**State of California**

**Health and Human Services Agency**

**Department of Rehabilitation (DOR)**

**Disability Advisory Committee (DAC)**

Meeting Minutes

December 12, 2022

1:00 pm – 3:00 pm

Department of Rehabilitation, Public Zoom Meeting

# In Attendance

**DAC Members:**

* Emily Alexander; Deaf/Hard of Hearing
* Cynthia Butler; Intellectual/Developmental Disability
* Miguel Castaneda; Physical Disability
* Lisa Cushman; Mental/Behavioral Disability
* Jonathan De Jesus; Cognitive Impairment
* Jonathan (Jona) Deguzman; Other Disability
* Chelle Ellis; Heart/Circulatory Disorders
* Subashree (Suba) Krishnamurthy; At Large Member/Ally
* Cory Lemings; Neurodivergent Disability
* Jordann Nelson, Respiratory Impairments
* Jennilee Ruggirello; Blind/Visual Impairment
* Bonita Wahl; Traumatic Brain Injury
* Michelle Zavala-Pizano; Learning Disability

**DOR Advisors**

* Rosa Gomez

**Other DOR Staff in Attendance**

* Kate Bjerke
* Ava Hacopian
* Monica Handley
* Craig Rubenstein

**Members of the Public:**

* None attended

# Welcome and Introductions

* Jordann Nelson, Chair, reviewed the purpose of the DAC, conducted a roll call, and established a quorum.

# Approval of DAC Meeting Minutes and Review of Action Items

* November Meeting minutes brought forward and approved
* No action items to be reviewed

Public Comment Invited

# DAC Strategies for Seeking Subcommittee Members

* Rosa reviewed the subcommittee submitted goal statements for the purpose of recruiting DOR Staff from other units and sections to join the subcommittees.
* Subcommittee statements will focus on goals rather than strategies:
* Providing timely reasonable accommodations
  + Improving employment opportunities for individuals with disabilities
  + Supporting main events and other disability recognitions and celebrations throughout the year
  + Increasing awareness sharing resources and amplifying DOR DAC work
  + Conducting trainings and events focusing on people with disabilities and their contributions
* Rosa will provide an electronic communication to be distributed to the Executive Leadership Team with the intent and ask for the subcommittees to be shared with DOR Leadership to recruit subcommittee members
* DOR Staff interested in working on a DAC Subcommittee are advised to notify their manager of their interest to serve as a DAC subcommittee member

Public Comment Invited

# Language to be Added to DOR Duty Statements

* Cory Lemings, SDAC Representative/DAC member, led a continuation discussion from the previous two meetings regarding adding language to DOR duty statements that highlights the mission and efforts to support the success of people with disabilities. Members reviewed four possible statement variations and suggested changes.
* The four statements were edited down to three statements as Option 1 was deleted as it is a duplicate of option 3:
  + Option 2 This position promotes the equitable success and inclusion of individuals with disabilities in the community, employment, and society.
  + Option 3: This position promotes the success and inclusion of individuals with disabilities within the community, employment, and society.
  + Option 4: This position directly supports DOR to ensure that individuals with disabilities have independent access and opportunities for choice in their careers and personal lives.
  + The committee will continue to discuss and identify a statement during next meeting.

Public Comment Invited

# 5) Roundtable:

* A member of the DAC Main Events Subcommittee asked for a description of the yearly events that DOR participates in.
  + ADA Anniversary – July 26th
  + Disability Pride Month – July
  + NDEAM (National Disability Employment Awareness Month – October
* DAC Members were reminded that the new DAC Subcommittees will receive some guidance from sections and units that currently work to support the various disability recognitions/events and other efforts the subcommittees will be working on.

**Meeting adjourned at 2:57 p.m.**