



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

Friday, March 7, 2025

10:00 AM to 11:00 AM

Attendees: Autumn Harris, Co-Vice Chair; Lyn Snowdon, Nancy Zellers. Staff: Elizabeth Gordon and Elaine Stefanowicz

1. Approve agenda and minutes. (Quorum = 4). We did not have quorum to vote on agenda/minutes.
2. Confirm speakers. Elizabeth reminded everyone that we don't have a budget for speakers.
3. Feedback from Nancy and Autumn's youth contacts.
 - The flyer looks like it's an event for adults
 - Likes the colorful logo
 - We would need a lot of breaks during event
 - The event is too long for attention span
 - Do something interactive during breaks
 - Breakout rooms should be interactive
 - Share conversations rather than just being told about a topic

Edits for the Youth Empowerment Flyer:

- Include GCDE logo
- No Serif fonts
- Be aware of color contrasts
- Use the word "free"
- Add ASL interpreters and CART captioning will be provided. Contact us if you need other reasonable accommodations.
- WIOA statement doesn't apply to us

4. Elaine will create workgroup for scripts and handouts. Nancy offered to help work with the script.

Social media. Elaine is working with the ESD Communications team on social media. The Communications Office and DVR's transition coordinators can help us get the message out too.

5. Work on finishing schedule timeline. Walk thru of event/script. Invite speakers. Group will formalize schedule. Nancy and Marsha offered to be part of the timeline workgroup. Elaine will check availability for workgroup and share with everyone.

- **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, April 4, 2025, at 10:00 am