



# WASHINGTON

## State Independent Living Council

### WASILC QUARTERLY MEETING MINUTES

**Thursday, July 12, 2018**

Oxford Suites  
Silverdale, WA

#### **Members Present:**

Mark Leeper, Center Director Representative, Pullman  
Jana Finkbonner, VR Tribal Representative, Bellingham  
Rob Hines, Ex-Officio DVR, Olympia  
Arlene Itou, Ex-Officio Department of Services for the Blind (DSB), Seattle  
Keith James, Advocate for Individuals with Disabilities, Seattle  
Hannah Langlie, Youth Representative, Seattle  
Ryan Nabors, Advocate for Individuals with Disabilities, Tumwater  
Michael Richardson, Advocate for Individuals with Disabilities, Seattle  
Sheila Turner, Parent Guardian Representative, Pasco  
Kayla Victor, Private Business Representative, Vancouver

#### **Members Absent:**

Davi Kallman, Advocate for Individuals with Disabilities, Pullman

#### **Council Staff:**

Kim Conner, Executive Director  
Jim House, Disability Integration Manager  
Carmena Moretti, Executive Assistant

#### **Guests:**

Kim Canaan, University of WA, Older Blind and IL Programs  
Jerry Johnsen, Director, Client Assistance Program  
Patt Kosier, Director, Center for Independence  
Kimberly Meck, Director, Alliance of People with disAbilities  
Janice Whitman, Civil Rights Specialist, Human Rights Commission

**Call to Order:** Thursday, July 12, 2018 at 9:10 by Mark Leeper, SILC Chair

#### **Motion to approve April 2018 quarterly meeting minutes**

***Motion: Ryan Nabors***

***Second: Michael Richardson***

***Vote: Unanimous***

### **Financial Report: Kim Conner**

- Reviewed WASILC financial report.
- Talks continue with DOH to firm up the statement of work in CIEP contract. The last contract ended June 30<sup>th</sup>.

### **CFI Training: Patt Kosier & Corinna**

- Delivered training and information sharing on Youth Program & Community Partnerships
- Presented on the Youth Leadership program, a week long leadership/employment/education program
- Held each year at a local college
- Able to access pre-employment transitional funding through DVR for youth with Individualized Education Programs (IEP) or 504 plans

### **Human Rights Commission (HRC) Presentation: Disability Rights under the Washington Law Against Discrimination: Current Issues, Legislation, and Enforcement - Janice Whitman**

- Provided legislative updates on SHB 2822 and dog guide and service animal definitions under RCW 49.60.040.
- Discussed HRC enforcement of disability rights in employment and enforcement through litigation. Shared results of HRC employment litigation regarding a service dog trained to identify and prevent debilitating blood sugar drops.

### **Tribal Report: Jana Finkbonner**

- Tribes met in Coeur d'Alene, Idaho a couple of weeks ago.
- RFPs are going out for grants. Forty eight Tribes are up for renewal and between 30 and 32 grants will be going out so there is a chance some of the tribes will lose vocational programs.
- Presented information on Power Paddle to Puyallup, an annual Native American traditional canoe gathering that takes place along the west coast of Washington & Canada. More information on the event can be found at <http://paddletopuyallup.org/>.
- Regional Services Administration (RSA) gave Northwest Indian College and Western Washington University funds to provide training for tribes. The Tribal Vocational Rehabilitation Institute (TVR) was created and they've also started doing "Coffee Breaks" where a guest speaker will present or discuss a TVR-related topic and be available for questions and at the end, participants have a chance to discuss TVR issues.

### **Division of Vocational Rehabilitation (DVR): Rob Hines**

- DVR grant funding for Tribes has been getting cut or allocated differently. Each Tribal program is required to be fully funded. Since Tribal funds are a percentage of state DVR dollars, grants are subsequently affected by changes in DVR funding.
- Reported recent discussions with Indian Policy Advisory Committee (IPAC) regarding order of selection.

- DVR's new Community Program Manager, Cassie Villegas, is doing a great job and is going to be a co-chair for the IPAC subcommittee with juvenile rehabilitation, possibly DSB, and DVR.
- Discussed process development of a vision statement and identified values to directly support it to move forward and weave into everything DVR does.

**DVR's Vision Statement:** Dedicated professionals leading the field of vocational rehabilitation, delivering exceptional experiences to every customer, every time.

**DVR's Values:**

- **Transparency** through clear, honest communication with customers, staff, and partners.
- Acting with **Integrity**, upholding the ethics and values of our profession.
- Promoting a culture of **Empowerment** for customers and staff.
- Advancing rehabilitation practices through **Innovation**.
- **Collaboration** with customers, staff, and partners that produces results.
- Committed to **Diversity, Equity and Inclusion** in all of its forms to achieve excellence.
- Effective June 30<sup>th</sup> DVR's new WAC was updated to align with the new federal regulations, to make it easier to find information, and to make sure it reads from a customer's perspective.
- July 1<sup>st</sup> the update to the state plan.
- Reworking and renaming the former Chief of Field Services position to potentially a Workforce Development Administrator to align more with workforce development and community related activities.
- Order of Selection (OOS) – 2,400 right now. Still don't anticipate releasing anyone from the waiting list this year. Cost of services and monthly expenditures haven't went down much and DVR is continuing to evaluate how dollars are being spent.

**Department of Services for the Blind (DSB): Arlene Itou**

- Provided short introduction as a new council member.
- Adult Focus and Employment Outcomes program - each year we have approximately 160-190 exit program into competitive employment with an average wage of \$20/hour.
- 100 new participants this year.
- Increased cost and reduced resources makes it necessary for DSB to move to Order of Selection in October. OOS is a prioritized waiting list for when a program doesn't have enough resources to serve every eligible customer at a given time and will be prioritized by an individual's functional limitation and their needs for service.
- DSB youth programs are fully funded and going strong.
- DSB independent living services are managed through UW and subcontracted with independent living providers throughout the state. In past years, DSB has been able to infuse the program with resources beyond the basic federal grants and state funding.

This year we don't have the funds or additional sources of revenue. This could equate to a 20% cut unless we get creative and work with community partners. DSB is convening a group to do strategic thinking around this which will include IL Providers, AL TSA staff, SILC representation, UW and other stakeholders.

**University of Washington (UW): Kim Canaan**

- 20% cut to vendors for the older blind program.
- Looking forward to participating in the workgroup Arlene talked about.
- Younger blind program – only 3 out of 8 vendors received direct contract funds. The others will still be able to provide services but they'll be competing for those funds out of a \$10K pot.
- Will continue to provide services until funding runs out.

**WSRC: Keith James & Shelby Satko**

- Shelby, the new Executive Director for WSRC, introduced herself.
- Shelby and Kim have been talking about how WSRC and WASILC can work together and support each other as natural partners with overlapping priorities.
- Next week is WSRC 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter meeting in Spokane.
- Mid-October our 4<sup>th</sup> quarter meeting will be in Bellevue.

**Centers for Independent Living: Mark Leeper**

- Kimberley Meck is the Region X National Council on Independent Living representative.
- Responding to increased funding under our federal grants.
- Continuing to work on State Plan for Independent Living - a joint effort between CILs and SILCs.

**Washington Assistive Technology Act Program (WATAP): Kimberly Meck**

- WASILC staff will send out WATAP notes from June's Advisory Council meeting. Notes include links to about 15 new types of products available in their lending library.
- WATAP received full funding package with a \$2M increase for the Technology Act program. They will be using the increased funding to continue outreach and increase overall coverage throughout the state.
- Still in contract negotiations with Don Kay at DVR for training.
- The iCanConnect program provided over \$19,000 in services in May and exceeded the state allotment for FY2017. They have one more AL TSA training in Bellingham on September 13<sup>th</sup>.
- WATAP applied for the AgrAbility Grant at WSU again.

**Client Assistant Program: Jerry Johnsen**

- Will be recruiting to fill a vacant CAP Rehabilitation Coordinator position. Looking for someone who has, counseling skills, understands the fundamentals of vocational rehab, and the personality to be successful in this position.

**Public Forum & Panel Discussion** - CART notes from this event are attached

**Adjourned @ 3:30 pm.**