



# SWDB Disability Access Committee

**Date: 07/12/23**

**Location: VIRTUAL**

## Minutes

### Disability Access Committee

July 12, 2023

2:00 pm – 3:00 pm

VIRTUAL

Attendees: Linda Rouse, Brian Dennis, Arturo Sanchez, Kyra Preston, Emily Wharton, Liz Rodriguez, Jeremy Ritchie

New Business: Determining next steps for the State DAC and its work going forward.

- Question: What is next for Iowa Workforce Changes New Iowa Plains and the impact on DAC going forward:
  - Keeping offices in Sioux City, Ft. Dodge, Spencer, Creston, and Council Bluffs. There will be opportunities here for DAC work, this will process as we all continue forward.
  - \$700,000 combined Ticket to Work funds.
- DAC Priorities
  - AJC Accessibility: work to have accessible spaces, as well as any training, and support to facilitate service delivery. Establish Core levels of Assistive Technology.
  - Facilitate Community of Practice
    - Employer Engagement: Value adds for employers. Establish Employer recognition: Annual awards like NDEAM, APSE, but creating other annual awards that work to nominate and highlight inclusive employers provide marketing and publicity which also incentivizes this work. NDEAM-October 2024 timeline. Service delivery: Working to provide training and a more uniform experience for employers by improving consistency, timing of, and cross-training of expertise of those working to provide services under business engagement.
    - DAC Engagement Recruitment: assistance, TA, reference materials/tools, idea sharing. Retention benefits: information sharing, education, marketing, networking, etc.
  - Training and Integrating Employment
    - This would be the community of practice and a way to create engagement from the local boards to each other, as well as a way for the state DAC to put out training sessions and technical assistance to the locals.
    - State DAC would like to involve Kathy Anderson: Business Engagement, per Rouse's suggestion. She has been invited to the upcoming meetings.

- Discussion on the Windmills training and the follow up training that is coming soon.
- DAC Success Story: Iowa Workforce Development might be a home for these employer spotlights. Already have a template and form for AJC, could possibly use the same template for DAC. Here for review.  
<https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=V6Bfry3ZmUeYV6tdbQNmny6ek3LhuPdPurmXSgTADu9UQkZUSFBLM041RTBSQVFRTTJFS0tFVTU0RC4u>
  - Note on form above: NE and Mississippi Valley have their own processes.
    1. Spotlight tool for all employers supporting inclusive hiring, management and retention strategies.
- Next Steps:
  - Next Meeting: Oct 11, 2023
  - Collecting stories NDEAM: Ideas for what event could look like, past successful events,
  - Follow up on the DAC website.
  - Possible Future Invitees:
    - ADA TA Center (Molly Wuebker)
    - Centers for Independent Livings (CILs) and SILC
    - Harkin Center
    - Iowa Association of Community Providers
    - Employer Councils of Iowa (ECI)
    - American Indian Council (Krista Snow)
    - Corrections
    - Others?