Meeting Date: Thursday, March 23, 2023

Meeting Location: Virtual (Zoom) 8:30 am to 10:00 am

Agenda:

Greetings, Introductions, and Opening Round

- We welcomed a new member to the council from Cook County, Laura Nelson, she will be Olivia's replacement, and we are so excited to have her on the council. Laura introduced herself to the group.
- Becky welcomed Emma Diers from the Housing Justice Center as she was doing a presentation for the Council today.
- The rest of the members introduced themselves and we did an opening round question-If you could travel, which time period would you visit? We got some great responses to this question; people said Frontier period 1942, the 1990's, stay in the now 2023, go to the future, etc. Thank you for participating in the opening round.

Bite Size Learning

- We watched a short video clip on having choice in where you live for those with disabilities @ https://youtu.be/9lOgqv3uEQc

Presentation on the Housing Justice Center

- Becky welcomed Emma Diers from the Housing Justice Center and explained how the Arrowhead Regional Quality Council (ARQC) got connected to the Housing Justice Center. Becky also explained why we thought it was important to have Emma here today to explain more on the Housing Justice Center and the work they do.
- Emma did an excellent job of explaining what the Housing Justice Center is and what they do to assist those in subsidized housing in the state of Minnesota. Becky, Beth, and Amanda all share their gratitude to the Housing Justice Center and what a vital role they have played in assisting the ARQC with the Birchwood Apartments and the situation happening in Grand Marais.
- Emma gave her email address – ediers@hjcmn.org and her phone number - (612) 293-0595

MN Gathering for Person-Centered Practices

- Becky asked the group if anyone had ever attended the MN Gathering before? Only a few members of the Council have participated previously so Becky explained what the gathering is and how it works. For years it had been an in-person event then due to COVID it had gone virtual for the last few years. This year the event would like to have an in-person day and a virtual day; plus, they have chosen to split up, hosting an event in the North and South of Minnesota.

- The ARQC staff has been asked to help facilitate the in-person portion of the event in the North region; meaning they would like our help with forming/hosting the North workgroup, promotion of the event, finding the event location, and finding speakers for the event.
- We are looking for more people to participate in the MN Gathering North Region Planning Committee workgroup, so if you are interested, contact Becky for further information and meeting times for this workgroup.

Follow Up on Legislative Agenda

- Becky referred to the 2023 Legislative agenda and the presentation by Gene M. from last month which explained the bills that most affect those with disabilities. She then asked the ARQC members if there was an initiative or focus, as a group, that they may want to put some effort into? Becky gave the group a long pause here and no responses about the Legislative agenda we had outlined in other meetings. We did discuss some transportation issues here in the community, for example- Hermantown area not having any public transportation and why that is. Becky stated she would try to attend the Hermantown City Council meeting to discuss this issue and Shawn S. also offered to attend and help address this issue.

Workgroup Updates

- Culture of Safety (DAG) Workgroup – 4/4/23 at 1:00 pm to 3:00 pm Via Zoom
- Person-Centered Practices Workgroup – 4/24/23 at 3:00 pm to 4:00 pm Via Zoom
- ICI Workgroup (Duluth, Hibbing, Grand Marais) – TBA
- ARQC Monthly Meeting – 4/27/23 at 8:30 am to 10:00 am via Zoom

Agency/Organization/Advocacy Updates

- Affordable Housing Coalition is having a Housing Summit at First Lutheran Church on Thursday 3/30/23 from 10:00 am to 3:00 pm-all are welcome and they will be addressing Housing issues in the Duluth community.
- Michelle explained the DAC had an article published in the Star Tribune addressing community employment for those with disabilities. She also reported that 70% of the clients at DAC are working in the community. Amazing work!!!

Next Meeting: April 27, 2023 at 8:30 am to 10:00 am via Zoom

Attendance

Name	Member Representation		Present Y/N
Becky Lambert	Arc Northland	ARQC Staff	Y
Beth Johnson	Arc Northland	ARQC Staff	Y
Ruth Rowenhorst	Carlton County	Lead Agency	N
Amy Patenaude	St. Louis County	Lead Agency	Y
Lauren Nelson	Cook County	Lead Agency	Y
Kerwin McKay	DHS	Lead Agency	N
Michelle McDonald	Lake County DAC	Lead Agency	Y
Beth Swanson	Lake County	Lead Agency	N
Shawn Stanich		Self-Advocate	Y
Heath Maki		Self-Advocate	N
Connie Kotonias	Family Member	Advocate	Y
Amanda Crosby	Arc Northland	Advocate	Y
Mary Martin	Family Member	Advocate	Y
Kristie Buchman	Choice Unlimited	Service Provider	Y
Nicole Lind	RSI	Service Provider	Y
Ann Dahl	Udac	Service Provider	Y
Josh Howie	Trillium Services	Service Provider	Y
Sherri Cooke	Lighthouse Center for V L	Service Provider	Y
Others Present:			
Emma Diers	Housing Justice Center		Y