleconference Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, July 17, 2013
1:30p.m.

Members Attended:

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| Michael Januse (HQ) | Tami Wasson (FDC) |
| Yash Manchanda (LDC) | LaDonna J. Brown (HQ) |
| Mandy Stewart (LDC) | Eunice Thacker (HQ) |

Guest:

Nicole Patterson, OHRA Liaison (HQ)

Absent:

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|-------------------------|--------------------|
| Diana Hendrickson (SDC) | Cindy Nelson (SDC) |
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Michael Januse called the meeting to order at 1:40p.m., and welcomed all members to the meeting.

I. Approval of June 19, 2013 Minutes

The minutes for June 19, 2013 were not available and will be provided at the July 17, 2013 meeting.

II. Old Business

There is no old business at the present time.

III. New Business

- **National Disability Awareness Month/October:** Michael Januse has lined up Brown Bag speaker Laurie Hoirup, author, for National Disability Awareness Month. Yash asked if October 16th could be considered as it would be a good time for committee members to ask for management approval to attend. Nicole asked if HQ Conference Room 360, if available, could be secured. The advantage to this would be to use the webcam should the DC members be unable to travel. Michael hopes to confirm the guest speaker by the end of August.
- **DDS Appreciation and Disability Awareness Picnic:** Concerning the DDS Appreciation and Disability Awareness Picnic on July 24, the DAC will demonstrate the activity on how to deal with dyslexia. Nicole suggested that this activity is easier to manage and believes that there will be greater participation. There will also be a wheelchair activity for employees to use to see how difficult it is to maneuver over grass and other rough areas. There will also be candy goodie bags with DAC identifier tags for those who participate in the activities.

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- **Discussion of 2013 Goals:** Three (3) goals were discussed:
 - Outreach
 - Succession Planning
 - Access Issues

Michael noted that the following is needed: consistency in reasonable accommodations, available resources, uniformity regarding restroom and door accessibility and accommodation. He also said that if DAC remains consistent, it will draw a wellspring of interest in volunteerism. Yash expressed that we look at how volunteers are staggering annual, so that there is still a full committee, while we are recruiting.

Tami expressed that she would like to see flyers to show what we do as a DAC. Nicole said that she can send the developmental center members 20-30 DAC brochures as needed. Yash also suggested that we get photos of DAC members for the brochures. Michael said that the cost of printing such a quality brochure had been discussed prior and that it could be cost prohibitive.

Michael said that LaDonna is working on several new proposed brochure template designs for the committee to review to see what they like. Michael also thought it would be a good public relations piece to post the brochure styles on HQ OASIS website to be voted on. This would be a fun and inexpensive way to get people involved.

Tami said they would use the brochure for their newsletter. A lot of problems that the facilities face are that they are unable to open files like this because of servers that are not updated. Tami also asked if the facilities can print DAC material and charge it to their budgets. Michael said he wasn't sure why this could not be done, as it is department related.

Michael asked if there were any upcoming goals to be focused on. Tami said that promotion and awareness of growth of the DAC is important. It was stressed by Michael the importance of involving others from the outside.

- **Disability Awareness Month:** Kathleen said that we should consider inviting other agencies for National Disability Awareness Month. Examples were Department of Rehabilitation, Department of Health Services Department of Social Services and Department of Health and Human Services Agency. Kathleen also said that DOR and sometimes Health Services do large events and invite others.

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- **Next Meeting, August 21 plans:**

- Invite Pam Robison to give review of what DDS's DAC is looking at regarding accessibility issues: elevator door closure timing, repositioning recycle cans from elevator button panels.

Kathleen shared DAC goals for upcoming year that include:

Director's support

DAC is more important to state now than before – inclusive workforce needed
DAC is in place to recruit/hire/retain employees with disabilities and how do we do this? (by using LEAP program which has zero 2013 hires, upward mobility that is not being used at all). What can we do to change these figures and implement best practices by influencing our managers and supervisors.

Kathleen asked us to think about how to make these areas possible.

Kathleen also suggested that we look at getting, or contacting Marie Trahey at CalHR regarding information on the LEAP and Upward Mobility programs. Department of Rehabilitation has recently hired a Diversity Officer and a Diversity website has been created. Franchise Tax Board has a very active DAC as well. Kathleen encouraged that since Eunice is now the SDAC representative, she can get good information

Nicole asked Kathleen if the DAC has a budget and the response was no. Kathleen said that a proposal would need to be prepared and submitted to the Director explaining what the budget would entail and what funds would be used for, e.g. DVD's, videos and other resource material and supplies for events. She offered to look into it and speak to Mark Hutchinson in the Director's office about it. Michael indicated that a \$200 budget is what he is thinking of.

Action Items:

Eunice will talk to Tamara Rodriguez, HQ lead of the DDS Social Committee about DAC T-shirt idea.

Michael will scan and email Laurie Hoirup's bookmark to members.

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Meeting adjourned at 2:22p.m.

Respectfully Submitted:

LaDonna J. Brown
Secretary