



## Developmental Disabilities Advisory Board

Monday, July 25, 2022 4:30-6:00 pm  
Hybrid Meeting – via Zoom and In Person

### Meeting Minutes

**Board Members Present:**

Lindsay Foreman-Murray  
Jeffrey Hart  
Raegen Miller  
Valerie Billmire

Megan Porter  
David Charleston  
Gina Bing

**Board Members Excused:**

Caroline Applebee

**Board Members Absent:**

Alysa Oradat  
Kathy Kershner

**Guests Present:**

Paul Simon DDA  
Stephanie Jones, DDA  
Beverly Porter, Arc

Steve Bennet, PHAB  
Hannah Voss, Work Opportunities

**Staff:**

Amy Freeto, DD Transition Coordinator; Amanda Burnett, Community Services Supervisor

 **1. Call to Order & Introductions**

The meeting was called to order and introductions were conducted. Quorum was present.

 **2. Minutes Approval**

There were no objections to the May minutes as presented. Valerie moved to approve. Lindsay seconded the motion. The board voted and the minutes were approved.

**ACTION** May 23rd, 2022 minutes approved. Aye 7, Nay 0, Abstain 0



**3. Discussion: Public Health Advisory Board (PHAB) Participation**

Steve Bennett introduced himself as Chair of the Public Health Advisory Board (PHAB) and a professor of Public Health at Western Washington University. Steve provided an overview of the Public Health Advisory Board (PHAB) its role and requirements. Steve shared that the PHAB is recruiting from County Boards and commissions to increase their representation.



Valerie stated that should is interested in being a member of PHAB and asked who she needs to contact to join the board. Raegen questioned if PHAB is looking for an individual or DDAB to nominate someone as a representative of DDAB. Steve responded how other boards have done it and stated they join as an individual, not necessarily the voice of the board they are coming from. Raegen thanked Steve for bringing this to everyone's attention.

#### **4. Presentation**

Amy Freeto introduced herself as an employee of the Health Department in the School to Work Program.

- **School to Work: 2022 updates**

Amy discussed the attachments shared with the board and provided an overview of the Whatcom County School to Work Program and the Job Foundations pilot program funded by Office of the Superintendent of Public Instruction (OSPI). Amy discussed program data, what they learned this year, and what is next for the next school year.

- **Person Centered Planning**

Amy provided an overview of Person-Centered Planning, shared a video and provided some examples of students who have gone through the planning process. Amy explained the next steps for the Whatcom County Developmental Disabilities Program to build capacity for planning.

- **Stories of Transition**

Amy introduced Hannah Voss, a job coach with Work Opportunities in Whatcom County. Hannah provided an overview of her client's success with the Job Foundations Program and outlined the process.

#### **5. Discussion: Demographic Trends – Infants and Toddlers with Disabilities**

Raegen reviewed the discussion form providing race/ethnicity data for the 0-3 program compared against demographic data for the general population. The group discussed why the data was categorized the way that it is, and how it may be helpful in serving people with disabilities. Megan commented that an increase in children from families identifying as Hispanic/Latino would benefit from Spanish speaking staff. Valerie indicated that data is needed to identify gaps in services are, if any, relating to minority populations. She asked if staff has a presentation on this document and stated she would like more background on it.

Valerie motioned to bring this back to our next meeting and requested more background. Raegen and Gina agreed that more context and discussion is needed.

#### **6. Public Comment**

Raegen opened discussion up for public comment.

Beverly announced that the Arc of Whatcom County is hosting a swim social on August 6<sup>th</sup> at 6pm at Arne Hanna Aquatic Center. Beverly noted you can look online at <http://arcwhatcom.org/wp/> for more information.

Paul Simon, Field Services Administrator in DDA Region 2 North, introduced himself and provided an update on DDA services. Paul noted that DDA will be adding case management as well as hiring a No-Paid Services Supervisor in Region 2. Raegen thanked Paul for the update and asked for additional comments and/or updates.

## **7. Adjourn**

Meeting was adjourned by Reagan. David motioned to adjourn. Valerie seconded motion to adjourn.

**Next Meeting:** Monday September 26th, 2022. 4:30-6:00pm.

Respectfully submitted by Amy Freeto, DD Specialist.

### **HD Staff**

Amy Freeto

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