



# Community Advisory Council Meeting MINUTES

Wednesday, June 2, 2021, 12:00 to 3:00pm

Online Zoom Meeting

## 12:00 Welcome

CAC Member	Present	Not Present	Self-Advocate or Family Member
Karen Price (Co-chair)	X		Family
David Frye (Co-chair)	X		Self-advocate
June Bascom	X		
Mary Alice Favro	X		
Kristofor Medina		X	Self-advocate
Kirsten Murphy	X		
Lindsey Owen	X		
Persephone Ringgenberg	X		Self-advocate
Meagan Roy	X		Family
Liliane Savard	X		
Michael Shor	X		Self-advocate
Arline Seiler	X		Self-advocate
Randy Lizotte	X		
Nicole Villemaire	X		Self-advocate
<b>14 Members</b>	<b>13</b>		<b>7</b>

More than half of members were present, so we had a quorum. At least half of members present were self-advocates and family members.

## **CDCI Personnel: Winnie Looby, Valerie Wood, Jesse Suter**

### **Meeting Roles:**

- Facilitator: David & Karen
- Recorder: CDCI Staff
- Timekeeper: Mary Alice
- Jargon buster: Liliane
- Keeper of the rudder: Randy
- Equalizer: Kirsten
- Processor: Valerie

### **Vote on draft minutes:**

- Persephone made a motion to approve minutes from the last meeting which was seconded.
- Jesse shared group agreements from last meeting:
  - Raise your hand to speak. Wait to be called on.
  - One person speaks at a time. Use mute when not talking.
  - Treat each other with respect. No put downs.
  - Try to understand other person's point of view.
  - Stay on topic being discussed.
  - Keep comments as short as you can.
  - Stay within time limits of agenda items.
  - Use simple and easy to understand words. No jargon.
  - Limit back and forth conversations.
  - Give everyone a chance to speak.
- No changes were made to the draft minutes.
- **VOTE to approve meeting minutes was unanimous.**

## **12:30 Feedback on CDCI work this year (part 1)**

1. You were sent a summary of CDCI activities this year.
2. Jesse and core function coordinators will review this summary with you during the meeting.
3. Please ask questions and give feedback.

### **Jesse introduced the summary report**

- Invited CAC members to ask questions and give feedback today.
- Members can also contact Jesse or core function coordinators to give feedback after meeting. If it is sent by July 3 it will be included in annual report this year.

### **Goal 1: Teaching**

- Winnie introduced first core function.
- Nicole shared experience working with Winnie designing and co-teaching.
- Winnie shared updates on the 3 priorities in summary document.
- Winnie asked CAC members: What are the biggest barriers to continuing education after high school?
- CAC members shared feedback:
  - College is not designed for how people with disabilities learn. More hands-on supports like a tech school could help. More apprenticeships.
  - Question should not only be about young people, because people with disabilities may want to attend college at any age.
  - Universities need to offer more supports. Education is designed in restrictive ways. Example, courses need to be completed in a specific time. Instructors can only help students during the semester.
  - Randy shared that money is a big barrier.
  - David recommended having an informational fair to tell students about courses and get them interested.
  - Create a video with students experience in class

- David recommended showing recent films for students:
  - “Intelligent Lives” is a documentary film about 3 people with intellectual and developmental disabilities. – in classes and student clubs
  - “Crip Camp” is a documentary
- Randy asked what does culture of disability mean?
  - Winnie talked about how experience of people with disabilities can shape them. People with disabilities also are part of many different cultures.
  - Liliane suggested culture of disability course should be available to parents.
- How can we offer supports and partnerships with regional and state agencies?
  - Winnie said part of goal 1 and part of partnership with Department of Disability Aging and Independent Living
- Need more materials and media representation for people with developmental disabilities.
- Arline recommended teachers in schools need training to better support. Shared examples of punishment and disciplining students with disabilities.
- Nicole talked about support needs for students. Winnie shared her ideas for a peer support network at UVM.
- Michael said a separate space for students with disabilities like other identity groups. Winnie said we’ve offered space at CDCI for ideas like this.

## **Goal 2: Supports**

- Jesse shared updates on priorities from annual summary.
- Jesse shared that I-Team is trying to provide more support for deaf-blind students. June shared that Laura Siegel is the new Director of Deaf, Hard-of-Hearing, DeafBlind Services.
- CDCI is asking about diversity of people who come to our trainings. He shared information about gender, ethnicity, race, and relationship to disability.

- CAC members had questions about the diversity data:
  - Asked if just the I-Team – No, they were trainings from different projects.
  - Questions about the comparison between training participants and people in Vermont. Mary Alice and Michael provided clarification. Goal was to see if diversity of people attending our trainings is similar to all people in Vermont.
- Question for CAC: What topics or features are most needed for online trainings?
  - Really important to know what you're doing. Have to be prepared for the unexpected.
  - Breakout rooms can be helpful for engagement.
  - Need opportunities for dialogue and connections.
  - Hybrid model can be best
  - Need to look at online training for direct support professionals. College of Direct Support. Kirsten shared it is very good, and perhaps CDCI could create a learning community or resources that come after that intro training.

## **1:30 Break**

## **1:45 Feedback on CDCI work this year (part 2)**

1. Continue to give feedback about CDCI work this year.
2. Jesse and core function coordinators will review the summary.
3. Please ask questions and give feedback.

## **Goal 3: Research and Evaluation**

Valerie shared priorities.

- Summarizing two research studies – working on this with Jeanne. Put on hold as Jeanne left CDCI.
- Report on diversity: Jesse shared CoP reporting

- Valerie shared Amy Wheeler-Sutton’s testimony on “An act related to the Task Force on Equitable and Inclusive School Environments.”
- Jesse shared that common finding across health and education data is more data is needed. And more up-to-date data is needed.
- Valerie said it is about intersection of disability and other types of marginalized groups.
- Shared grants this year.
- CAC members asked questions about COVID Vaccine Access funds:
  - Kirsten shared that several groups in VT are listening to find best way to use funds together. Many are sharing concerns about access for children once they are eligible. Particular concerns for children with sensory difficulties or who are scared about shots. Hope is to create supports for these kind of concerns that could then continue to be available.
  - Heard that most parents want children vaccinated in doctor’s office. What if there were more sensory friendly places that people could go?
- Question for CAC: What other ways can our research focus on diversity, equity, and inclusion?
  - Kirsten shared “This is the year that I want to get 1 or 2 questions into the Vermont survey so that we understand the attitudes in Vermont about disability. Then we would try to measure again in 4-5 years. But you guys would have to help us understand what the best question or two would be.”
  - This is about the [“Vermont Poll” by the UVM Center on Rural Studies](#).

#### **Goal 4: Dissemination**

- Jesse shared that our dissemination coordinator, Jeanne, left CDCI in December. We hope to hire a new dissemination coordinator very soon.
- Most priorities are waiting for new person.

- Jesse reviewed the priorities in the annual summary.
- Michael said an important part of accessibility is making sure there is enough information for everyone.
- Jesse shared that providing full information and using different media is our plan.

Question for the CAC: What information do you think is most important for them to be successful?

- Get to know CAC. Who we are and what we believe.
- Valerie asked if more information should be available about CAC members. David shared maybe a short video about each CAC member.
- Randy shared important to understand CAC members are individuals and not all people with same disability are the same.
- Need to learn about work at CDCI.
- Lindsey recommended a resource guide about community partners.
- Attend some self-advocacy meetings around the state.
- Need information on history of the disability rights movement.
- Take Winnie's class!
- Michael offered to meet with new person directly,.

### **Goal 5: Maintain CDCI**

- Jesse gave a short review – self-advocates, DEI
- What is most important?
- What new priorities should we consider
  - Nicole shared that more self-advocates could be working with core function coordinators. Self-advocates could also work with different CFCs at different times.
- Randy said important for high school students to learn about self-advocacy.
  - Valerie shared that BEST Project is working with Up for Learning which supports advocacy.
  - Karen asked if dual enrollment is a possibility. Dual enrollment is when high school students are taking college classes.

- Karen shared the evaluation work is important. Policy work needs to be grounded in data. Data can help make change.
- Need more students taking classes to learn about disability and inclusion. Especially important at UVM because so many students are from out of state who may not have same lived experience as people in Vermont.
- David shared so many are not aware of history. And they need to understand that the fight goes on.

## 2:45 Meeting Summary and Process



1. Review decisions made today and next steps.
2. Discuss how the meeting went today.
3. Decide what we should change for next meeting.

Valerie volunteered to be processor. She shared that she appreciated the norms that were shared at the beginning. Thought people participated and gave good feedback.

Thank you to co-chairs for facilitating today!

Thought meeting went very well today.

At the next meeting plan to:

- Set priorities for the year
- Meet new dissemination coordinator.
- Continue votes on bylaws

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