



Washington State  
Developmental  
Disabilities Council

## Developmental Disabilities Council Meeting March 25, 2021

**Time:** 9:00am - 12:00pm

**Location:** Virtual

**Zoom Link:** <https://zoom.us/j/96821540806>

**Call-in number:** 253-215-8782

**Meeting ID:** 968 2154 0806

9:00	Call to Order and Introductions Establish Quorum Agenda Changes/Additions Approve February 2021 Minutes- VOTE <b>Reading: 21-15</b>	Julia Bell, Chair
9:20	COVID Update	Jeremy Norden-Paul
9:30	Equity: Continued Discussion	Members of the Equity Workgroup
10:00	Break	
10:05	Chair and Vice Chair Recruitment Update-Job Descriptions	Shamra Baez



Washington State  
Developmental  
Disabilities Council

10:20	State Plan Development <b>Reading 21-16</b>	Donna Tiffan and Jeremy Norden-Paul
11:45	Next Steps	
12:00	Adjourn	

# Reading 21-15

## Washington State Developmental Disabilities Council February 26, 2021 Draft Minutes

**Present:** Shamra Baez, Julia Bell (Chair), David Carlson (DRW), Ros Damm, Monica Burke (DOH), Gabriela Ewing, Kelly Hill, Danny Holmes, Thanh Kirkpatrick, Princess Klus, Alex Koval, Paige Lewis (HCA), Shannon Manion (DDA), Katie Mirkovich (DVR), Anthony Nash, Cami Nelson, Adana Protonentis, Mike Raymond, Ronnie San Nicolas, Donna Tiffan, Phil Tracy

**Staff and Support:** Aziz Aladin, Brian Dahl, Kathy Easton, Jeremy Norden-Paul, Phillip Rasmussen, Emily Rogers, Adrienne Stuart, Linda West

### **Call to Order:**

Julia called the meeting to order and established a quorum. She asked everyone to introduce themselves. Julia called for a motion to approve the agenda.

**Motion: to approve the January 2021 DD Council minutes as amended. Ronnie asked that Ros Damm, Gabriela Ewing and Corinne Sudduth (intern) be added to the notes as members of the Equity Workgroup. Mike moved to approve the minutes with the noted addition and Danny seconded. The motion carried unanimously.**

### **COVID Update**

Jeremy provided updates regarding the COVID-19 vaccine distribution. He reminded everyone that Washington State is still in phase 1B tier 1, which means people who are 65 and older or people 50 and older living in multi-generational homes. One of the biggest challenges is the vaccine supply is limited.

The Department of Health and other agencies are working hard to ship greater supplies to our state. Another challenge is how different groups are prioritized or not prioritized in the plan. The Council and other groups are still advocating to include people with developmental disabilities and their families/caregivers in the plan. Three groups in particular (people with developmental disabilities 16-64 who live in their own home or their families home, unpaid family caregivers and parents of young children with special

## Reading 21-15

health care needs) have been identified that should be specifically addressed. On February 5<sup>th</sup> a letter signed by over 40 organizations was sent to the Governor and the Department of Health asking them to consider addressing these three groups in the vaccine distribution plan.

The Department of Health responded to the letter stating they are currently reviewing all of the recommendations they have received. They did not give a timeline but the hope is that a response will be soon. Jeremy encouraged Council member to share the letter, as well as contact the Governor's Office and their legislators. The more people who understand the challenge, the better.

David shared a link a link that highlights inequities by race/ethnicity for the vaccine. <https://www.doh.wa.gov/Newsroom/Articles/ID/2609/New-data-on-COVID-19-vaccination-by-race-and-ethnicity-highlight-inequities>

Monica shared an email link from the Department of Health, which will allow people to hear directly from DOH: [vaccine.engagement@doh.wa.gov](mailto:vaccine.engagement@doh.wa.gov). If your email involves children or youth, please also copy [CSHCN.support@doh.wa.gov](mailto:CSHCN.support@doh.wa.gov) so they can track the questions that are coming in.

### **Dan Thompson Memorial Trust**

Jeremy stated that he held an informational session for Members to learn more about the Trust and address questions. Members who participated would like to recommend adding a fifth bullet that addresses developing an Interagency Agreement with DSHS to outline expectations for mutual decision-making.

**Motion: To approve the proposed process for creating a Dan Thompson Advisory Committee making expenditure recommendations to DSHS and pursuing the development of an Interagency Agreement. Mike moved and Adana seconded. Ros asked for assurance about the Council's role. Julia stated that it is up to the Council to make recommendations. Shannon abstained. Motion carried with one abstention.**

## Reading 21-15

### What is Equity?

Ronnie acknowledged that the discussion about the vaccine brings up issues of equity. He remembered the 500,000 people who have passed away due to the pandemic.

Adana gave a presentation on equity. She shared that a concern in talking about equity is that the term is used in so many different ways. That makes it hard to know what to work toward and it is important to understand what equity is and is not. Adana defined equity as:

- Equity is a combination of diversity, access, inclusion, and empowerment.
- Equity is about self-determination.
- Equity is about shared decision-making and shared power.
- Equity means everyone is included and has the power to co-create plans, programs, policies, etc

The meeting was divided into breakout rooms for everyone to share experiences they had of not feeling heard, included, or empowered. Each of the breakout rooms shared what they discussed.

### Updated State Plan Goals

Donna talked about current State Plan milestones that showed everyone where the Council is currently in the process. It consists of information gathered over the last year from people across the state through virtual town hall meetings, lunch discussions and a survey. All of this is working towards the April Council meeting. Today's meeting is to talk more about the goals, objectives and activities. The March meeting will be to talk about how to accomplish everything that has been discussed, including budget implications.

Jeremy shared an overview of the State Plan "working document" for everyone. A table of contents has been added to make it easier to follow along with a summary at the end of the document. Changes/additions are highlighted throughout the document.

One additional suggested activity was about assisting DSHS and other members of the Dementia Action Collaborative to provide presentations,

## Reading 21-15

educational materials and training to direct support professions who support people with IDD living with dementia. This was highlighted after Aziz and Emily talked about their work the Dementia Action Collaborative. They thought it was an important element to suggest because of the number of people with IDD who have dementia.

Jeremy discussed the current three goal areas along with the activities and objectives. He also talked about targeted disparity. This is a requirement from the federal government, the Administration on Community Living (ACL). Targeted disparity means the Council has to look at all the data and gaps and identify a specific demographic, a community, or a population that is not getting equitable resources or not getting equitable information or services. It is based on the uniqueness of each state and its communities. Brian explained that targeted disparity is not a substitute for equity. Suggestions from a couple of Council members have been Native American tribes and refugee communities.

The Council had a very rich discussion about various communities and the challenges they face. Several great thoughts were discussed about what makes each of them a group for targeted disparity. Jeremy reminded the Council that even if a particular group is not listed in the State Plan, there is space for the Council to work with all of the different issues over the next several years.

Brian reminded the Council that a final draft of the State Plan will be brought to the Council at its April meeting. Once the Council approves the draft it will go out for a 45 day public comment period. Depending on the comments that come in, they may or may not need to be included. The Council as a whole will go through each public comment. The plan needs to be submitted to the Council's federal agency by August 15<sup>th</sup>.

Julia reminded everyone that the next meeting is scheduled for March 25<sup>th</sup> from 9:00 am until 12:00 pm. This meeting will be focused on the state plan budget. She asked that everyone read the work plan and if they have any questions, contact either Brian or Jeremy.

Jeremy will send out any materials that were covered during the meeting, and a meeting survey. He asked that everyone take a minute to complete the survey, the feedback really helps in planning meetings. With that the meeting was adjourned.