# DICLC LIST SERVE MEETING NOTES April 6, 2020 at 4:00 p.m. Eastern

In attendance: Angela Castillo-Epps NACDD, Daintry Bartoldus HI, Jackie Hayes NY, Alison Whyte DC, Jeremy Norden-Paul WA, Tedra Jackson MI, Vendella Collins MI, Eric Jacobson GA, Katheryne Staeger-Wilson MO, Dana Thompson PA, Arlene Poncelet SD, Aleyta Zimmerman WY, Sara Ruf AZ

COVID-19 Update - What issues are you seeing in your States/Territories related to the virus as it relates to diversity, inclusion and cultural and linguistic competence? How are DD Councils responding?

Resources: Collectively the group reported concerns regarding COVID-19 resources being provided in accessible formats and languages. However, DD Councils are using their resources and connections to support translation. (See follow up email for links to COVID-19 materials that have already been translated into multiple languages and video resources to address different learning styles and abilities).

Services: Direct service providers and family providers not having the personal protection equipment needed to serve people with DD. People with I/DD trying to exist without the supports they need for every day functions. People with I/DD that are not part of the service system. How are their needs being met during this health crisis? Challenges for people with I/DD when their only caregiver contracts the virus. Quarantining in group homes, breakouts in institutional settings etc.

Digital divide and accessibility: Access to technology and the internet and the education component that needs to occur to decrease this divide between those that have the resources to participate and those that do not. DD Councils are utilizing CART services with Zoom and supporting resources that train people on how to use new platforms for meetings and communication. *Reminder: Do not forget about hard copy lists with regard to information dissemination – DD Councils can reach out disability service provider agencies, community groups that serve diverse populations etc. to advocate for those who are not connected through the internet and smart phone.*

Racism on multiple levels: Concerns over institutional racism with regard to access to care, treatment and resources for people with I/DD (particularly those from marginalized populations, rural urban, immigrants, LGBTQ and others) during the pandemic. (See follow up email for New Americans document from NY) DD Councils are advocating for the collection of data as it relates to the virus to include the populations listed above and other intersect. In addition, outbreaks of anti-Asian racism in Michigan and other locations across the US. (See follow up email for MI statement)

Many Councils are organizing or part of weekly listening and information sessions (calls, Zooms, web ex etc.) in their states and territories. This strategy allows DD Councils to bring the right people to the table to work together and provide the most pertinent and timely information to agencies and people with I/DD and families. FAQs are being developed and Google docs, websites and other platforms are used to centralize information.

The military and other businesses across the country are working to fill the supply gap for sanitizers and masks.

List serve: During the call, the group identified several questions that could be shared on the DICLC list serve as to obtain even more feedback from the larger group.

NACDD conference Proposal: – Title: *Driving Diversity in Self-Advocacy*From the proposal: The next 50 years of advocacy must be driven by people with disabilities, people of color, religious minorities, immigrants, LGBTQ people, and all the beautiful combinations of identities found within the disability community.

Alison Whyte, Jackie Hayes and Dana Thompson shared information about the advocates and family members that they have invited to present on a panel for the NACDD Annual Conference. The session will showcase the important targeted disparity work conducted by self-advocacy organizations and DD Councils from three states; New York, Washington D.C., and Pennsylvania. A panel of self-advocates will lead an interactive discussion about the benefits they experienced, at both a personal and an organizational level, through the work of these projects.

Angela will disseminate a doodle poll for the next DICLC meeting   
Notes recorded by Angela Castillo-Epps