



SWDB Disability Access Committee

Date: 07/08/2026

Location: TEAMS

Minutes

Disability Access Committee

July 8, 2026
2:00 pm – 3:00 pm
TEAMS

ATTENDEES:

Alex Watters
Brian Dennis
Brian Warner
Hugh Kelly
Jeremy Ritchie
Jesse Dougherty
Kelli Hugo
Keri Osterhaus
Linda Rouse
Margee Woywood
Sara Bath
Shayla Stater
Stacy Cervenka

ABSENT:

Brandy McOmber, Chair
Josh Cobbs
Lin Nibbelink
Miranda Swafford

- 1) Call to Order by Stacy Cervenka, Acting Chair in Brandy McOmber's absence.
- 2) Meeting agenda for July 8, 2026, approved by members.
- 3) Meeting Minutes for April 14, 2026, Disability Access Committee meeting approved by members.
- 4) Discussions.
 - a) State DAC website review.

- i) Group discussed revising mission language to include employers and being the resource for employers across the state who have training and education needs related to employment and disabilities as well as recruitment. Points of contact for employer inquiries were discussed and decided should be limited for consistency. Rouse mentions this committee should be considering what should be done locally and using the local DACs to bring the right individuals together to continue their incredible work.
 - ii) Bath shared the DAC Purpose & Guidelines of State and Local DACs and thought it useful to assist in cleaning up the website language. This committee is in support of local DACs and should be their resource for support.
 - iii) Decision: a shared spreadsheet with each section of the website will be created by Dennis for committee members to make notes/suggestions for revisions. To be discussed and reviewed at future meetings.
- b) Focus Group Proposal.
 - i) Original plan involved employer focus groups but shifted to job seeker focus groups (Core 4 participants) in lieu of the business engagement team working with employers right now with Town Hall meetings.
 - ii) Currently, there are 70 individuals in the Core 4 program. Would like to gather feedback from participants (virtually) on their experience, service coordination and areas for improvement. Maria Morales, Amy Markham, Brian Dennis and Sara Bath are able to facilitate the meetings. Future planning meetings have been scheduled. Additional volunteers if needed are Keri Osterhaus (and Carla), Kelli Hugo and Stacy Cervenka.
 - iii) Date not yet determined, but aiming for September, National State Workforce Month, with results to this committee at the October meeting.
- c) Draft Outreach Flyer.
 - i) Flyer from Swafford designed to help recruit community members and employers for local DACs was shared. Group likes overall structure and content. Current version is specific to Eastern Iowa and needs customization for each region. Group requests Dougherty's communications team create a fillable/template version that would be usable across regions.
- d) Updates on NDEAM planning.
 - i) Webinars are planned; topic selection waiting on feedback gathered during the business engagement team's town halls. Bath shared document listing potential webinar topics. Committee members encouraged to sign up to assist with the webinars.
 - ii) Employer Awards will be issued again this year. Suggestion given for possible press release that would include process to recommend employers for the awards.
- e) Updates on WINTAC work.

- i) Technical assistance to come from Doug Keith; project renamed Iowa's Integration Continuum. Goal is to improve partner alignment, coordination, career pathways, outreach, and business engagement. Piloting the updated model on August 12 in the central Iowa area; look for invitations if you work in that area. Materials should roll out statewide by the end of August.

5) Next Steps.

- a) Dennis will create spreadsheet for website changes and share with committee members to provide feedback for website updates.
- b) Dougherty will have team work on template of recruitment flyer.

6) Adjourn.

Equal opportunity employer/program. Accommodations are available upon request:
workforce.iowa.gov/accessibility