**State of California**

**Health and Human Services Agency**

**Department of Rehabilitation (DOR)**

**Disability Advisory Committee (DAC)**

Meeting Minutes

September 12, 2022

1:00 pm – 3:00 pm

Department of Rehabilitation, Central Office

721 Capitol Mall, Sacramento, CA 95814

Conference Room 301 – 3rd Floor

# 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
* Jona Deguzman; Other Disability
* Chelle Ellis; Heart/Circulatory Disorders
* Subashree Krishnamurthy; At Large Member/Ally
* Cory Lemings; Neurodivergent Disability
* Jennilee Ruggirello; Blind/Visual Impairment
* Bonita Wahl; Traumatic Brain Injury
* Michelle Zavala-Pizano; Learning Disability

**DAC Members not present:**

* Jordann Nelson, Chair, Respiratory Impairments representative

**DOR Advisors**

* Rosa Gomez

**DOR Advisors not present:**

* Shannon Coleman

**Other DOR Staff**

* Henryetta Andrade
* Kate Bjerke
* Lakeisha Chew
* Maria Daroza
* Marinelle De Luna
* Jethro Dimalanta
* Zachariah Ford
* Tiffany Freymiller
* Gabrielle Hall
* Gregory Hoffman
* Lydia Iacono
* Vernard Johnson
* Liana Kriemelmeyer
* Melanie Luttrell
* Valerie Massey
* Dan Mays
* Louis Melendez de Jesus
* Lisa Merenda
* Maria Murillo
* Kristen Ohlinger
* Elizabeth Rivera
* Ellen Schenk
* Toni Solorzano
* Elise Thompson
* Deyanire Villachica
* Marnee Wafer-Hoecker
* Kimberly Wiley
* Lorianna Wright

**Members of the Public:**

* None attending

# Welcome, Introductions

* Chelle Ellis, Vice-Chair reviewed the purpose of the DAC, conducted a roll call, established a quorum.
* Vice-Chair reviewed the purpose of the DAC and asked DOR Advisors to identify themselves. DOR Staff attending were then invited to introduce themselves

# Approval of DAC Meeting Minutes and Review of Action Items

* July Meeting Minutes brought forward and approved, August Meeting minutes brought forward and approved
* Action Items reviewed

Public Comment Invited

# National Disability Employment Awareness Month (NDEAM) Celebration Preparation

* Cynthia Butler, DAC Member/DOR Chief Communications Officer talked about DOR NDEAM events on October 13th and 26th from 10:00am to 12:00pm. DAC Members are invited to attend both virtual events. DOR is inviting Disability Advisory Committees from other state agencies to participate in fireside chat style events about Disability, Equity and Inclusion and other topics.
* DAC representatives in local area are asked to participate in the “National Disability Employment Awareness Fair” sponsored by the California Highway Patrol at the Capitol on October 13th from 9:00am to 3:00pm.

Public Comment Invited

# DAC Subcommittee Development

* Chelle Ellis, Vice-Chair, Reviewed the subcommittees proposed in the August meeting and opened the topic for discussion

Members brought forward and approved three Committees: Employment, Events and Outreach

* After discussion a proposal was made and unanimously approved that each Committee would have subcommittees under it. Some subcommittees were suggested, these need further discussion.
* A motion brought forward and unanimously approved that DAC members will volunteer for Committee assignments. Some tentative assignments have been made and there will be further discussion at the next meeting.
* **Employment:** Miguel Castaneda, Lisa Cushman, Cory Lemings and Michelle Zavala-Pizano. DOR Staff Vernard Johnson and Lydia Iacono in attendance indicated an interest to serve on a subcommittee.
  + Possible subcommittees
* Playbook
* Mentoring & Hiring
* **Events:** Emily Alexander, Subashree Krishnamurthy, Bonita Wahl and Jennilee Ruggirello.
  + Possible subcommittees
  + Main Events – examples: ADA, NDEAM, Disability Pride Month
  + Other Events – example: Mental Health Awareness Month, Deaf Awareness Week
* **Outreach:** Cynthia Butler, Chelle Ellis, Jona Deguzman, Jonathan De Jesus
  + Possible subcommittees
  + Trainings (internal and external)
  + Collaboration with other DACs

Public Comment Invited

# Roundtable:

* A DAC Member suggested that subcommittee work can be held in a public forum if more than two DAC members would like to serve on that subcommittee
* A DAC member suggested that accessibility be a Roundtable topic in a future meeting
* Rosa reviewed the limitations on communications outside of DAC Public meetings under Bagley-Keene
* It was suggested that the DAC work on having all job duty statements/job postings from DOR add a statement about helping people with disabilities to succeed in employment – in alignment with our mission-a motion was made and carried that this will be added to the agenda for the next meeting
* **Meeting adjourned at 3:00 p.m.**