

Iowa Plains Disability Access Committee**Date: 2/26/2026**

Attendance:

Present: Brittney Gutzmann, Darbi Neighbors, Chad Hauswirth, Shayla Stater, Gloria Graves, Faith Miller, Curt Duffield, Toni Faber, Kelly Hinds, Sarah Baebler

New Attendees:

Absent: Carolyn Farley, Brett Peterson, Amy Markham, Craig Levine, Richard Mullen, Tammi Erlbacher, Tammy Denman, Sarah Hruska

Note Taker: Shayla

Committee purpose statement: “The Iowa Plains Disability Access Committee strives to create equitable opportunities for all and is dedicated to educating businesses on how to recruit, support, and empower people with disabilities.”

Agenda Items	Notes	Outcomes & Next Steps
Increasing Business Engagement	Updates on potential additional businesses to connect to the DAC: Maybe broadcast through rotary, chamber, economic development committee Do we need to look at a better time to accommodate schedule. BECs might be able to reach out to specific businesses that could be interest – Jeff /Theresa /Aaron/ Chad ELT – also looking at that as well. SHRM groups – connections? – Chad is connected & working with local groups – it’s been hard recently to get engagement is. Benefit to join DACs (Toni) Consultant roles – education about disability / accessibility	Chad will reach out to the BECs to discuss potential recruitment Brittney will work on a potential 1 pager for the BECs to share Shayla will follow up on potential time that works best for business partners

	Helpful to have a concrete statement – something tangible. No exact # required Is rotational employers an option? (Faith) • Purpose?? Also for us to glean information from them as well. How do we steer customers to help them getting connected as well. • Maybe set up the agenda so they only stay for the first portion – unless interested in the rest. Tie this into the Employer nomination – Economic development as well. Brett will be in Pocahontas with BEC soon & will bring that up Possible questions: Possible questions for employers if inviting on a rotating basis: • How would you describe your organization's current experience with recruiting or employing individuals with disabilities? • What motivates your organization to hire individuals with disabilities? • What roles or departments have been most successful in hiring or supporting employees with disabilities? Why? • What concerns or uncertainties do you hear most often from hiring managers? • What supports or accommodations have been easiest (or hardest) to implement?	
Center Accessibility Surveys	Updates on One Stop Certification: Certification process is being worked though. Might have some changes to the process eventually	
NDEAM 2026	October is National Disability Employment Awareness Month – Goal is to keep the momentum through the year Potential “Iowa Plains” event For 2026:	Toni has example of the window cling & will send to Shayla

	Potential "Valued Workplace Sticker" • Will pursue using TTW funds • Use Vinyl or Table Tent format • Hand out in October but keep up year round – potentially purchase in a way to add a year sticker so they can receive multiple • Could be for job seekers ----- to recognize a potential supportive business • What's the criteria – 5 CRPs at the time & were businesses they were connecting with Who would be the vendor & designer: • Will need a W-9 • Potentially a prior VR ISE case / open case • APSE has used some small businesses (Toni might look into) • Core 4 might have someone (Brett) • Likely couldn't pay vendor for the design – but could be good for a portfolio • Comms team could likely assist • Kelly might have connection for potential artist Estimate from prior: 10 years ago through 250 - \$475 Tent – Pin – 500 for \$103 Opportunity to highlight a success story – could lead into a NDEAM Blast through social media with all of them highlighted. Potentially with both JC & business highlighted.	May meeting ---- Try to develop some designs – Comms team (Shayla) potentially or Brett / Kelly might have someone willing. Shayla will forward example to Brett / Kelly / Comms team
Employer Spotlight	Goal to spotlight different businesses through this committee on the IWD social media platforms. This can serve as a way to market their business. Would like to highlight employer perspectives from management on how to support individuals with disabilities with potential to show accommodation process & the value it can bring to a workplace. 1. Frequency identified - quarterly to start 2. Shayla updated form with feedback: 1. Current Form: https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=V6Bfry3ZmUeYV6tdbQNmn2	Go Live: Link can be sent out to share. Shayla will monitor receipt of nominations When 1 is received will send out for team to review for next steps.

	Oeo4qbAMFEqLzgge9HwnpUMUY4TzlUVFZUWIJJVDdFVTVUSzRIMjdFSS4u 3. Will keep a pool of more intensive questions for follow up to form submissions. Will keep more questions than needed so options are available. 4. Will want to work with IWD's communication team to make them look professional. 1. Potentially link into APSE website to share as well 2. Shayla reached out to Jesse with Comm team & they are in support of this 5. Amy / Chad doing the follow ups on submissions or working with local BEC depending on area business is located.	If multiple will send out to group for decision on moving forward.
Next Quarter Agenda Items	Meeting Scheduled for 5/28 @ 10:30AM	