**Ethan Saylor Alliance Steering Committee**

Teleconference

Wednesday, June 12, 2024

Meeting Minutes

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89898405087?pwd=b0lkMHJZZENqUUw1aEM2M2FhcStuUT09>

Meeting ID: 898 9840 5087

Passcode: 896339

**Members in attendance:** Erica Wheeler, Patti Saylor, Carol Beatty, Stephanie Jones, Stephanie Dolamore, Kendall Foster, Amanda Mummert, Beth Benevides

**Guests in attendance:** Kim McKay (MDOD), Kirsten Bosak (MDOD), Chris Milo, Shelly McLaughlin (PFA)

**Welcome & Introductions,** *Erica Wheeler*

**Outreach Event,** *Erica Wheeler and Jennifer Eastman*

Erica and Jennifer shared information about their joint presentation to the Montgomery County SECAC on May 30th. The presentation provided an overview of the Alliance from how to was started to its most recent activities. Jennifer noted that there is a need to have a template PowerPoint presentation and talking points developed so that anyone can respond to these requests for information and present on the Alliance. This allows consistency in what’s being shared.

Patti added that she no longer wants to be the one responding to inquiries for presentations on the Alliance and wishes that the responsibility can be moved towards other representatives.

**Partner Communications,** *Jennifer*

Motor Vehicle Administration, Voluntary Developmental Disability Disclosure Card

* Held meeting with Max Tucker, Communications point of contact, at MVA on May 1st
* They’ve been providing training to their field offices on the card
* All field offices should have copies to give out to people who ask
* Now have link on [website](https://mva.maryland.gov/about-mva/Pages/Persons-With-Disabilities.aspx#:~:text=Voluntary%20Developmental%20Disability%20Disclosure%20Card,and%20blue%20for%20easy%20recognition.) to order cards for nonprofits and other organizations to hand out
* Added content on the webpage to provide purpose for card

Autism Society of Maryland

* Met with Melissa Rosenberg to discuss CIG proposal and concern over the lack of interaction at the pool parties that were funded last year
* Meeting led to a discussion surrounding the need to coordinate efforts to improve public safety of people with autism especially those from black and brown communities
* Is interested in revisiting this discussion in the future with a broad range of stakeholders (could use MDOD funding for this)
	+ This is similar to the work that the Arc MD did with our grant a few years ago
	+ Patti asked about whether there was a coalition of autism organizations discussing this and also about MDOD’s Autism Coordinator and her involvement in these discussions.

**Link Center’s 988 Policy Academy,** *Kirsten Bosak (MDOD)*

Kirsten shared information about a learning collaborative that she is participating in with other state government representatives (MDOD, MD Department of Health’s Developmental Disabilities Administration, and MDH’s Behavioral Health Administration). The goal of the policy academy is to develop disability competencies and training for crisis responders so they can better address the needs of people with I/DD in crisis situations. Crisis responders include those working in crisis mobilization units, 988 responders, and crisis stabilization centers. She will share more information as it becomes available including what other states are doing.

**Community Impact Grants,** *Jennifer*

In total, MDOD received 7 applications which were reviewed and discussed at the April meeting. Some applications required some clarification and Jennifer provided a copy of the Excel sheet that includes the information that was provided by the applicants. Six of the seven organizations were awarded funding totaling $21,947. The last application was from the Autism Society of MD which was discussed earlier in the meeting. Patti had asked Jennifer if she was satisfied with the responses from the applicants and the proposals in general. Jennifer responded that all the organizations provided adequate clarification, but suggested we change the parameters of the grant application next year. Instead of going broad with activities, organizations should go deeper. Patti commented on the lack of innovation in the proposals.

Stephanie D. suggested that we need to do more relationship building and to have better conversations with our partners about what we’re looking for.

**FY24 Budget Breakdown,** *Jennifer*

We are on track to spend all the funding in our budget this year. This includes the funding we allocated towards the Community Impact Grants, the swag order, a grant to Loyola to start the process of revising the model curriculum, and to reimburse the costs of self-advocates and their travel spent by Pathfinders for Autism. Shelly joined the meeting and shared that these costs are from 54 trainings and are not being covered by another grant.

Shelly also shared that PFA did not get last year’s DOJ grant. The current grant is focused on locative technology like Project Lifesaver which only works with police departments and is only one strategy among many to protect the safety of people with IDD.

**FY25 Budget and Activities Planning**, *all*

Contract with Loyola University MD to revise model curriculum

Outreach materials finalized

* Work with previous graphic designer to create format for PowerPoint presentation and outreach documents

Conduct more outreach events

* Have people with IDD lead that: what does that look like? What are the resources needed to ensure they’re successful?
* Amanda asked about more information on how the funding can be used. She would like a reference document that provides more information to the Steering Committee members on activities that can be funded and who can be paid for work being performed.
* We can also conduct more outreach on Zoom and/or send out quarterly newsletters.

Find more people with IDD who want to participate/build a network

* Pairing people with and without experience - mentoring opportunities (need more defined role for self-advocates like a job description)
* DDA funds postsecondary education programs we could partner with or conduct outreach (TERPS Exceed and Coppin State)
* Develop directory of contacts and organizations that are conducting work in this area

Jennifer also mentioned the expansion of the Attendant Care Program within MDOD which will soon reimburse participants for the costs associated with rideshare and transportation, delivery fees, laundry services, assistive technology and other expenses that can support people who are working/looking for work/enrolled in postsecondary education

Action item: Jennifer to develop budget guidelines document for members

**Hold an August meeting for Saylor Alliance?**

Yes, members don’t want to lose momentum.

Develop timeline of activities for the fiscal year

Have planning committee meeting

Conduct Doodle poll - early August - Jennifer to set parameters and guidelines on the purpose and intentions of the workgroup

**Federal and Local News and Initiatives**, *all*

Special Olympics Summer Games next week

Brave in the Attempt - held on June 11th on the Eastern Shore - Brave by the Bay (5 speakers)

Torch Run

The Arc’s Convention - have table and/or present next year on Saylor Alliance?

(Develop a list of statewide conventions and conferences we could present at)

August 27th - DDA’s Tech First Conference in Columbia

National Night Out is August 6 - Consider prioritizing Frederick County

Meeting minutes respectfully submitted by: Jennifer Eastman, Staff