



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) Meeting Minutes

Friday, February 7, 2025

10:00 AM to 11:00 AM

Attendees: Kristin DiBiase, YLF Chair; Marsha Cutting, Autumn Harris, and Lyn Snowdon.

Staff: Elaine Stefanowicz.

1. **Approve agenda and December/January minutes.** (Quorum = 4).

December/January Minutes: Marsha made a motion to approve the December and January minutes, and Lyn seconded the motion. All voted in favor and minutes were approved as written. Agenda: Lyn made a motion to approve the agenda as written and Marsha seconded the motion. All voted in favor and the agenda was approved as written.

2. **Report from Communications/Outreach Workgroup.** There was a discussion about the ability to reach out to ninth grade students since we are no longer funded by DVR and their age limits. The group discussed how it will reach out to all high school students with disabilities. Lyn suggested reaching out to the Juvenile Arthritis Association. There was a discussion about social media outreach for youth such as Instagram, Snapchat (posts expires everyday) and TikTok.

Flyer: Elaine created a flyer and will share it with Nancy and Autumn. They will get a youth perspective with their younger family members and report back. Questions: What esthetics will young people respond to (no comic sans)? Does this sound like something you would be interested in attending? What would make this flyer or program something you wouldn't want to miss?

3. WorkSource Youth with Disabilities Group (Nancy). Tabled until next meeting.

4. Project timeline for event.

- **Virtual Youth Empowerment Event Structure**

- Virtual event via Zoom on Friday, August 1, 2025, 1:00 pm-5:00 pm
- 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, March 7, 2025, at 10:00 am

DRAFT