

Community Outreach Meeting Agenda

Governor's Committee on Disability Issues and Employment

August 10, 2026, | 4:00 pm – 5:00 pm

Zoom link: [GCDE Community Outreach Meeting | Zoom](#)



Meeting Purpose

Plan for the 2026 Community Outreach activities.

Meeting Results

By the end of the meeting, participants will:

- Review implementation timeline and work completed this far
- Decide on 2026 project: ACAC Fact Sheet
- Approve partner outreach messaging
- Confirm next steps and meeting cadence

Time	Agenda Item	Person Responsible
4:00	Call meeting to order / roll call	Dave Carl, Chair
4:05	Approve agenda and minutes	Dave Carl
4:10	Review implementation timeline/completed work	Dave / Emily
4:15	Select 2026 project: ACAC Fact Sheet	Subcommittee
4:35	Approve outreach language/elevator pitch	Subcommittee
4:55	Wrap-up: next steps and meeting cadence	Emily / Dave

Implementation timeline:

Month	Key Actions
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June	Draft outreach language, review elevator pitch, prep NMO bullets
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July	Prep partner outreach, narrow topics, onboard new members
August	Draft fact sheets
September	Revise drafts, decide on training expansion
October	Final revisions, design coordination
November	Finalize materials, accessibility review, approvals
December	Publish materials, outreach rollout

Draft outreach language

Dear new, current GCDE members, and partners,

I am excited to reach out to introduce the GCDE Community Outreach Subcommittee, share our goals for this year, and invite interested members to join us.

The GCDE Community Outreach Subcommittee is a project of GCDE. Our work centers on conducting outreach to facilitate, encourage and celebrate local disability communities especially in rural and underserved communities.

As a subcommittee, we're excited about the opportunity to shape our direction with input from members. Our goals for the coming year are:

1. Select a project for 2026: considering a fact sheet on ACAC's
2. Identify partners to participate in the work.
3. Get new people involved.

Our initial idea includes creating a training series, 1-pager, fact sheet, or resource template/guide on how to impact your community, through creating an Accessible Communities Advisory Committee.

We'd love to hear from you if you want to be involved!

Elevator pitch

Short Version (30–45 seconds)

GCDE, the Governor's Committee on Disability Issues & Employment, our goal is to help people with disabilities have equal opportunities in life, work, and their communities. 90% of our members have disabilities with lived experience so we can include real voices and experiences in our work. We help guide the government, support inclusive employment, and educate communities.

Our goal is simple: A fair Washington where people with disabilities are included and have the chance to succeed.

Community Outreach Subcommittee – Meeting Minutes

Governor's Committee on Disability Issues and Employment

Date: August 10, 2026.

Time: 4:00 pm – 5:00 pm

Location: GCDE Community Outreach Meeting | Zoom

1. Call to Order & Roll Call

Time: 4:00 pm

Chair: Dave Carl

Summary: Meeting called to order at 4:04. Dave mentioned that the Clark County ACAC is working on addressing parking issues at the fairgrounds, and the county is taking it seriously (which is the intent).

Members Present: Dave Carl, Chair; Lyn Sowdon; Dean Olson; Napal Tesfai

Members Absent: Patti Dailey-Shives, Ed Lam, Lucy Barefoot (Associate)

Staff Present: Emily Spears; Elizabeth Gordon

Guests: ASL Interpreter Kelly

Quorum: Met (4)

2. Approval of Agenda and Minutes

Time: 4:05 pm

Discussion:

- Agenda for August 10, 2026, sent out with reminder.
- Minutes from previous meeting sent out with reminder (below agenda, largely new members).

Outcome: Approved / Approved with edits / Not approved (Lyn moves, Dean seconds agenda; Napal moves minutes, Dave seconds with one abstention – not present).

3. Review of Implementation Timeline & Completed Work

Time: 4:10 pm

Presenters: Dave / Emily

Discussion Summary: We have been doing what we can with lack of folks. We have the outreach language & elevator pitch drafted (NMO is completed), timeline reviewed as below. The draft outreach language and elevator pitch (review time permitting) were included on the agenda for reference. One question about whether the timeline fits for what we want to accomplish – is it doable? The group was asked for thoughts. Question: Some folks are catching up and wanted to clarify the audience and purpose (reach disability groups and the community to for partnership and awareness of GCDE/our work). Question for the group: the elevator pitch is for the GCDE itself; do we want to have one for the subcommittee? That elevator pitch was created by the employment subcommittee to be able to talk about what GCDE does in conversations with partners. Our focus is about learning about the communities needs and could be edited to be more specific to this group than the general GCDE one: what we are, what we do. It is in the agenda and minutes and was shared on screen (short version). We can read and tweak it to be geared towards our committee. Our identified goal for the year was as follows: Purpose - conduct outreach to facilitate, encourage and celebrate local disability communities especially in rural and underserved communities. That piece was also included in the outreach language and could be added after GCDE's goal (Elizabeth taking notes). It ties into ACAC's work as well. Revised version read out. Should we add contact information or a "get involved" statement? "To learn more or get involved..." could add email and webpage (audience-specific). QR codes take extra permissions. Where do we go with it from here? It gives us a good basis for reaching out to communities (could be in a multitude of formats: flyer, PDF, printed, business card, email signature). We will revisit next month.

Reference: Implementation Timeline (2026)

June – Draft outreach language, review elevator pitch, prep NMO bullets

July – Prep partner outreach, narrow topics, onboard new members

August – Draft fact sheets

September – Revise drafts, decide on training expansion

October – Final revisions, design coordination

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4. Select 2026 Project: ACAC Fact Sheet

Time: 4:15

Presenters: Subcommittee members

Discussion Summary:

Did we have ideas around this? The group had been leaning in prior meetings about getting the word out about ACAC's, particularly to rural communities. The AC subcommittee has a brochure and is focusing on a few in particular, and only small number of counties have them. Perhaps we could have a representative attend one of their meetings and see how we can come alongside their work (one of the communities was Spokane, we had an Outreach there not long ago, and there was some interest). Staff has sent a letter to counties as such. Outreach was also done to Grays Harbor/Mason, and others in Eastern WA (Okanogan and Benton perhaps). There are fires in the area right now. Our timeline has us sending out info at the end of the year.

Outcome:

-Selected project: ACAC Fact Sheet – **Yes / No** – target info for end of year
-Notes: We may be trying to reach the same audience as the AC group. It may not be the best time with the wildfires. Is there anything we can do to help with that? CIEP (part of WASILC) is hosting daily DAFN calls with partners to ensure gaps & resources are identified, displacement resources – unclear how to support at this time. There may be more to do in recovery. There has been good connections so far.

5. Approve Outreach Language / Elevator Pitch

Time: 4:35 pm

Presenters: Subcommittee members

Discussion Summary:

Will revisit at next meeting.

Reference Materials: Draft Outreach Language: "Dear new, current GCDE members, and partners..." *Could be edited to include elevator pitch.*

Elevator Pitch (Short Version): "GCDE, the Governor's Committee on Disability Issues & Employment..." A suggestion was made to tweak this to our subcommittee (*add purpose after GCDE's goal and call-to-action*).

Outcome: Approved / **Approved with edits** / Not approved

6. Wrap-Up: Next Steps & Meeting Cadence

Time: 4:55 pm

Presenters: Emily / Dave

Next Steps:

- Revisit draft elevator pitch at next meeting.
- Attend next AC subcommittee meeting to see how we can come alongside them.
- Stay tuned for more on how we can support the wildfire recovery efforts

Meeting Cadence:

- 2nd Mondays at 4:00 pm
- **Next Meeting:** September 14, 2026, at 4:00 pm

6. Adjournment

Time: 5:04pm

Meeting adjourned by Chair Dave Carl with a motion and second to adjourn.

Revised Elevator Pitch

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