



STATE OF WASHINGTON
GOVERNOR'S COMMITTEE ON DISABILITY ISSUES AND EMPLOYMENT
Employment Security Department ■ P.O. Box 9046 ■ MS: 6000 ■ Olympia, Washington ■ 98507-9046
Olympia (360) 902-9511 ■ Fax (360) 586-4600 ■ Spokane (509) 482-3854

Youth Leadership Forum (YLF) Programming Subgroup Meeting Minutes

Friday, July 26, 2024

10:00 AM to 11:30 AM

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://esd-wa-gov.zoom.us/j/85407126787?pwd=JsHQ8iiZuLbiHNIYWqPRTsdJq4XDx9.1>

Meeting ID: 854 0712 6787

Passcode: 683714

Attendees: Kristin DiBiase, YLF Chair; Lucas Doelman, YLF Co-Vice Chair; Autumn Harris, Co-Vice Chair; Marsha Cutting, and Angie West. Staff: Elizabeth Gordon and Elaine Stefanowicz.

1. **Welcome and approve agenda.** The meeting was called to order at 10:03 a.m. Marsha made a motion to approve the agenda and Angie seconded the motion. The programming subgroup unanimously voted to approve the agenda as written.
2. **Establish event outcomes and delegate learning objectives.** The subgroup confirmed the event would focus on two topics, disability pride and advocacy. There was a discussion about the term “disability pride” and whether that phrase is confusing; specifically, because the word “pride” is closely connotated with celebrating the LGBTQIA+ community, whether the phrase unwittingly implies it applies only to a smaller subgroup of people with disabilities (i.e., gay pride for people with disabilities) instead of its intent to celebrate the resourcefulness and creativity that all disabled people must employ to navigate a world not designed for them. Group members also discussed tangible takeaways they want delegates to come away with from the event in light of the two focus areas, and established the following

Learning objectives:

- a. Learn a working definition of disability pride that they can reiterate and share with others.
- b. Learn how to counteract the narrative of negativity around disability.
- c. Learn how to advocate.

The group also established **desired outcomes** for the event:

- a. Delegates to have fun.
- b. Partnerships with disability organizations.
- c. Connect youth with their communities.

In establishing these outcomes and learning objectives, the group noted that in future work they would establish SMART (Specific, Measurable, Achievable, Realistic, Timebound) Goals in order to assess whether these items were met.

The group agreed to leverage the infrastructure that already exists across the state due to the locations of Washington Centers for Independence and would like watch party locations to center around these areas, with plans to contact the Accessible Communities Advisory Committees (ACACs) for assistance in amplifying messaging around the event as well as the potential for interested ACACs to serve as watch party sites for those areas not already served by a Center for Independence.

3. **Solidify YLF theme.** The group unanimously voted to approve a superhero theme for the event: “Your disability is your superpower.”
4. **Event content planning and schedule outline.** The group reviewed previous YLF program content and the targeted Pre-ETS subject matter areas those sessions and materials were designed to match. ESD staff reported that GCDE previously received Pre-ETS funding for the previous iteration of YLF through the Division of Vocational Rehabilitation (DVR) in order to underwrite substantial portions of the event. As training youth to get a job is the goal of Pre-ETS, that was the reason job readiness featured heavily in past YLF content. ESD staff noted that GCDE’s contract with DVR expires on September 30, 2024, and the committee would have to go through the contracting process again to be a Pre-ETS provider should the committee wish to renew this as a funding source. Staff advised that in making the decision, the subgroup should consider this committee’s strengths and how they want to impact youth, and then determine whether that aligns with the requirements of Pre-ETS. The chair posited that given the focus and direction of the new event seems misaligned with the primary goals of Pre-ETS, that GCDE should not pursue contract renewal for the coming cycle.

The programming group began a rough outline of what the schedule for the event would look like by filling in known requirements such as welcoming and closing remarks and bio breaks. Group

members noted that these elements take percentages of time away from the amount of time that is available and that if the event takes place during the original proposed period of 10:00 am to 2:00 pm, additional time would have to be taken away from the program in order to provide an equitable experience for participants to have lunch, as “working lunches” disadvantage individuals with certain disabilities by preventing clear and accessible communication. The group agreed to revise the timing of the event to take place from 1:00 to 5:00 p.m. to make the most and best use of the four-hour period.

Draft Schedule:

Event from 1-5 pm

1:00 welcome, intros, housekeeping (10 mins)

What Is Ableism? – External and Internal

Lived experience sharing among participants. Folks will work together to discuss issues and strategies. [Use breakout rooms for virtual attendees]. Handout/download: Tips on counteracting ableism

Speaker 1 Keynote: Embracing Pride [Speaker TBD] (15 mins)

What is Your Superpower? Lived experience sharing on disability pride. [Use breakout rooms]

3:00 Bio breaks (20 mins)

3:20

History of The Disability Rights Movement

Lived experience sharing among participants about advocacy. [Use breakout rooms for virtual attendees] Handout/download: How to be an everyday advocate

Speaker 2 Keynote: Ivanova Smith (15 mins)

How to get Involved and Advocate on the Next Level - Sunshine Cheng from Disability Rights Washington (DRW)

4:55 Wrap up, thank yous (5 mins)

[Short Video Featurettes on people with disabilities at some points]

[Roles needed for event: host, additional short presentations/videos

Tasks needed: create script for event; identify and test multimodal content; tech support; plan a walk through; create handouts and activities; create outreach materials]

The programming group agreed that the advocacy speaker should be Ivanova Smith, the originator of the idea that led to the Nothing About Us Without Us Act; however, the group agreed to reach out to current and past members of GCDE to source ideas for a dynamic speaker who will

resonate with youth and share a message of self-pride. The group tabled additional activity content brainstorming until the next meeting.

5. **Discuss promotional materials and other written documents.** The group tabled this item for a future meeting.
6. **Partners and partner outreach assignments.** See action items.
7. **Review action items for next YLF Subcommittee Meeting.** The following individuals agreed to conduct action items for follow up at the August 9, 2024, YLF Subcommittee meeting:
 - Marsha: will reach out to ACACs and outreach.
 - Kristin: will reach out to Sunshine Cheng from Disability Rights Washington.
 - Kristin will reach out to Andy Song-Schierbl and Nathan Hoston, former GCDE/YLF members.
 - Kristin will reach out to Steve Lewis, chair of the ACACs.
 - Elizabeth will reach out to Bek Moras from WASILC
 - Eliz, Kristin and Elaine will share notes from this meeting
8. **Adjournment.** The meeting adjourned at 11:35 am.