



STATE OF WASHINGTON
GOVERNOR'S COMMITTEE ON DISABILITY ISSUES AND EMPLOYMENT
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Youth Leadership Forum (YLF) Meeting Minutes

Friday, January 10, 2025

10:00 AM to 11:00 AM

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://esd-wa-gov.zoom.us/j/89649595482?pwd=UElINUpRNzQ3M0VoUFJwRnlqVWN4QT09>

Meeting ID: 896 4959 5482

Passcode: 911859

Attendees: Lucas Doelman, YLF Co-Vice Chair (Meeting Facilitator); Marsha Cutting, Lyn Sowdon, and Nancy Zellers. Staff: Elizabeth Gordon and Elaine Stefanowicz.

Agenda

1. Approval of agenda and minutes. (Quorum = 4). Agenda: Marsha made a motion to approve the agenda as written and Lyn seconded the motion. All voted in favor and motion passed. The December minutes are still in draft form. They will be voted on at the next meeting.
2. Report out on Subcommittee Action Items.
 - Disability Org Lists from Subcommittee Members. Marsha shared two links of disability organizations from Patti Dailey-Shives: [Disability Organizations | Washington State Department of Health](#). <https://doh.wa.gov/you-and-your-family/disability-organizations>
Lyn suggested contacting the Arthritis Foundation.
 - WorkSource Youth Group (Elizabeth). Elizabeth reached out to her WorkSource contact person to see if they have a youth group focusing on disability. WorkSource Centers have been affected by the Governor's budget freeze. She will let us know when she hears back.
 - Elizabeth said to be mindful that there's a process for everything through the state, so we need more lead time. We need time to work with the ESD Communications team to

put messaging together. We also need information early for families to plan for summer.

Lyn and Nancy said they would like to be part of a communications/outreach workgroup. Elaine will schedule a time for them to meet. GCDE staff will be part of the workgroups to take notes, etc.

February would be a good time to start getting the word out to schools about our event. We will need to engage with other agencies to help us with the event and have talking points for partner organizations if we decide to have watch parties. Elaine has a list of high school contacts and for the Developmental Disabilities Administration (DDA) and Division of Vocational Rehabilitation (DVR).

- **Virtual Youth Empowerment Event Structure**

- Virtual event via Zoom on Friday, August 1, 2025, 1:00 pm-5:00 pm
- Watch parties around the state. Invite partners to host youth that they already engage with to watch together. Youth can also attend on their own from home.
- Theme: Superheroes. “Your disability is your superpower.”

- **Learning Outcomes:**

- a. Come away with a working definition of disability pride and what it is.
- b. Learn info about how to counteract the narrative of negativity around disability.
- c. Learn how to advocate.

- **Desired Objectives [SMART (Specific, Measurable, Achievable, Realistic, Timebound) Goals]:**

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

- **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 break (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]

Next Meeting: Friday, February 7, 2025, at 10:00 am