



Governor's Committee on Disability Issues and Employment (GCDE)
Employment Workgroup Meeting | July 22nd, 2025, | 9:00-9:22am

Minutes

1: Welcome to the Employment workgroup meeting – call to order – Yvonne Bussler-White

Meeting called to order by presiding chair Yvonne Bussler White at 9:01am (unmute), welcomed all, excited to continue the work.

2: Roll Call – Yvonne Bussler-White

- a. Members present (bold): **Yvonne Bussler White, Marsha Cutting, Steven McCray, Brit Nuckles**
- b. Members absent: Jaida Barrows, Amy Cloud, Ivyanne Van Der Peet
- c. Staff: **Emily Spears**, (Elaine Stefanowicz excused & **Elizabeth Gordon**)

3: Housekeeping rules – Yvonne Bussler-White

- a. Please state your name prior to speaking, raise your hand to make a comment, and speak slowly & 1 at a time. This is a safe space to discuss and engage.

4: Planning activities – Yvonne/all

- a. Recap of ideas proposed at last meeting: (we need to revisit goals: advise with staff support on statewide actions supt. employment opps, state policy, monitor/influence legislation, comm. w/ lawmakers, as the guiding principles for activities)
 - a. Transportation/hours advocacy rurally and on the east side as a barrier
 - i. Enforcement on driver's license removal on job applications/in state govt. (rev conducted by state HR). [HRC enforcement] – poss. share info from Transportation Coalition/DRW
 - ii. 1-pager infographic to use as a script/talking piece for related meetings
 - 1. Re: GCDE's advocacy – could work on together
 - b. Work with partners and associates to do a monthly social media spotlight on employers
 - i. Access to FB/LinkedIn (bandwidth – comms. plan w/ ESD submit/appr.) – such as October – needed by August (write as a group highlighting employment, for weekly posting during October, theme released – Celebrating Value and Talent [corrected] – broad)
 - c. Lunch and learn sessions with associates/partners/past recipients on hiring PWD
 - i. Could consider a single advisory event online (small) w/ partners/assoc. – employer focus (RA's, incentives, L&I) or PWD about employment – would have to be careful about spotlighting (vetting needed)
 - d. Consider digital equity barriers (see Amy's education/outreach plan)

- i. Discussed several times – sent out
- b. Creating an action plan for advocacy/mission with less staff/funds (sharing notes from leaders):
 - a. Brit likes the idea of the weekly posts during October – poss. combine – explain driver's license change one of the weeks (job applicants awareness) – Marsha seconds (new)
 - b. Brit: Highlight places like the WA HRC, Federal EEOC as a resource – better known, but not universal – federal and state resources in this time of DEI uncertainty/discrimination
 - c. Steven: Create a possible empowering resource guide, how to contact them, points of contact, how to submit a complaint (sheet on how to reach out if your rights are being violated – highlight timely documentation, no consequence to reporting – Marsha seconds)
 - i. Look for DRW resources (Brit is there – will double check for self-advocacy or employment resources to modify accordingly)
 - ii. Depending on amount of state review needed, HRC has their own info, may be easier to use/point to

Yvonne is excited about this.

5: Who would like to lead the group going forward? Yvonne/all

- a. Yvonne would like to get the group started and then step back if possible.
 - a. Steven McCray has stepped in as Vice-Chair to help get us off the ground in lieu of an event, we're excited for his energy and ideas.

6: Next Meeting date, time, and cadence– workgroup members –

- a. Does this timeframe (9am) work for members?
 - a. Yvonne would like to meet back in 2 weeks due to the August deadline for posts (works for Bit) – **Emily will set up the meeting**
 - b. Actions:
 - i. Can someone review the bill and write up a paragraph that talks about the bill and the driver's license changes? [Emily can try to find a resource sheet]
 - ii. Brit – checking for DRW self-advocacy in employment 1-pagers
 - iii. Steven to start drafting a guide or paragraph on HRC resources to point to
 - iv. Yvonne will work with Elizabeth on the communication plans
 - v. Consider coming up with another topic, or breaking up one into two depending on what we find in exploration over the next two weeks – we will revisit at the next meeting

Hearing no other input, omissions, ideas, concerns, or questions – meeting adjourned at 9:22am.