NYS Council on Developmental Disabilities (CDD)
Full Council Meeting Minutes
June 11, 2025
Meeting held in hybrid format, both remotely and in-person

In Person Attendance	Staff & Guests
Naome Adam	Kim Berg
Shameka Andrews	Kay Broughton
Daniel Cunningham	Mary Brundege
Marisa Daniels	Esther Chong
Dave Deuel	Anna DeRosa
Katy Faivre	Jing Dudley
Bin Feng	Jenn Goldman
Stuart Flaum	Suzy Goldman
Sue Fox	Katherine Grant
Shawn Fultz	Jackie Hayes
Jaime Harla	Arnet Hazell
Ketrina Hazell	Beverly Hazell
Yulin Huang	Zhiying Huang
Adan Islam	Afnan Joarder
Julie Keegan	Jesse Kendall
Vincent McLaughlin	Kristin Proud
Jessica Pidgeon	Krista Rock
Colleen Scott	Sierra Rogers
Joanne Siegel	Nelle Richardson
Xavier Skeeter	Kyra TePaske
Suzanne Swan	Drew Webster
Julianne Venneman	
Remote Attendance	**Absent**
Joshua Christiana	Mariela Adams
Suzannah Iadarola	Peter Cole
Deidre Moore	David Feickert
	Valeriya Gregory
	Amanda Haught
	Joshua Phelps
	Debora Thivierge

Guest Presenters Attending:
Esther Chong, Project Coordinator, NYS Office for the Prevention of Domestic Violence, and Kathy Grant, Assistant Director of Equity and Inclusion, NYS Office for the Prevention of Domestic Violence.

Welcome and Opening Remarks
The meeting was called to order at 9:38 AM by CDD Vice-Chair Ketrina Hazell, with welcoming remarks from CDD Council Chair, David Deuel. Quorum was established by calling the roll with introductions. An overview of Zoom procedures was provided. The meeting was chaired by Ketrina Hazell.

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Approval of Minutes.

Vincent McLaughlin made a motion to approve minutes from the February 27, 2025, full Council meeting. The motion was seconded by Shawn Fultz. There were no requested changes to the previous minutes. There were 20 votes in the affirmative. There were 5 abstentions: Yulin Haung, Deidre Moore, Dan Cunningham, NYSED representative, and DRNY representative. The minutes were approved.

Funding Motion: Housing Resources for Independent Living (HRIL) Contract Extension

CDD Community and Systems Change Committee Program Planner Jackie Hayes presented a motion for the NY Alliance for Inclusion and Innovation (NY Alliance) contract to be extended an additional two years. The NY Alliance presented to Council membership at the February 27, 2025, meeting. With an additional two years, the NY Alliance will continue to enhance and expand informational resources available on the NY Housing Resource Center for People with Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities. They will continue public education opportunities through their community of practice on housing. They also want to prioritize creating more informational resources around aging and housing. They will continue to inform housing policies by identifying best practices that help ensure equity and access for people with DD. Vincent McLaughlin made a motion to approve the Housing Resources for Independent Living contract extension (HRIL) funding motion. The motioned was seconded by Bin Feng. There were 23 votes in the affirmative. No votes in the negative. The motion was approved.

Leadership Reports:

Chair Report

CDD Chairperson Dave Deuel delivered the CDD Chair's report. Dave Deuel highlighted his disability advocacy work including three edits to the Conference on States parties in interest of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD). For around 10 years he has served on two United Nations (UN) working groups: disability disaster reduction and disability data initiative, along with being an inclusive safeguard for the stakeholder's group on persons with disabilities. For another UN related commitment, he was asked to be a mentor, continues to serve for the American Red Cross providing policy suggestions, and helping with remote connection to first responders, and drafted a letter to the NACDD director of public policy in support of the position of no Medicaid cuts.

Caucus Report

Shameka Andrews, Caucus Chair delivered the Caucus report. She asked for a moment of silence to recognize the passing on June 7, 2025 of well-known advocate Denise DiNoto who was a mentor to Shameka and many others in the disability community. Shameka summarized the June 10 Caucus meeting yesterday including a presentation from Disability Rights New York on future planning, making your own decisions, financial and medical support as you are aging, and housing options. Council Member Vincent McLaughlin presented on the Blue Envelope Program during the Caucus meeting.

Executive Director Report

CDD Executive Director Kristin Proud provided highlights from the May 2nd event commemorating the 50th anniversary of the signing of the Willowbrook Consent Decree. The event was held in at the College of Staten Island, which is on the grounds of what used to be the Willowbrook Developmental Center. The application period for the CDD's third Advocacy Institute is open for self-advocates and family members of individuals with developmental disabilities. Kristin presented on the State Fiscal Year (SFY) 2025-26 Enacted Budget. For the first time in the history of the Council, the Enacted State Budget provides State funding for the CDD in the form of a General Fund Personal Services appropriation of $1.5 million to support CDD staff costs. Kristin and CDD Counsel Krista Rock provided updates on federal issues. Kristin also provided a communications update that the finalized video of Paul and Hava has reached at least 1,200 views.

Fiscal Report
CDD Fiscal Analyst Jesse Kendall delivered the CDD Fiscal Report.

Inclusion and Accessibility Update
CDD Program Planner Jackie Hayes delivered updates on inclusion and accessibility work and highlighted important dates in the month of June. Jackie Hayes highlighted activities undertaken to develop the next CDD DEIA Strategic Plan.

State Plan Development:
CDD Federal Liaison Jennifer Goldman presented an update on the development of 2027-2031 State Plan. Jennifer provided details regarding the collection of public input for the Five-Year State Plan including social media polls, focus groups (20+ focus groups conducted as of June 30, 2025), and the public survey. The public survey was launched, and over 700 responses have been received to date. She shared an update on the current priorities reflected in public input to date and outlined next steps for the development of the 2027-2031 State Plan.

Presentation: NYS Office for the Prevention of Domestic Violence – Building Collaboration Between Domestic Violence Services Providers and Developmental Disabilities Services Providers
Presenter(s): Esther Chong, Project Coordinator; Kathy Grant, Assistant Director of Equity and Inclusion

Project Highlights:

- Three policies: Public Policy, Education and Public Awareness, and Statewide Services Network.
- Project goal is to develop trainings, resources, and opportunities for cross-system collaboration – increase services for people with developmental disabilities and strengthen the capacity of developmental disability provides to better support survivors of domestic violence.

- Key initiatives are to gather input from survivors, families, and providers, a mapping project, training development with Elevatus to create accessible, cross-system training, and recognize gender-based violence, respond appropriately, and refer to resources.
- Explained the past training topics that were delivered, specifically knowing your rights, intersectionality, and anti-discrimination laws.
- Held five Gender-Based Violence trainings to allow individuals with developmental disabilities who are survivors to learn more of accessibility of services and rights.
- In the next couple of months, more self-advocate workshops on sexuality led by Elevatus training and project consultants.
- Their five-year focus is to embed their project into OPDV's ongoing work, in person regional trainings across New York State, and a curriculum development for long-term sustainability.

Open Forum: Council Members Remarks and Inputs/Comments

- Jessica Pidgeon said that the OPWDD release the final report from the Care Coordination Program evaluation (CCO) in April. OPWDD Commissioner Baer is traveling around the State for strategic planning forums throughout the next couple of months.
- Shameka Andrews let everyone know that SANYS Western conference is the week of June 16, and the statewide conference is November 6-8^{h} this year. If you want to submit a workshop presentation, the deadline is at the end of this month.
- Naome Adam announced that she has a new job doing development work for an organization in the autism field.
- Katy Faivre attended the National Association of Councils on Developmental Disabilities' (NACDD) Bridging Aging and Disability Network meeting representing the CDD and provided conference highlights.
- Vincent McLaughlin is grateful for the feedback received from the June 10 CDD Caucus meeting during which he discussed the Blue Envelope Program, which is an initiative to ease communication between individuals on the autism spectrum and law enforcement during traffic stops. He is a Blue Envelope Program Liaison in Ulster County.
- Kristin shared an update on behalf of Council member, Stuart Flaum. He is attending the "Perceptions of Sentience: Exploring Neurodiverse Perspectives on Rights and Choices Through Art" event at the United Nations' 18th Session of the Conference of States Parties to the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities. Stuart is the Vice Chairperson of the nonprofit organization Strokes of Genius, Inc., the mission of which is to educate and empower individuals with Autism Spectrum Disorder by promoting artistic abilities.
- Kristin will use a Microsoft Forms survey for Caucus and Full Council attendance going forward; the survey link she will send in advance of future meetings will bring you to a questionnaire to make it more efficient to respond and convey logistical details.

Announcements

Ketrina Hazell announced the next CDD Caucus and Full Council Meeting will be held on Wednesday, October 29th and Thursday, October 30th, 2025, respectively.

Adjournment

Vinny McLaughlin made a motion to adjourn the Council meeting. Xavier Skeeter seconded the motion. With no further business, Ketrina Hazell adjourned the meeting at 2:34 PM.