

**OHIO DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES COUNCIL
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**

September 10, 2015

Doubletree Hotel Worthington
175 Hutchinson Ave.
Columbus, OH 43235

Minutes

Executive Committee Members Present: Mark Seifarth, Robert Shuemak, Kim Stults, Michael Schroeder, Neil Castilow, Jeff Turner, Sue Willis, and Diane Cox **Staff Present:** Carolyn Knight, Carla Cox, Robin Shipp, Gary Groom and Paul Jarvis **Guest Present:** Sharon Shuemak

I. Chairman Mark Seifarth called the meeting to order at 5:36 p.m.

II. Discretionary Fund Requests

Chairman Seifarth called an Executive Committee meeting to discuss the discretionary fund requests only. He stated that there was a bit of confusion regarding the balance remaining in the discretionary funds.

Initially the discretionary funds receives a total of \$60,000 annually to be dispersed for requests made through the DD Suites database. However, when a request is made, the balance remaining is not reflected in the DD Suites. Therefore, when someone makes a request for funding they are led to believe that the full \$60,000 is available when in fact, as requests are approved and awarded, the balance is decreased. Chairman Seifarth wanted to know if there was a way the actual remaining balance can be reflected as opposed to the initial amount received on an annual basis. Paul Jarvis informed Executive Committee members that staff can adjust the NOFA every time amounts are decreased when awarded in the DD Suites. Chairman Seifarth asked that staff begin to do this to clear up any further confusion of future requests.

Chairman Seifarth then requested that Executive Director Carolyn Knight proceed with the discussion of the discretionary fund requests.

Carolyn began the discussion by stating Michael Schroeder and Neil Castilow had concerns with the overall content/language for the Discretionary Funds in the DD Suites database. Carolyn stated that Council staff will review the language regarding Outreach, etc. and present it to Executive Committee.

Neil Castilow asked the question regarding setting aside funding in the event our funding was cut? Carolyn answered that we were directed to do that the last 5 year cycle by the federal authorities; however, we have not been directed to do so at this point. Ms. Knight proceeded with the discussion of the discretionary fund requests.

- **Goodwill Industries of Central Ohio, Inc.**

Goodwill Industries of Central Ohio, Inc. requested \$60,000 to provide transportation (for employment) to individuals with developmental disabilities currently living in an ICF and working in an enclave to and from sites of competitive employment. Funds will also be used to purchase a passenger van to transport individuals from their homes and Goodwill Columbus to the Scioto Downs Racino and other work sites.

Carolyn informed the Executive Committee that this request exceeded the amount remaining in the discretionary funds. We currently have a balance remaining of \$36,554 and the request was for the total annual amount of \$60,000 allocated for the discretionary fund. Sue Willis asked if the \$36,554 was through the end of this cycle and then the Executive Committee receives another \$60,000. Carolyn answered yes, that was correct. Diane Cox mentioned that she thought we had a cap on individual grants. Carolyn stated that we never had one but Council could always discuss that possibility.

Carolyn then added that she referred this request to Fatica Ayers, Council Staff so that it can be considered for a possible Community Living grant in the future. Diane Cox noted that if this is considered as a grant in the future that a representative from the Department of Transportation should attend Council to be available to answer questions. Therefore, the Goodwill Industries of Central Ohio, Inc. was not considered for a discretionary fund.

- **Lawrence School**

Lawrence School requested \$2,000 to support tuition and education-related expenses for a student (Mikayla Lamer). Mikayla has been identified with multiple learning challenges that include Specific Learning Disability in reading, written expression and math, Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD/Inattentive Type), and Executive Deficits and Processing Delays. She also has a secondary diagnosis of Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder. The Lawrence School has proven to be a good fit for Makayla both academically and socially.

Carolyn informed the Executive Committee that this request does not meet the criteria to be awarded a discretionary fund and cannot be funded at this time. However, Carolyn mentioned how intrigued she was with the parent's efforts she made for her daughter and wanted to know if anyone had suggestions for her. Suggestions received, included: The Elks and Moose Lodge and Go Fund Me accounts.

- **Ohio Alliance of Direct Support Professionals**

Ohio Alliance of Direct Support Professionals requested \$2,000 for their 6th Annual DSP Recognition Event to be held September 16, 2015. The fiscal and program reports have been submitted and approved. Upon approval, total for FY 2015 is \$4,250.

After a brief discussion, Michael Schroeder moved to approve Diane Cox seconded, **motion** carried.

- **The Arc of Ohio**

The Arc of Ohio requested \$5,000 to provide education and training to individuals and family members on October 1, 2015.

A discussion occurred regarding several inconsistencies within the application. After the discussion Diane Cox moved to approve with limitations and additional information and Council will spell out the specifics to include but not limited to using Council funds to support individuals with disabilities and their families. Jeff Turner seconded, **motion** carried.

- **Services of Independent Living**

Services for Independent Living requested \$19,658 to partner with Disability Rights Ohio to host a community forum on disability-related transportation issues.

A discussion occurred regarding several concerns regarding the application since Council is working on other transportation grants. After the discussion Diane Cox moved to approve with limitations to include:

- Provide clarification of the \$1,000 to Disability Rights Ohio
- Provide explanation of travel expense to Washington, DC
- Work with Public Policy grantee without duplicating efforts of choosing Ohio's six (6) counties
- Provide clear outreach efforts to un/underserved
- Work with all Council's network partners as well as Ohio Olmstead Task Force and the Ohio Department of Transportation

Neil Castilow seconded, **motion** carried.

Chairman Seifarth requested that he would like to have the Executive Committee meeting indicated on the Council agenda as a standing committee whether a meeting is held or not; in the event and Executive Committee meeting is found necessary later.

Chairman Seifarth asked for a motion to adjourn.

III. Adjournment

Kim Stults moved to adjourn at 6:21p.m. Mike Schroeder seconded, **motion** carried.