

WEBVTT

00:00:21.242 --> 00:00:32.605

Folks who are on the zoom, if you wouldn't mind signing in in the chat, and if you're affiliated with an agency,

00:00:32.605 --> 00:00:40.930

Indicate so. I see a couple board members on the zoom. Can you can hear us right Okay, and we we tested a while ago that we could hear you.

00:00:40.930 --> 00:00:48.174

So, alright. Couple other people are coming in. So it is. 5 44.

00:00:48.174 --> 00:00:49.819

Do you wanna wait 1 min? Do you have enough per quorum? Well, I don't know yet.

00:00:49.819 --> 00:00:50.776

I don't think so. We have.

00:00:50.776 --> 00:00:57.305

Okay.

00:00:57.305 --> 00:01:04.949

But, the DD Board president is on the zoom. And

00:01:04.949 --> 00:01:34.118

Thanks Shandra is admitting people to the Zoom so I don't have to worry about it.

00:01:34.118 --> 00:01:52.074

And you see how the red goes on. As long as the red goes on, we're on. If you want.

00:01:52.074 --> 00:02:45.400

Here and when this red light is on, that means the microphone is working. Okay.

00:02:45.400 --> 00:02:59.469

So the DD board president is on the Zoom Meeting. Vicki, can you do? I muted you a minute ago.

00:02:59.469 --> 00:03:09.517

I'm sorry. Can you unmute yourself? I'm sorry. And then, You, the mental health board president is here in the room, and we haven't done this before - the hybrid joint study session.

00:03:09.517 --> 00:03:14.627

So I think either one of you can call to order. Stephanie is here. I'm going to put the - in the Chat, I'm going to put the link to the board packet.

00:03:14.627 --> 00:03:17.817

Yeah.

00:03:17.817 --> 00:03:29.392

And then there's also an addendum. I'll put that in there in case anyone doesn't have it, but you, you and Vicki are free to get it rolling.

00:03:29.392 --> 00:03:32.620

Alright, I guess since I'm here in person I can I'll call to order the Champaign County Developmental Disabilities Board and Champaign County Developmental Disabilities Board and Champaign County Mental Health Board joint study session.

00:03:32.620 --> 00:03:34.960

Can I get a roll call, please.

00:03:34.960 --> 00:03:38.511

Jen Straub.

00:03:38.511 --> 00:03:39.795

Here.

00:03:39.795 --> 00:03:43.356

Matt Hausmann.

00:03:43.356 --> 00:03:47.603

Daphne Maurer.

00:03:47.603 --> 00:03:52.238

Elaine Palencia.

00:03:52.238 --> 00:03:54.165

Molly McLay.

00:03:54.165 --> 00:03:55.668

Here.

00:03:55.668 --> 00:04:01.047

Lisa Liggins Chambers.

00:04:01.047 --> 00:04:03.236

Jane Sprandel.

00:04:03.236 --> 00:04:04.544

Here.

00:04:04.544 --> 00:04:11.546

Joe Omo-Osagie.

00:04:11.546 --> 00:04:13.383

Jon Paul Youakim? Georgiana Schuster.

00:04:13.383 --> 00:04:16.083

Here.

00:04:16.083 --> 00:04:18.015
Vicki Niswander.

00:04:18.015 --> 00:04:19.635
Here.

00:04:19.635 --> 00:04:21.887
Kim Wolowiec Fisher.

00:04:21.887 --> 00:04:23.633
Here.

00:04:23.633 --> 00:04:34.715
Anne Robin.

00:04:34.715 --> 00:04:44.935
Here. Stephanie, Joe Omo Osagie and Matt Hausman are also here. So you have a quorum of both boards. Because there are 2 board members,

00:04:44.935 --> 00:05:01.102
One from each board, on the zoom, the members in the room can vote to allow them to participate remotely since it's official.

00:05:01.102 --> 00:05:06.876
Alright. I will move, for a motion to allow, the mental health board members and the DDB members that are here via zoom to participate and join in the session.

00:05:06.876 --> 00:05:14.571
Do I have a second? Alright. hearing the second, we'll have a voice vote.

00:05:14.571 --> 00:05:21.058
All those in favor say aye. Aye. Let's vote. All those in favor say aye. I was opposed say same sign. And the eyes have it.

00:05:21.058 --> 00:05:28.756
So And it's possible that depending on the reason they're on Zoom, it doesn't, that vote's not,

00:05:28.756 --> 00:05:36.257
Doesn't vote them in, but you still have a quorum, and they're still here, and we can still do the study session, and we have a really crowded room.

00:05:36.257 --> 00:05:40.905
It's really quite exciting to see all of you. So the next item on the agenda is approval of the agenda.

00:05:40.905 --> 00:05:49.557
Do I have a motion to approve? So moved. Do I have a second? Second.

00:05:49.557 --> 00:05:57.967
All those in favor say aye. Aye. Those opposed say aye. Are the same sign, sorry.

00:05:57.967 --> 00:06:03.458

Those have it. So we'll move on to citizen input. All are welcome to attend the board meeting and then offer their thoughts during this time.

00:06:03.458 --> 00:06:10.921

I will limit participation to 5 min per person. If there's anyone in the public that would like to participate.

00:06:10.921 --> 00:06:19.637

Now's the time. And remember to state your name for the record.

00:06:19.637 --> 00:06:41.998

Anyone in the zoom? Stop sharing. No, no hands. All right.

00:06:41.998 --> 00:06:50.195

I would that will move on to Vicki Niswander and my comments. Basically, we're here today to really hear from the community that, you know, the board is supposed to be serving, the boards are supposed to be serving, so we can you know better serve them and figure out how to best you know use resources that we have.

00:06:50.195 --> 00:07:04.011

As a county for the community. So I'll leave the rest of the comments for, Mrs. Niswander.

00:07:04.011 --> 00:07:12.194

Hi, I apologize first of all for being on zoom. Our family is out of the state on vacation, but I want to thank my fellow board members for trusting me with the position of president of the board.

00:07:12.194 --> 00:07:25.880

I'm truly in awe of everything that has been accomplished through the work of the DD board and the mental health board through the years.

00:07:25.880 --> 00:07:30.661

And I am honored to contribute in whatever way I'm able. Also, thanks to Lynn, Kim, and all of the staff who do so much to support our work to support people with disabilities to having a better quality of life.

00:07:30.661 --> 00:07:45.527

And I really look forward to hearing from our panel of experts today.

00:07:45.527 --> 00:07:55.376

With that, we'll move on to the study session: "Preferences of Champaign County residents with Intellectual Developmental Disabilities.

00:07:55.376 --> 00:08:00.656

So I think the first group we have is the participants from the Community Choices Human Rights and Advocacy group.

00:08:00.656 --> 00:08:11.861

Eric Beasley, Jennifer Bouy and Jasmine Hague and Tobie Wood.

00:08:11.861 --> 00:08:19.386

Did you guys want us to ask the questions or were you all gonna ask the question?

00:08:19.386 --> 00:08:28.403

I don't know the format. Did you? You don't have a microphone. So you can't say.

00:08:28.403 --> 00:08:38.695

If it's, would you be comfortable working as one group of presenters and maybe introducing yourselves first?

00:08:38.695 --> 00:08:47.637

Okay. Is that okay? Really different thoughts on the question. So however you all wanted to handle it is

00:08:47.637 --> 00:08:56.945

Great with me. You gotta read the questions. Okay, but first if you all would introduce yourself first.

00:08:56.945 --> 00:09:07.036

Yeah. Maybe we'll just start. Yeah. I'm Darren Chatman.

00:09:07.036 --> 00:09:18.668

Hi, I'm Jasmine. Thank you. Hi, I'm Jasmine.

00:09:18.668 --> 00:09:26.032

Hi, I'm Jennifer Buoy. I've been from Community Choices and PACE and

00:09:26.032 --> 00:09:33.153

I have been in this county all my life so

00:09:33.153 --> 00:09:40.311

I really like advocating for people with disabilities.

00:09:40.311 --> 00:09:45.715

Hello, my name is Tobie Wood. I'm with Community Choices.

00:09:45.715 --> 00:09:50.475

I've had a lifelong disability and I enjoy advocating for people with disabilities.

00:09:50.475 --> 00:09:54.339

Hello, my name is Kentrell.

00:09:54.339 --> 00:10:10.686

Hello, I'm Danielle.

00:10:10.686 --> 00:10:25.308

Alright, thank you all for being here. Really appreciate you taking the time to advocate, like you said, for the community for people with disabilities.

00:10:25.308 --> 00:10:38.306

The first question we had as as our as the boards were do you do you feel you know what the mental health and developmental disability boards actually do and how can we make our meetings more accessible

00:10:38.306 --> 00:10:45.640

To everyone? Do you wanna go first? I know somewhat of what your mental health and disability board does, but I would like to learn more about it.

00:10:45.640 --> 00:10:58.862

Do you wanna share one of these for some of the things you had shared with us earlier? We know

00:10:58.862 --> 00:11:08.770

That you help make funding available for organizations that support people with developmental disabilities. We also know that this happens through grants and we really don't know what else you do

00:11:08.770 --> 00:11:10.398

Outside of that or what your responsibilities are or we really or really when you meet and what purpose of the meetings are.

00:11:10.398 --> 00:11:22.484

Thank you.

00:11:22.484 --> 00:11:35.457

Making that information more public would make you more accessible to us. Continuing to provide the Zoom

00:11:35.457 --> 00:11:46.796

option is helpful. But right now, attending meetings isn't an option for those of us that work in the mornings.

00:11:46.796 --> 00:11:50.769

Advertising meeting dates and times through flyers and more friendly website would also be helpful. Invitations through emails, phone calls, or texting reminders

00:11:50.769 --> 00:12:07.103

Are also helpful.

00:12:07.103 --> 00:12:10.610

I'm gonna actually pass that question because It's kind of like an - Not trying to be mean - like an irrelevant answer.

00:12:10.610 --> 00:12:31.055

Don't want to.

00:12:31.055 --> 00:12:42.273

So for that first question, one I did want to ask you, then, besides putting the advertisement in the newspaper, how else do we advertise to Oh, did like the meeting?

00:12:42.273 --> 00:12:53.207

No, the meeting's not in the so where do we post them the meeting?
There's we're required to post all of our everything publicly and so we
have there are 2 places one is the county website.

00:12:53.207 --> 00:13:00.603

Which - and the zoom link never changes and the schedule is, the schedule
is in every board packet. Not this one because this is a study session,
but there's a schedule

00:13:00.603 --> 00:13:15.982

With a list of all the meetings and that's also posted on the county's
website and then on our own application website.

00:13:15.982 --> 00:13:24.961

So in both of those places, that information is already available. It's
not on Facebook because of Illinois Local Records Retention Act, which
compels us to keep records of everything that we make public for

00:13:24.961 --> 00:13:33.044

There is a there is still a big question mark around how you retain
electronic records through social media. So we can't do it that way.

00:13:33.044 --> 00:13:43.148

So both of those websites that I mentioned are public. I'm not sure what
would make them easier for people to find.

00:13:43.148 --> 00:13:58.702

And because the information is posted for about a year in advance, I'm
not really sure how to, like maybe the schedule itself

00:13:58.702 --> 00:14:07.838

Or the agenda for each meeting could make a nice flyer. Maybe someone
could email you that and you could make flyers those I don't really know
what to do about that because all of it is posted to public already.

00:14:07.838 --> 00:14:20.742

So it's making it easier might be like coming up with a better website
address, but we already have

00:14:20.742 --> 00:14:32.499

We have 4 websites that we have to monitor with regard to the local
records retention act and for full compliance with Open Meetings Act and
Retention Act. So.

00:14:32.499 --> 00:14:45.251

Do you know if any of the Do you know if any of the agencies that we fund
provide a list of the meeting dates and times for the people they serve.

00:14:45.251 --> 00:14:52.283

They do. Well, why not? Good. Just one of them.

00:14:52.283 --> 00:14:53.786

Is it okay? She can go ahead. Yeah. So if you have it on the website.

00:14:53.786 --> 00:14:57.345

Okay.

00:14:57.345 --> 00:15:03.319

Okay.

00:15:03.319 --> 00:15:17.022

Then. Hi, the link. Where's the link going to be sent? Is the link going to be on the website or how do they get the link?

00:15:17.022 --> 00:15:28.238

If you're not, you have to, somebody has to send the link or how do they get the link if you're not you have to say or how do they get the link if you're not you have somebody has to send the link or It's on the schedule and it's on the agenda and it's also posted on the application website and it's been the same for 3 years.

00:15:28.238 --> 00:15:38.874

For each meeting has a different link. So it's available. But I mean, the question is like, is it easily available?

00:15:38.874 --> 00:15:41.166

And I think you're telling us it's not, but I'm not really sure what else we can do about that without, you know, maybe a some additional expense which... That's what we can do.

00:15:41.166 --> 00:16:00.819

Yeah. But

00:16:00.819 --> 00:16:04.773

So this is I think a really excellent suggestions from you all like of how we can make our meetings more accessible, particularly since like we're You, IS, you, We have this, the DD board has this special fund that we're.

00:16:04.773 --> 00:16:12.526

Right, I don't know. I don't remember all the details, but I'm wondering if,

00:16:12.526 --> 00:16:24.576

Is there a possibility that like maybe the agencies could come up with some kind of. This would be a great fundable

00:16:24.576 --> 00:16:28.936

Thing, right? Like, so if some of you all learn like where this information is on the website and then you guys through your advocacy group or through the work you do, create

00:16:28.936 --> 00:16:35.004

That would be a great, I'm not finishing my sentences because I'm getting kind of excited.

00:16:35.004 --> 00:16:41.398

Sorry, but. That you could find that information posted and then you guys share it through your networks.

00:16:41.398 --> 00:16:51.907

I don't mean to sound like we're passing the buck to you, but I feel like this would be an excellent

00:16:51.907 --> 00:16:54.742

Program to to fund. I don't know if that would be helpful if we gave funding for you guys to get support to find the information and then share it.

00:16:54.742 --> 00:17:05.195

You feel like that would be helpful.

00:17:05.195 --> 00:17:15.773

Yes, I wanted to add one thing I heard in the comments was that like the website itself could be more user friendly.

00:17:15.773 --> 00:17:23.408

I don't know if that's something that we should discuss right now. Or I just wanted to note that I heard that comment and that might be something to explore also.

00:17:23.408 --> 00:17:36.018

We've been doing a lot of work to to one of the sites. 2 of them are,

00:17:36.018 --> 00:17:48.720

Pass accessibility testing with flying colors, but those are not the ones where we post board business. The ones that we post board business are - one is not under our control, it's the counties official site.

00:17:48.720 --> 00:17:56.739

And then the other one is under our control. That's the application site the agencies use, and we've made a lot of changes to it over the last 12 months and some of those changes have caused other changes that created problems.

00:17:56.739 --> 00:18:04.200

So, so I think in the name of better accessibility, we will continue doing that. But making that site more user friendly

00:18:04.200 --> 00:18:13.888

Probably isn't the answer to the concern that you've brought up. As far as like finding things easily.

00:18:13.888 --> 00:18:25.699

Cause even on that site, it's just got a weird name, and it's got so much information on the front page that It's hard to find.

00:18:25.699 --> 00:18:35.220

I mean, I think Yeah, I think there we should be very careful about solutions with your help and then and then working on our website should just always be our commitment.

00:18:35.220 --> 00:18:43.288

I need to piggyback off of that in one of the comments here. So are you all even aware that the videos the recordings of the meetings are available?

00:18:43.288 --> 00:18:51.169

Because that kind of goes to the same thing that since you mentioned the morning meetings. You can't see them.

00:18:51.169 --> 00:18:56.943

So first, the first question is. Being able to see the recorded meetings, is would that work for you?

00:18:56.943 --> 00:19:08.322

And then the second part of that would be making it because you're right, it's hard to find them on the website, but they are available.

00:19:08.322 --> 00:19:17.270

I think recordings would be good, so like to, yeah, no, they can be sent.

00:19:17.270 --> 00:19:29.084

I mean, cause not everybody knows that every recording is available to the public. So, I mean, I

00:19:29.084 --> 00:19:39.235

I mean, I didn't know that. You could, we could add access to the recordings. So now that I mean and if somebody even

00:19:39.235 --> 00:19:57.001

Were unable to attend and said oh I this emailed you a recording like after to access, it would be probably

00:19:57.001 --> 00:20:00.362

Helpful even. So I know from other groups that, you know, when you send I would say like when you have your agenda and people sent easily have are done hybrid meetings and sent a link and an agenda with it.

00:20:00.362 --> 00:20:11.811

It's helpful to know ahead of time.

00:20:11.811 --> 00:20:22.255

Thank you, did you have something to say?

00:20:22.255 --> 00:20:27.691

I did. I was going to suggest, I think this is a really important point. But it's my understanding that we have an hour, is that correct?

00:20:27.691 --> 00:20:32.742

Roughly.

00:20:32.742 --> 00:20:38.582

Until people start falling asleep and leaving, we could we could be here all night Yeah.

00:20:38.582 --> 00:20:51.000

So what I'm thinking is it might be wise rather than trying to solve each issue as it comes up.

00:20:51.000 --> 00:20:56.442

We know there are some. Let's gather the ID from this group so that we are, you know, we get a bigger picture and then maybe down the road as we meet further in our different groups,

00:20:56.442 --> 00:21:01.066

We can address some of those things more specifically.

00:21:01.066 --> 00:21:10.912

Just a thought.

00:21:10.912 --> 00:21:15.223

I think that's a good idea. So with that we can move on to the next question and that is what would make your daily life easier or better?

00:21:15.223 --> 00:21:27.292

Are there services you want but are not getting?

00:21:27.292 --> 00:21:35.286

Where are you at? Okay. We had a, I don't know if we, we have a lot of different answers to that question.

00:21:35.286 --> 00:21:41.791

And generally, it would be helpful to know what services existed and help knowing if I'm eligible for them.

00:21:41.791 --> 00:21:56.207

More support workers would be helpful, having people to talk to when I have questions.

00:21:56.207 --> 00:22:10.207

Resources help to pay for necessities that would be helpful. Benefits are not adequate and why he isn't year round.

00:22:10.207 --> 00:22:26.208

Rent assistance is also needed. The mindset of the community isn't very welcoming. It seems like people judge folks with disabilities and We aren't respected.

00:22:26.208 --> 00:22:37.530

One thing that could make my life a little easier.

00:22:37.530 --> 00:22:44.121

IS if I got help in traveling to other cities or attending events in town and not show how I will get too well.

00:22:44.121 --> 00:22:52.467

I need to go on my own. Went to a different city or state, having a staff person come with me to help.

00:22:52.467 --> 00:22:59.976

I'm traveling around and I knew, Let me help and that would be more fun if I could bring friends too.

00:22:59.976 --> 00:23:15.476

Well, I also need to find out what my budget is, and what kind of clothes to and what to bring.

00:23:15.476 --> 00:23:20.595

Thank you guys for your feedback on that one. We can go on to the next question.

00:23:20.595 --> 00:23:30.990

So just. Are they? Oh yeah. Yeah, go ahead, Jen.

00:23:30.990 --> 00:23:36.507

Yeah, go on. I'll try not to get too wordy. So if anyone's ever viewed our meetings, I can get kind of excited about stuff, but the last one on there, the mindset of the community isn't very welcoming.

00:23:36.507 --> 00:23:42.941

Okay.

00:23:42.941 --> 00:23:57.949

That is a sad reality. I know Allison Boot. She's doing a lot of social media stuff for us for like the disabilities Expo, but she also does things for

00:23:57.949 --> 00:24:09.351

The art and The Alliance, yeah. So I feel like we're really trying to get the word out there that, you know, these are amazing individuals that have amazing gifts.

00:24:09.351 --> 00:24:16.125

And abilities. And they most definitely should get our respect. And so I think we are trying to work on that.

00:24:16.125 --> 00:24:24.557

Again, you know, SNAP, LIHEAP. I could sing to the choir on this, but that might be a legislative conversation.

00:24:24.557 --> 00:24:35.192

Maybe we should call our legislators. But yeah, I totally appreciate, you know. Kind of even showing what your vulnerabilities are.

00:24:35.192 --> 00:24:42.767

And I love the idea of having someone to travel with you and things like that. I'm a big advocate for we need to pay the people who are being personal assistants.

00:24:42.767 --> 00:24:52.595

I've been a DSP myself, my daughter's in the field right now. The folks that are working with you, not for you,

00:24:52.595 --> 00:25:06.637

With you, really deserve a good pay so they'll stay with you guys. And so that's my 2 cents on that topic.

00:25:06.637 --> 00:25:13.771

Early procedure, Jane. I know we've had a lot of sessions where we've talked about the lack of funding for DSP workers in the state.

00:25:13.771 --> 00:25:17.962

I know that something definitely like all of us would like to push forward legislatively to increase their wages so there is more support in the communities.

00:25:17.962 --> 00:25:35.776

Sorry. I think Kim had some comments as well. Exactly. Sorry, Dr.

00:25:35.776 --> 00:25:48.014

So again, like I'm thinking about like what we fund as a DD board. So like a program that supports your understanding about legislative action and then to advocate might be another route if the fix is legislatively.

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That might be another thing that we could potentially fund. We could also advocate for the county board to maybe chip in for something if they have some extra funding

00:25:59.461 --> 00:26:06.311

That through the Covid monies. And then like Jane, what you were saying about the campaign, I put campaign marketing, like maybe there needs to be some kind of partnership with.

00:26:06.311 --> 00:26:14.920

The Champaign County Visitors Bureau. Is it Champaign County?

00:26:14.920 --> 00:26:23.711

They have such great marketing and they could partner with Alison to do some disability awareness kind of campaign that maybe could

00:26:23.711 --> 00:26:26.891

Be the purpose of that would be to, you know, bring awareness to your due to life, you know, to them.

00:26:26.891 --> 00:26:49.557

Okay, so those are my ideas.

00:26:49.557 --> 00:27:12.512

Just carefully. So that we're not here all night. Just, I'm actually really sorry to see it, but really glad that you put it on there about the community not being welcoming because we found - we did a big needs assessment back in 2021 and that was one of the things that came through very strongly in the survey, from

00:27:12.512 --> 00:27:27.235

All kinds of people who participated in the survey, not just not just folks from one particular agency or you know walk of life or a certain disability type, but that this community is not welcoming to people with disabilities came up really strongly and that also same time this community is rich with amazing resources,

00:27:27.235 --> 00:27:35.312

And they're just not available to everyone. So thank you for bringing that up again. That was just 2 years ago, apparently it's still true, but that Alliance for Inclusion and Respect that you mentioned could actually partner with you on specific advocacy items.

00:27:35.312 --> 00:27:55.405

That is something that the DD board and mental health board do, in addition to funding programs. We do a lot of legislative advocacy.

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It is not as easy for agencies to do that system advocacy as it used to be because of anti-lobbying laws. We are not bound by those anti lobbying laws, so we can partner with you on advocacy for the kind of changes in rules that will make your life better and maybe help this community get it together to be more welcoming.

00:28:06.191 --> 00:28:20.037

So I really appreciate you putting that on the table, as difficult as that issue sounds. That is really appropriate for us to partner with you.

00:28:20.037 --> 00:28:26.790

So moving on to question the next question. Are there supports or services that you have now that you would like to keep.

00:28:26.790 --> 00:28:54.737

Okay.

00:28:54.737 --> 00:29:03.493

I like the flexibility I have to be able to utilize supports and services at more than one agency organization and services at more than one agency organization and I like I can that I can also use my HBS Weber supports to piece.

00:29:03.493 --> 00:29:16.738

Supports together that allow me to farm. At home, you services and heavy social life that I would normally not have thinking.

00:29:16.738 --> 00:29:27.917

So social and community supports are important for people along with being able to learn and practice skills like cooking or clean.

00:29:27.917 --> 00:29:31.037

I enjoyed the, bear with me. This is my first time. Thank you for your patience.

00:29:31.037 --> 00:29:41.525

I enjoyed the MTD services.

00:29:41.525 --> 00:29:46.776

And. Oh, well, there are many services that I get that make a big difference in my life.

00:29:46.776 --> 00:29:54.519

I attend groups which I enjoy most when they take place at the Crow or at the Champaign Library.

00:29:54.519 --> 00:30:02.006

I also have had a job coach who assist me with withdrawing money from my tip card and checking my work schedule on my laptop.

00:30:02.006 --> 00:30:09.906

My previous job cooach helped me learn how to get to work on the MTD, which was useful for me.

00:30:09.906 --> 00:30:14.112

Apartment staff Joni assist me with my budgeting, shopping, and picking up fast food. She also helps me with my taxes

00:30:14.112 --> 00:30:52.836

Which takes a big burden off my shoulders.

00:30:52.836 --> 00:30:59.833

Thank you guys for your feedback on that question. Are there any comments from the board members? Yeah, just a question because I think Tobie, it was you mentioned the services for more than one agency, and I know this came up when we were doing the funding but is the communication between the agencies themselves, is that pretty smooth or that they time that one when you're working with one agency and then you go to another for something if they

00:30:59.833 --> 00:31:27.026

have to talk with each other, is it pretty easy? Usually it is, yes. Can and can't be, it was a double

00:31:27.026 --> 00:31:34.278

Question. Fair enough. And sandwiched between 2 agency... Okay, I guess one question I had for the group was do you feel that there are enough job coaches, or do you feel that there are enough job coaches, or do you feel like it's hard to find time with them or get access to them.

00:31:34.278 --> 00:31:44.008

I think we need more job coaches, so there's more time to spend with mine, for example.

00:31:44.008 --> 00:31:57.442

I think there's like a long waiting list for people. I mean, to be heard from DR, I mean, to find a job coach.

00:31:57.442 --> 00:32:06.208

I mean, it's, and to have, somebody actually the job coaches to do their jobs I would say to help somebody find a job in the community.

00:32:06.208 --> 00:32:08.351

But they like, they're capable of doing and they will continue not just point out something saying, here, this is your, here I found something.

00:32:08.351 --> 00:32:16.343

You go do this.

00:32:16.343 --> 00:32:25.557

Are there plenty of opportunities to get jobs in our community?

00:32:25.557 --> 00:32:43.294

I think sometimes. Not all the time.

00:32:43.294 --> 00:32:53.318

Do you think there are certain jobs that you would like to get that you feel like there is not enough opportunity for those specific ones?

00:32:53.318 --> 00:33:03.379

Part time jobs. That's where I say. A lot of positions are full time.

00:33:03.379 --> 00:33:09.707

And people with disabilities because of social security reasons are not able to work full-time and still keep their benefits.

00:33:09.707 --> 00:33:19.913

That's a number one issue.

00:33:19.913 --> 00:33:26.546

I would also agree with Jen, you know, not being able to keep your social security benefits and you know, you have to work part time

00:33:26.546 --> 00:33:46.301

Kind of really limits what a person with disabilities can and can't do in the workplace.

00:33:46.301 --> 00:33:50.427

I really appreciate your input. It's very valuable. Thank you. With that we can move on to the next question, which is, what do you guys think is your greatest need for, need for participating in the community? Is the county helping

00:33:50.427 --> 00:34:04.562

With this and how can we better help?

00:34:04.562 --> 00:34:15.711

Okay. Transportation is huge. Funding transportation options is important, and the county should continue to do this.

00:34:15.711 --> 00:34:33.495

How the financial resources to access activities and events. Can the county provide financial assistance for us?

00:34:33.495 --> 00:34:44.020

It depends on. What's in town? Getting the information from it.

00:34:44.020 --> 00:34:46.638

Well, Well, Well, Well. Well. That's what Well.

00:34:46.638 --> 00:35:01.747

People. Information. Like, when I had signed. I knew people hear about them.

00:35:01.747 --> 00:35:09.997

Some of them are just lack of communication, but if we can get more communications in, into seeing like advanced stuff and budget.

00:35:09.997 --> 00:35:15.054

How much the event is. And transportation, I think not being the next step of goal for everybody to really.

00:35:15.054 --> 00:35:27.691

Have in their life, but I can't speak for everybody, so

00:35:27.691 --> 00:35:35.343

Are there any Board comments or questions?

00:35:35.343 --> 00:35:46.028

Oh, sorry. I guess my question is, and I'm not familiar with what services are out there,

00:35:46.028 --> 00:35:55.231

Is there any resources like for like MTD bus passes? Okay, so there is that opportunity, maybe for individuals to find it is another story, okay.

00:35:55.231 --> 00:36:00.478

Alright. Yeah, I have a comment, like, ADA is what I use. It's \$2 a ride, but when your bus is a dollar.

00:36:00.478 --> 00:36:12.065

Can we make that the same please? Is there any way to do that?

00:36:12.065 --> 00:36:25.342

And then again, like I said, even if we were to have all these transportations,

00:36:25.342 --> 00:36:33.969

It's also the lack of where people don't tell people. If they wanted to link up to go to that same event or they had to pay their own entry fee so

00:36:33.969 --> 00:36:46.416

I'm just not sure how to answer that one. Yeah, I feel about that.

00:36:46.416 --> 00:36:56.582

Yeah, the The scheduling of the bus is not equivalent for what I need. For example, the bus service on Sundays ends at 6 and 7.

00:36:56.582 --> 00:37:02.966

I work until 100'clock in Savoy on Sundays. I have no way home except for my sister, and she work starts Monday at 6 am.

00:37:02.966 --> 00:37:14.833

She has to lose a couple of hours of sleep to get me to where I need to go.

00:37:14.833 --> 00:37:17.903

Can I ask a follow-up question to to Darren actually? Oh, I'm sorry. I'm sorry.

00:37:17.903 --> 00:37:42.269

Kentrell. Thank you. Kentrell. So you were talking about.

00:37:42.269 --> 00:37:53.273

The need to get more communication about events that are happening in the community. Do you mean like you're not sure like where to look to see like on social media where to see events or the park district book or you know if you know local bars having a concert or something like that is that what you mean?

00:37:53.273 --> 00:38:01.475

You know, looking up on social media or nothing because the lack of communications what I'm saying is because now a lot of people will understand

00:38:01.475 --> 00:38:22.821

That everybody could go to an event, but then there might be some that have to do with other people.

00:38:22.821 --> 00:38:27.282

And on my end, I'm thinking like. Okay, so you're telling us, of these events, but we're not even hearing none of these things and even we researched it how you know exactly who's it for because now everybody could go to one event if it don't pertain to them.

00:38:27.282 --> 00:38:46.219

Thank you.

00:38:46.219 --> 00:39:00.915

Thank you. Thank you for that. We'll go to the next question, which is when you're interested in finding a new opportunity or resource, what do you guys do?

00:39:00.915 --> 00:39:18.184

Sometimes I do an internet search, but usually I go to a resource I'm already connected with and ask them if they know.

00:39:18.184 --> 00:39:21.421

Is there a specific opportunity that you're talking about? Give something specific like

00:39:21.421 --> 00:39:44.209

. If

00:39:44.209 --> 00:39:47.359

I sometimes like. For an agency that. 5. We, accessing for If I had a sometimes like for Social Security or the Department of Human Services.

00:39:47.359 --> 00:40:00.909

When those services

00:40:00.909 --> 00:40:22.443

Hey, if you know they are hard to get a hold of. So therefore, you feel like you need another, agency another person to ask when you need

00:40:22.443 --> 00:40:34.518

Help, to help you with. Okay, that's where I think my, a lot of times I had to ask my ISP or our, my SDA sometimes or you need like a job coach or something.

00:40:34.518 --> 00:40:39.283

But you just need like a somebody to help you to access. With these because it if they're not available, then who you look to

00:40:39.283 --> 00:40:49.835

For help? We need somebody there to help you.

00:40:49.835 --> 00:40:58.934

When I want to try something new, there are lots of people I can ask. When an event is coming up

00:40:58.934 --> 00:41:07.691

I want to go to I will tell my apartment trainers and they can help me with my budget and the things I need to bring.

00:41:07.691 --> 00:41:18.661

Like when I went to Chicago for the Expo and when I wanted to get back into the workforce,

00:41:18.661 --> 00:41:23.482

A let AJ know, at Clark Road, know, and he set me up with my supported employment supervisor who helped me find a job and train me.

00:41:23.482 --> 00:41:39.326

I am learning new things on the job from my job coach.

00:41:39.326 --> 00:41:53.116

Any other board questions or comments?

00:41:53.116 --> 00:42:05.502

Alright, I will move on to the next question. So. What do you, what do you recommend the mental health and developmental disabilities board spend their money on and how?

00:42:05.502 --> 00:42:07.116

I would recommend that the mental health work, one thing I would help. I would recommend for the mental health board would be to keep funding transportation supports and services.

00:42:07.116 --> 00:42:13.706

Thank you.

00:42:13.706 --> 00:42:28.164

Have a fund for emergency needs the people can apply for.

00:42:28.164 --> 00:42:40.840

I would, I would think that more education having to do with the disability, the more education that people have about the disability, the more education that people have about the disabled, the more they're better able to serve the disabled.

00:42:40.840 --> 00:43:03.202

You could pay for tickets or fees for people to do fun things in the community or fund obviously opportunities.

00:43:03.202 --> 00:43:16.599

You know, one thing I would say is, you know, we, we do have, you know, a little bit of a fund, after, unfortunately we had to sell the CILAs.

00:43:16.599 --> 00:43:23.738

So that is something that is going to be available hopefully. You know, I think if there's fun things in the community or advocacy opportunities that we can fund,

00:43:23.738 --> 00:43:31.103

And you guys think of them, I would love to have you guys either write to us or come to the meetings and let us know.

00:43:31.103 --> 00:43:32.738

So we can definitely make sure we do those things. Cause that's, you know, that's what we're here for.

00:43:32.738 --> 00:43:43.695

So.

00:43:43.695 --> 00:43:52.541

Lynn, so this question is kinda towards you and the staff. Are we able to fund like transportation supports and then like the idea of like

00:43:52.541 --> 00:44:05.419

Tickets and fees and things like that for people to do events like what would that fall under because I know everything has its own column.

00:44:05.419 --> 00:44:14.609

Well, we've learned a lot about that and the hard way. So. We have been advised by attorneys for each board not to do that directly anymore.

00:44:14.609 --> 00:44:37.954

We were doing that for a while, and it was really fun, and we thought it'd be fun, but then COVID made it not fun, and then the credit card policy of the county made it also not fun, but

00:44:37.954 --> 00:44:47.968

But fundamentally, the attorneys believe that the best way for us to do that is to fund an organization to to make payments. It may be a partnership with us as far as eligibility or what kind of what would the rules around accessing an emergency fund or the tickets for fun things look like.

00:44:47.968 --> 00:44:56.909

You know, that could all be worked out. I think some of these organizations actually have a lot of experience with specific assistance. That's sort of the category generally.

00:44:56.909 --> 00:45:03.305

So it is very possible to do a lot of the things that y'all are talking about. We do some of them already.

00:45:03.305 --> 00:45:09.419

We can make them better, but absolutely we have to be partnering with you all to do it right.

00:45:09.419 --> 00:45:19.429

So. Thank you so much for these suggestions. Oh, we have another answer.

00:45:19.429 --> 00:45:26.683

Thank you for helping us today. I mean, thank you for having us today. We would like to tell you about the services we get.

00:45:26.683 --> 00:45:36.694

Advice to you. I'm happy with the support I get now. I like, I like more money to keep.

00:45:36.694 --> 00:45:45.783

Going to need support someday. I like to support and getting a job. No, I'm not sure if I'm running for that yet.

00:45:45.783 --> 00:45:58.304

Think it's important to get money to the programs that make that support possible. Also, like to be part of more events out of town.

00:45:58.304 --> 00:46:13.512

Like, I mean, the chance to be an advocate. Like to speak up, I don't usually have the money to do this on my own.

00:46:13.512 --> 00:46:25.639

I would prefer to have another advocate or staff member that came with me. One other thing to think about is getting music equipment or technology that allows music artists.

00:46:25.639 --> 00:46:46.301

Like mean to express themselves and maybe and be fun to be a part of profession professional classes for musicians.

00:46:46.301 --> 00:46:56.891

So she was actually sharing that on behalf of another advocate. So. Thanks for that, I think we have Vicki who has something to say as well.

00:46:56.891 --> 00:46:59.830

Yes, possible resource, organization that is not funded by the DD board or mental health board is CCAMR and they give mini-grants.

00:46:59.830 --> 00:47:11.422

Okay.

00:47:11.422 --> 00:47:16.843

Directly to people with disabilities up to \$2,000 per year for just those kinds of things. Now that the person may need support in writing a proposal for that, but they're pretty open to anything.

00:47:16.843 --> 00:47:21.084

That really is something that would improve your quality of life.

00:47:21.084 --> 00:47:23.452

. So

00:47:23.452 --> 00:47:25.071

What is that? CCAMR.

00:47:25.071 --> 00:47:37.175

Okay.

00:47:37.175 --> 00:47:40.352

That was that was an organization which existed for a couple of decades here to run a small group home. And then the you know the economics of the small group home.

00:47:40.352 --> 00:47:46.564

Bye.

00:47:46.564 --> 00:47:49.877

Very so they ended up selling the house. And and

00:47:49.877 --> 00:47:51.806

Right. You know, does that make sense?

00:47:51.806 --> 00:47:58.959

I'm in, I'm sorry.

00:47:58.959 --> 00:48:01.924

So I'm just really pretty much down to pennies right now. Bank account.

00:48:01.924 --> 00:48:01.940

Okay.

00:48:01.940 --> 00:48:05.069

Okay. Yeah. Okay, correct.

00:48:05.069 --> 00:48:09.262

Yeah, it won't be September first for a week and a half.

00:48:09.262 --> 00:48:18.808

I can't find the controls, I'm sorry. It's.

00:48:18.808 --> 00:48:22.778

Okay, she got it. Yeah, you go. All right, good. Alright.

00:48:22.778 --> 00:48:29.588

No, I don't remember what we were talking about. Oh, I don't remember what we were talking about.

00:48:29.588 --> 00:48:33.981

Oh, I know what it used to stand for, but they changed. It was Champaign County Association.

00:48:33.981 --> 00:48:42.919

Advocacy Mentoring and Resources. They changed it. You know, 20, 30 years ago, to that.

00:48:42.919 --> 00:48:49.542

And so this it - it continues as an at least an annual grant opportunity as Mrs. Niswander mentioned.

00:48:49.542 --> 00:48:54.755

And I think they just issued the notification of funding

00:48:54.755 --> 00:48:59.441

They, they issue grants quarterly, and you can apply annually. One person can apply annually.

00:48:59.441 --> 00:49:01.574

I think it's recently been announced too, so that may be an opportunity right now.

00:49:01.574 --> 00:49:07.218

It is, yes.

00:49:07.218 --> 00:49:23.322

How do people know about this?

00:49:23.322 --> 00:49:39.501

Well, you can contact, you can go to their website at ccamr.org, and there is an application process and a way to get in touch with folks to let them know, you know, your needs.

00:49:39.501 --> 00:49:47.144

Can I add something to that? You can be added to an email list for that too, and so you get, you can get notifications for that.

00:49:47.144 --> 00:49:55.513

And I mean what we did is then sent it to all of the different programs so that they could ask people what they were interested in and help them complete the application.

00:49:55.513 --> 00:50:05.151

So I think this last cycle, we maybe had 4 or 5 people that submitted proposals. So we do share that information but they can also get on that list themselves.

00:50:05.151 --> 00:50:15.583

That just kinda made me think of a question that I was thinking about earlier when we had the question about how you find resources in the community.

00:50:15.583 --> 00:50:22.673

Do we have a one-stop shop kind of thing for IDD resources? The one thing that had my head would be the equivalent of the 211.

00:50:22.673 --> 00:50:26.030

And that program. And that's what I was curious if it is included in 211. Okay, that's right.

00:50:26.030 --> 00:50:29.653

Yeah.

00:50:29.653 --> 00:50:33.282

Thank you. Yeah.

00:50:33.282 --> 00:50:46.236

I mean, just.

00:50:46.236 --> 00:50:56.609

So that's right, all the resources in Champaign should be included in 211, but that might not be... I really appreciated what you all were saying about what you do when you want something new?

00:50:56.609 --> 00:51:03.710

Like you do exactly what I would do. If I didn't, if I had a problem with the MTD not having a bus at the time I needed it I would not call the MTD.

00:51:03.710 --> 00:51:11.263

I would probably call my mom. I'm serious, and then I might call an agency that has experience with advocating.

00:51:11.263 --> 00:51:16.902

I put like calling the MTD would, might be the last thing on my list. Like calling the MTD would, might be the last thing on my list.

00:51:16.902 --> 00:51:23.480

So I don't, I'm not surprised if 211 is on my list. So I don't, I'm not surprised if 211 is not the best way for people to find what they're looking for when it comes to disability related supports.

00:51:23.480 --> 00:51:31.835

And I guess that leads to the question is, is that something we might want to? A long term solution of

00:51:31.835 --> 00:51:52.181

Developing that is more tailored towards the IDD community.

00:51:52.181 --> 00:52:04.037

Okay. There you go. Okay. I would think, too, not enough people know about all the agencies are or what's available and I don't know, for the resources that are here

00:52:04.037 --> 00:52:11.131

Well the Expo website really is wonderful, and it's very accessible it even gets like high praise from the accessibility expert in this town, but,

00:52:11.131 --> 00:52:17.562

Like your earlier comments, I don't know if it's easy to find. Do you use it?

00:52:17.562 --> 00:52:31.544

Yeah, I've found something too, when you.

00:52:31.544 --> 00:52:45.712

For the accessibility. Happy the County is doing an accessible thing for for a website for a welcoming, which I didn't know about before.

00:52:45.712 --> 00:52:50.452

And this is which I think also was helpful if people put more stuff about knowing where to go, what website it is, how do I know what website it is, what's the website to go to?

00:52:50.452 --> 00:52:56.148

I mean, what agency? So, I mean, I don't know all the websites in the county.

00:52:56.148 --> 00:53:10.922

How do I know which one? Which ones for what and

00:53:10.922 --> 00:53:21.986

So pretty much you're saying you have to know that. There is something out there. And right now, you know there's something out there, but you don't know how to get to it.

00:53:21.986 --> 00:53:27.922

And so, the facilitators of this, I mean, we have to get the information to the agencies and make sure the agencies get information

00:53:27.922 --> 00:53:33.406

To the clients and to the population that needs to know know what to do.

00:53:33.406 --> 00:53:50.511

And it starts early.

00:53:50.511 --> 00:53:54.913

Thank you. We'll go on to the next question, which is. The Developmental Disability Board can advocate to the County Board to better support people with developmental disabilities in the community.

00:53:54.913 --> 00:54:07.003

What would you like us to advocate for?

00:54:07.003 --> 00:54:14.023

It's hard for us to figure out what the county knows. But can that information be more available and easy to understand?

00:54:14.023 --> 00:54:25.834

Making areas more walkable and accessible like the sidewalks.

00:54:25.834 --> 00:54:36.764

I would say outreach to rural parts of the county and fund services and supports that benefit those in those areas.

00:54:36.764 --> 00:54:51.405

More mental health and specific mental health professionals that know how to support people with intellectual or developmental disabilities.

00:54:51.405 --> 00:54:58.198

I'm aware that the DD board can advocate to the county board if we have anything we'd like to share.

00:54:58.198 --> 00:55:06.008

I thought about how useful it would be to have something somewhere to the subway system in Chicago where I'm from.

00:55:06.008 --> 00:55:12.347

I'm unsure what that would look like for our cities, but I know it was an asset to some people who use it.

00:55:12.347 --> 00:55:19.108

And other cities. Also, I'd like the County Board to know how important it is for our community to be accessible.

00:55:19.108 --> 00:55:26.990

Like having sidewalks with slopes, talking crosswalks. And I'd like to further add

00:55:26.990 --> 00:55:34.407

A lot more special computerized aids for the blind.

00:55:34.407 --> 00:55:55.262

In other words, more technology for the blind, for the visually impaired, who have a difficult time getting around.

00:55:55.262 --> 00:56:00.169

I think those are, you know, great ideas. I know for the accessibility and making areas more walkable.

00:56:00.169 --> 00:56:14.190

We would be advocating to, usually like the City, so like the City of Champaign, City of Urbana.

00:56:14.190 --> 00:56:28.401

So I mean, that's definitely something that can be done. I know it. Or like City Champaign I usually it usually comes up I think or probably like Garden Hills and other areas that aren't as sidewalk-friendly unfortunately.

00:56:28.401 --> 00:56:35.188

You know, I think definitely some of these things can be presented to the County Board as well.

00:56:35.188 --> 00:56:38.762

I know we have a County Board member on our board. Did they have one on the DDB? It's a liaison position.

00:56:38.762 --> 00:56:48.898

It's a little bit different, but they communicate.

00:56:48.898 --> 00:57:01.148

If I hi County Board member here. One thing that I'm hearing over and over again is that,

00:57:01.148 --> 00:57:18.522

The transportation is a big issue and having more transportation would benefit folks with disabilities in our community. And that's definitely something that I can take to the county board.

00:57:18.522 --> 00:57:38.998

You know, we work. You know, and fund. The mtd and pair transit and other you know Programs like that, so that's definitely something that I can say, you know, that I can advocate for on our county board.

00:57:38.998 --> 00:57:55.326

Another thing that I heard is that, that housing is an issue, and affording housing and affording food and affording those basic things is an issue when you're on Social Security Disability and it absolutely is I can say that for my day job that's something that I deal with all the time and the county board does help to fund

00:57:55.326 --> 00:58:08.036

Some of the programs. Like with utility assistance and with rental assistance and we've we've you know, we've been talking about that and working on that as far as the the ARPA money goes that was mentioned earlier.

00:58:08.036 --> 00:58:16.150

And I just want to put out there that other parts of the government like Cunningham Township like City of Champaign Township and the Regional Planning Commission have rental assistance

00:58:16.150 --> 00:58:28.226

That's like a one-time thing but there are also the subsidized housing opportunities for folks with disabilities.

00:58:28.226 --> 00:58:43.417

And most of those entities can kind of lead you towards those if those are something that would be helpful.

00:58:43.417 --> 00:58:55.319

We have the University of Illinois down here. What are they doing? I know I and I always bring up the University of Illinois.

00:58:55.319 --> 00:59:05.709

But I mean, I think the Applied Health Sciences department, looking at things like sidewalks and things like that.

00:59:05.709 --> 00:59:20.709

That is something that hopefully is a governmental agency we can talk to the University of Illinois and see if we can, there's some collaborative work that can be done.

00:59:20.709 --> 00:59:33.483

Because it's we're still part they're still part of our community, and also I know Tobie brought up a rural community, and I think we a lot of times we just concentrate on Champaign-Urbana and forget that Champaign County has

00:59:33.483 --> 00:59:45.858

A rural community. I mean, Philo and Tolono and parts of Mahomet and Seymour and things like that are places where transportation isn't available.

00:59:45.858 --> 00:59:56.447

So, yes, we can hopefully encourage the University of Illinois and other governmental bodies to find some funding for it.

00:59:56.447 --> 01:00:17.111

I also wanted to piggyback on that idea about the university because one thing I heard - this is more going back a little bit - but I've heard over and over from you all is this idea of

01:00:17.111 --> 01:00:26.841

Being able to attend events being part of activities, it's so important to being, to feeling a part of the community and that sense of belonging that I think has been mentioned and alluded to and the University of Illinois I know, having worked there in the past and being an alum myself,

01:00:26.841 --> 01:00:33.900

Does have a lot of these events. A lot of what the sort of fun activities and interesting things in the community are brought in by the University.

01:00:33.900 --> 01:00:58.214

So I do wonder kind of similarly, if there are ways to partner with the University to make those things accessible to you all.

01:00:58.214 --> 01:01:11.149

I also was thinking about some of the the comments about like getting involved with music and expressive arts and I know that some of the, there's a few programs the mental health board funds for sort of other populations that I wonder if we might, there could be ideas taken from that around the like expressive arts and creativity that might be

01:01:11.149 --> 01:01:16.213

Able to, might be interesting for you all and that you might want to, that we could maybe, help partner to fund in the future.

01:01:16.213 --> 01:01:21.519

Was she doing anything with Parkland, not just.

01:01:21.519 --> 01:01:34.889

Yes, Parkland.

01:01:34.889 --> 01:01:39.225

So I had a quick comment and a question. A kind of a comment, kind of a comment and a question at the same time.

01:01:39.225 --> 01:01:51.904

So, the, so I'm gonna see you at home, so this isn't necessarily from my work experience, but

01:01:51.904 --> 01:02:01.163

From a friend that I have that has disabilities, he has a personal assistant through DRS, but that personal assistant cannot provide transportation to him.

01:02:01.163 --> 01:02:12.031

And I'm a little fuzzy as to the details why I think maybe it has something to do with Medicaid, but I could be wrong. Like I said this is just kind of from my experience with a friend,

01:02:12.031 --> 01:02:30.013

But he, for example, cannot go to the store himself. He can send his personal assistant with a list of things to get for him from the store, but he himself cannot go shopping

01:02:30.013 --> 01:02:37.284

Because the personal assistant can't transport him and I think if something like that could change that would be amazing and I don't know how that gets done, but I don't know why a personal assistant couldn't give rides to the doctor, rides to the store, those kind of things.

01:02:37.284 --> 01:02:50.897

I think that has - you could call, they would have to deal with the PSW, the personal support worker versus the personal assistant.

01:02:50.897 --> 01:03:01.502

You need to call and say it has to do with that issue. Maybe he needs to apply for a personal support worker and stuff and personal assistant and you'll have to go through all they can tell you.

01:03:01.502 --> 01:03:15.081

All that process. And I'm sure they're a legislative, legislation has changed over the years in how the personal assistant and the personal

01:03:15.081 --> 01:03:23.878

Support worker works. And I think those are things, I Yes, long time ago I worked at DSC that I and I did some of that work also, and I think there are lots of ways in which we can

01:03:23.878 --> 01:03:33.716

Work to change rules and laws that sometimes have not been very beneficial, unfortunately.

01:03:33.716 --> 01:03:42.818

Any other comments or questions?

01:03:42.818 --> 01:03:58.434

Alright. Seeing none. Yeah, that's right. I guess I had

01:03:58.434 --> 01:04:10.435

2 comments and questions, but the first. First one I didn't see in this list of questions that I think is really an important question is How can people make their voices heard more?

01:04:10.435 --> 01:04:19.254

The first question about attending meetings, I'm like, meetings, you know, they're not always that exciting and interesting and may not really be the best way to get your voice heard.

01:04:19.254 --> 01:04:35.015

So the question I would like to put forward to everybody to think about over the next coming months is What can we do

01:04:35.015 --> 01:04:38.888

To allow people who are receiving the services to have your voices heard, going forward all the time? And you think about that too and let's let's work on that.

01:04:38.888 --> 01:04:46.106

And then the other comment that I had is there's nobody here tonight who's in a wheelchair.

01:04:46.106 --> 01:04:57.941

Is there a wheelchair accessible bus that comes to the Brookens after 5 o'clock?

01:04:57.941 --> 01:05:05.492

And how long would it take somebody to get here and get back home, if they did want to attend a meeting or a function?

01:05:05.492 --> 01:05:26.609

Because MTD is really working hard on their accessibility. They've got the kneeling buses.

01:05:26.609 --> 01:05:40.006

But it's still a long long way to go, and it would be fun to put up some kind of community event where people who don't have to be in wheelchairs would agree to be in a wheelchair for, let's say, 12 hours and try to get around the community and see how well that worked for them.

01:05:40.006 --> 01:05:57.929

For maybe we could do it as a little publicity stunt. I think the ADA, I mean, that's what the paratransit for the ADA, you know, for the MTD, you know, the hours

01:05:57.929 --> 01:06:15.810

That mostly are the regular, but it seems like the hours you get a regular versus the ADA, So yeah, it's like when they run further hours, that's, you know, probably

01:06:15.810 --> 01:06:21.628

And whether they, run like for our holidays and stuff or not and it's, that's where I would also say about voting, you know, for accessibility for being able for people to vote in elections.

01:06:21.628 --> 01:06:30.461

I mean, so. So to get out. So, that

01:06:30.461 --> 01:06:43.054

I would hope the county would keep those voting, you know, accessibility for people with disabilities.

01:06:43.054 --> 01:06:47.069

Thank you. I think, there's someone in the zoom that has their hand raised.

01:06:47.069 --> 01:07:03.233

So Vicki. Do you have any comments?

01:07:03.233 --> 01:07:11.555

Yeah, thanks. I think that one comment that I'd like to make is that I don't know about the mental health board because I haven't recently been to any meetings there, but I know that on the DD board, we do not have a member that has a disability,

01:07:11.555 --> 01:07:25.952

And, at least that I'm aware of. And I think that that's a voice that's missing.

01:07:25.952 --> 01:07:35.230

And I don't know if you want to, any of you want to go through the work of having to read all those grant proposals every year, but you may we may want to consider doing an advisory committee for the board that could give us some input on occasion.

01:07:35.230 --> 01:07:58.099

I think this has been extremely valuable and I really appreciate your openness and willing to share your concerns and your ideas.

01:07:58.099 --> 01:08:07.116

Thank you very much. Is that real happy to talk to funders like the board about what kind of services are we enjoying?

01:08:07.116 --> 01:08:16.719

What can be changed? We are always thankful for the chance to speak on topics like these. We are glad you invited us today.

01:08:16.719 --> 01:08:20.237

Please continue to include us in your decisions on funding. We're continuing to gain, you know, our thoughts.

01:08:20.237 --> 01:08:38.820

Great.

01:08:38.820 --> 01:08:47.608

Nice. Oh, go ahead. So, when I was in on the Evanston Mental Health Board, all of the board members had to -like were assigned to work with

01:08:47.608 --> 01:08:53.184

One or 2 of the agencies that were funded. So like you had to go and visit the agencies like 3 times a year.

01:08:53.184 --> 01:09:07.451

And I, we don't really do that as a DD board. I don't know, do you all do that as a mental health board?

01:09:07.451 --> 01:09:15.065

Are you assigned a particular number of agencies and you have to like go or talk to them? Yeah, There is a you know, it's a legacy now

01:09:15.065 --> 01:09:26.947

The liaison, the board, board liaison list, and it's the last item in the mental health board's agenda so it's, by then you all are ready to go home.

01:09:26.947 --> 01:09:29.570

But it's also, they used to have formal liaison relationships that they would choose but I think it was Joe, Omo-Osagie will know for sure.

01:09:29.570 --> 01:09:51.505

I think it was when COVID came, we just couldn't do that. Couldn't even

01:09:51.505 --> 01:09:56.818

Make the time like it was it was really a time thing as well as a social isolation or whatever the word was - social distancing thing - but it stopped, and it has been a time thing ever since then, but it is a practice that if the boards would like to do it, we can help organize that. That's something Stephanie Howard Gallo has done for the mental health board for

01:09:56.818 --> 01:10:02.775

Oh, I can't say how many years - she might get mad. She knows how to do it.

01:10:02.775 --> 01:10:18.973

So that's If y'all wanna try it, it's a great option.

01:10:18.973 --> 01:10:28.763

I just think that might be helpful for us to get this information because you have all have done a really great job of speaking to us and sharing your thoughts and we could maybe do some more work to reach out to you, and maybe the liaison is a way to do that.

01:10:28.763 --> 01:10:45.657

And maybe surveys too for the grants and services for agencies.

01:10:45.657 --> 01:10:53.363

I'm just, I'm really interested. I think your very first question and answer really got my attention because that is so important.

01:10:53.363 --> 01:11:00.935

And then all the rest of your answers, I was somewhat familiar with from previous surveys and you know, some of the things you are pointing to are deep

01:11:00.935 --> 01:11:12.323

Problems, deep system gaps, it's all... But that first one, I just, I'm really interested in now.

01:11:12.323 --> 01:11:25.888

At this point, now that you know that everything we do is recorded and posted somewhere, if you, you would be interested in looking at any of the recordings of our previous meetings.

01:11:25.888 --> 01:11:35.321

And saying like, well, this is, you know, kinda like this is 3 hours of a lot of stuff that doesn't really apply to me or interest me or you know like Like, just looking at the recordings of meetings may not be a dream come true.

01:11:35.321 --> 01:11:43.072

So I'm just interested if you if you could access this information more easily, if we could help with that, just as an experiment.

01:11:43.072 --> 01:12:03.351

And then you tell us what's still missing from it. There are a couple of comments in here that you're not really sure what the boards do.

01:12:03.351 --> 01:12:07.830

So I don't know that watching those meetings is gonna totally answer that. So I'm just, I think that's something we could do in the very short term that that Kim Bowdry and Leon Bryson and I could work with you all to just get your impressions and then if it's if that's not quite it then let's figure out what it is that's going to make it easier for you

01:12:07.830 --> 01:12:21.819

all to be partners to us.

01:12:21.819 --> 01:12:30.135

With that, I just want to thank everybody for being here. You know, I really appreciate all your feedback and your comments.

01:12:30.135 --> 01:12:40.223

It's very valuable. I think we have a, you know, great starting point for things we can do to hopefully improve.

01:12:40.223 --> 01:12:46.859

You know the resources and availability of resources in the community. Lot of things for us to discuss in future meetings as well as as the 2 boards.

01:12:46.859 --> 01:12:49.980

I really appreciate you guys taking your time out of your day to come here and advocate for the community.

01:12:49.980 --> 01:12:53.431

So thank you.

01:12:53.431 --> 01:13:05.228

Okay.

01:13:05.228 --> 01:13:08.996

With that, we can move on to the agency input if there's any agencies here that wanted to make any comments that didn't get a chance to.

01:13:08.996 --> 01:13:18.144

Now's your time. I will limit it to 5 min per agency.

01:13:18.144 --> 01:13:26.966

Is there anyone? Dr. Fowler is suggesting we partner a little more directly with the Housing Authority on those

01:13:26.966 --> 01:13:33.238

Vouchers that you all were talking about. A housing for somebody, maybe you said. What's it, Jen Straub?

01:13:33.238 --> 01:13:41.666

Housing that's, housing subsidies for people with disabilities through the Housing Authority. We have experts right here in the room.

01:13:41.666 --> 01:13:49.329

So that's a great suggestion from Dr. Fowler. And then, any board announcements or input?

01:13:49.329 --> 01:13:52.329

With that, I'll move to adjourn. See you guys. Thanks.