

Department of Health

SENIOR AND DISABILITY SERVICES Governor's Council on Disabilities and Special Education

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Employment Committee Meeting Agenda Thursday, November 9, 2023

1:00 PM - 2:30 PM

TO JOIN THE MEETING:

Zoom link:

https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84836197923?pwd=UGFmQkg3bVZxKy96ZHQ4SVBta2UrQT09

Toll Free numbers: 888 475 4499, 833 548 0276, 833 548 0282, 877 853 5257

(if one phone number doesn't work, it means it is full. Please try one of the other listed numbers).

Meeting ID: 819 1784 4977

Passcode: 484 831

Call to Order:

Nona Safra, Employment Committee Chair

Roll Call / Begin ZOOM Recording:

Committee Members: Nona Safra, Jena Crafton, Ken Hamrick, Duane Mayes, Anna Attla

(Quorum is defined as a majority of Committee Members).

GCDSE Staff: Patrick Reinhart, Samantha Vetter

Welcome from the Chair:

Introductions, announcements, and/or good news (Nona Safra).

Conflict of Interest Declarations:

This is an opportunity for committee members to declare if they have a conflict with any item on the agenda, financial or otherwise.

Approval of the Previous Meeting Minutes and Agenda:

- Approval of Agenda
 - SAMPLE MOTION: I make a motion to approve the meeting agenda as presented.
- Approval of Past Meeting Minutes
 - SAMPLE MOTION: I make a motion to approve the meeting minutes as presented.

Reports:

- Chair-Nona Safra
- GCDSE Staff

Business:

- Anna to take over as Committee Chair, recruitment for more Employment Committee members.
- Revisit Goals and Objectives for voting that were uncompleted.
- Housing w/ CISS Committee
 - Provide Committee Feedback to CISS Committee for Housing Survey for Goal 1, Obj 2
 - Teacher housing in California/ASPEN Hotel built housing in Homer
 - Transportation from Mat-Su to Anchorage (also Feedback to CISS Housing survey).
- Childcare and Employment Comments Tread Summit 2023 report
- Presentations and other news for Employment
 - CAF/other legislative items from employment (position paper from Legislative Committee meeting)
 - Work Matters Task Force recommendations
 https://health.alaska.gov/gcdse/Documents/AKWorkMattersReport.pdf

- Working for the next year with DVR for media and PSA's with Jason Caputo
 - Review messaging opportunities list to work on for the next year

Why is employment for Alaskans with disabilities important?

- 1. When Alaskans with disabilities are employed, they have the opportunity to contribute positively to their communities, pay taxes, and experience meaningful engagement that reduces isolation and promotes health and well-being.
- 2. Employment is a pathway to independence and financial security for many Alaskans.
- 3. Employment is an essential part of recovery for many individuals with behavioral health conditions, offering positive impacts on life satisfaction, self-esteem, independence, and symptom reduction.
- 4. It is important that employment services are flexible to meet the needs of individuals.
- 5. In 2014, Alaska passed legislation to become an "Employment First" state. Employment First means that employment in the general workforce should be the first and preferred option for individuals with disabilities receiving assistance from publicly funded systems.

Time and Date of Next Meeting:=

- January and/or March
- February 13-15, 2024 Council Meeting

Good of the Order and Adjournment:

• 2:30pm - Motion to Adjourn