

California Department of Developmental Services  
Disability Advisory Committee (DAC)  
Teleconference Meeting Minutes  
Tuesday, May 12, 2020  
10:00 a.m.

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**Members in Attendance:**

Julia Edwards: (HQ-Sacramento), DAC Chairperson  
Hope Beale: (HQ-Sacramento)  
Ronald McCray: (HQ-Sacramento), SDAC Liaison  
Anastacia "Stacie" Reed: (HQ-Sacramento), Secretary  
Alexandra "Alex" Sanders: (HQ-Sacramento), Vice-Chairperson  
Jessica Love: (HQ-Sacramento)  
Nataki Owino: (HQ-Sacramento)  
Nicole Sanchez: (California Arts Council (CAC), DAC Representative

**Guests:**

Dena Ruiz: (HQ-Sacramento)  
Mario Solis: (HQ-Sacramento)  
Alexandra Bravo: (HQ-Sacramento)  
Hussain Quettewala: (HQ-Sacramento)  
Jessica Ross: (HQ-Sacramento)  
Brandon Marin: (HQ-Sacramento)  
Seneca St. James: (HQ-Sacramento)  
Esli Ligaya: (HQ-Sacramento)

**Members/Representatives Absent:**

Renee Clark: (Porterville DC)  
Patty Jamal: (Approved Leave): (Porterville DC)  
Elizabeth "Liz" Mard: (HQ-Sacramento)  
Caitlin Fitzwater: (California Arts Council (CAC), DAC Representative)  
Dianne Robbins, Esq: (HQ-Sacramento)

DDS DAC met quorum at the commencement of the meeting. The meeting began at 10:06a.m.

Julia welcomed the membership and guests. She began by asking members and guest to identify themselves before speaking on the call, so everyone knows who is talking.

**Approval of March 2020 Minutes:**

Alex motioned to approve the March 2020 minutes, Stacie seconded, and the DAC unanimously approved the March 2020 minutes.

Julia mentioned that Renee Clark, a DAC member from Porterville, may continue to attend the meetings regularly.

**Sub-committee Reports:**

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- **Speakers and Trainings Subcommittee:**

- Plans to explore a speaking engagement for DDS employees, featuring Dr. Nadine Burke-Harris, Office of the California Surgeon General, are currently on-hold due to COVID-19 restrictions. Julia described Dr. Burke-Harris as a pioneer in Trauma Informed Care, her work with the ACES project, and the correlation of traumatic childhood with troubled adulthood. DAC is still interested in having Dr. Burke-Harris as a guest speaker. Julia mentioned that OHRAS is assisting on the approval for this speaking engagement through the Director's office.
- Mario explained that Nancy Bargmann may have some questions about this activity, but he has not received any information from the Director's Office. He will follow-up with Carla Castaneda.
- Mario informed the membership that John Doyle is transitioning out of his role in the Director's Office, and his replacement is Carla Castaneda. Carla comes from the Department of Finance, and she is currently wrapping up budget work with her old agency. Mario indicated he would update her on the current unfinished DAC business in the Director's Office.
- Julia asked the membership and guests if they have watched the Russ Harris video that was sent out with the agenda. Dr. Harris, an Australian psychotherapist, talks about normalizing feelings during traumatic circumstances, such as trauma caused by the Pandemic
- Julia provided an example of the type of stressors and situations that have arisen out of COVID-19 restrictions, such as the change to virtual communications and interactions. Faceless and voiceless communication can lead to a lot of misunderstandings and negative feelings. Julia suggested that the DAC should be sharing resources with the Department staff that talks about such stressors.
- Jessica Ross stated she thought the Harris video was a good example of resources that can be shared with the Department. Alex replied that J.J. Hernandez is currently sharing similar resources with Department staff.
- Julia will email the Trauma-informed Oregon materials to the members and request a vote before reaching out to the organization to post the materials on the DDS DAC homepage.
- Alex indicated that she would schedule a subcommittee meeting to discuss trainings.

**CHP-CDSS Fair Teleconference:**

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- Stacie Reed shared information she received from Sean Coyle, the CHP-CDSS DAC chair regarding the Disability Fair in August 2020. Sean indicated that a plan for continuing with the fair, has not been determined due to COVID-19; however, a teleconference is being organized and an email invite will be sent out to all fair participants. Date invite email is undetermined.

#### **DAC Recruitment and Renewals**

- Dena Ruiz indicated that she checked the DAC box in the Directors Office and it appears that the Membership applications have not been reviewed and signed yet.
- Julia acknowledged the dedication of the DAC guests who are on the verge of becoming members.

#### **Signage and Logo Subcommittee:**

- On hold due to COVID-19.

#### **ADA Taskforce Subcommittee**

- Alex and Jessica Ross attended the last building meeting. Alex indicated that building manager stated that the broken front door on the 9<sup>th</sup> Street side of the building is awaiting a part and will be fixed once the part comes in.
- Ron McCray said it would probably be prudent to be extra careful to wear gloves while the broken 9<sup>th</sup> Street door is out of order. He also remarked how empty downtown is right now and how the parking situation is wide open.
- Julia asked what the building management plans to do to sanitize the building after everyone returns to work
- Alex indicated that the next Building Manager meeting is on Thursday, May 21, 2020, and more information is likely to be presented during that time.

#### **DDS DAC Homepage Subcommittee**

- Hussain Quettewala indicated that he will have more information at the next DAC meeting.
- Julia suggested a meeting be scheduled to have a talk about the homepage as it has been quite a while since the last meeting and for a meeting to be scheduled soon to discuss its progress.

### **Annual By-Law Review Subcommittee:**

- Julia asked the subcommittee members for an update on the status of the By-Laws. OHRAS indicated that the documents were sent back to DAC Executives on March 23, 2020. Alex indicated that she would get the documents and review the changes again.
- A special review amongst the membership should be the next round of review for the draft By-Laws. After the members review the document, it should be sent to Dianne Robbins for review and feedback.

### **DDS CAC DAC Charter Subcommittee:**

- Julia provided history of relationship between DDS DAC and the California Arts Council for the guests and new membership.
- Nicole indicated that the review of the draft charter has slowed down as the reviewing manager left the agency and has not been replaced. Nicole indicated that she will address the question of the CAC starting their own DAC with the CAC's Director. Action Item: CAC to continue to provide status on charter.

### **Announcements**

- The DAC had nothing to report at this time.

### **Old Business**

- The DAC had nothing to report at this time.

### **New Business**

#### **DAC Membership Survey**

- Julia mentioned, in the past, that the DAC has conducted anonymous surveys to determine if the membership composition meets the SDAC's membership criteria provided by the SDAC. Julia also mentioned that the SDAC has not enforced their membership criteria as the SDAC realizes the struggle is real to recruitment and keep members. DDS DAC can hold off on completing the DAC membership survey until the new DAC applicants have been approved for membership.

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- The membership discussed Julia's suggestion to invite a Human Resources representative to attend DAC meetings so they may offer advisement on LEAP and other programs that may enhance the DACs efforts in meeting the SDAC's membership criteria.
- The DAC had a discussion about adding a LEAP Recruitment Subcommittee.
  - Action Item: Esli Ligaya indicated that she would find out who the point of contact is for Human Resources so that the DAC could request a representative attend the DAC meetings.
- Mario mentioned that DDS' Workforce Analysis Report includes information about employees with disabilities and that the demographic data would be useful to help the DAC evaluate efforts to recruit/hire people with disabilities.
- Julia posed the question to the membership should we consider creating a subcommittee for DAC membership composition?
- Julia asked the Membership to vote to add Human Resource personnel to attend DAC meetings to assist on LEAP and other recruitment hires and potentially participate in a speaking engagement. Alex seconded the motion, and the DAC voted to approve an HR representation.

### Open Agenda

- The DAC had nothing to report at this time.

**This meeting adjourned at 11:14a.m.**  
**The next meeting will be held on Tuesday, June 9, 2020, at 10:00a.m.**  
**Respectfully submitted: Anastacia Byrne-Reed**