

Nebraska Council on Developmental Disabilities

April 17, 2026

9:30AM, CDT

IN-PERSON MEETING

Nebraska State Office Building
Lower-Level Goldenrod Conference Room
301 Centennial Mall South
Lincoln, NE

AGENDA

- 9:30
- 1. Call the Meeting to Order, Welcome, *Pledge of Allegiance*, and Introductions – Beth Libra and Kristen Larsen**
Welcome, Pledge of Allegiance, and Council members will be asked to introduce themselves.
 - Dr. Jamar Dorsey – Non-Governmental
 - 2. Nebraska Open Meetings Act Announcement – Beth Libra**
Council meetings fall under the Nebraska Open Meetings Act and a copy of the Act is posted on the door by the sign-in table as required.
 - 3. Public Comment Period #1 – Beth Libra**
All public meetings must allow time on their agenda for people who are not on the Council to comment.
 - 4. Approval of Minutes – Eddie Kraska**
Draft minutes of the February 6, 2026 meeting were included in the meeting packet. The Council will review them and, following any needed corrections, vote to approve them through a roll call vote as required by the Nebraska Open Meetings Act.

Council members who were not at the February 6th meeting need to abstain when voting.
[Vote to approve minutes.](#)
 - 5. Declaration of Conflicts of Interest – Beth Libra**
Members are asked to declare any conflicts of interest as required by Council's policy. To fulfil this requirement, the following Council members are asked to verbally declare any conflicts of interest at the meeting today: Dr. Jamar Dorsey.
 - 6. Financial Report – Kristen Larsen**
Kristen Larsen will review the second quarter financial report for FFY2026 (October 1, 2025 to March 31, 2026).

Handouts of the FFY2026 2nd Quarter Financial Report will be provided at the meeting.

**7. 2027-2031 Five Year State Plan Development & Public Comments Update
Judy Trent and Kristen Larsen**

Kristen Larsen and Judy Trent will provide an update on the 2027-2031 Five Year State Plan Development.

The draft 2027-2031 Five-Year State Plan Goals and Objectives were open for a second public comment February 19, 2026, to April 3, 2026. The Planning Committee met on April 7, 2026, to review the public comments that were received. Judy Trent, the Planning Committee Chair, will report on any potential suggestions or changes to the draft goals and objectives.

[Vote to approve the DRAFT Goals and Objectives and submit them to ACL.](#)

8. Break

9. Request for Proposals (RFA) Process for FFY2026/FFY2027 and impact on Planning and Grant Review Committee– Kristen Larsen

Kristen will provide a brief update on the RFA Process for FFY2026/FFY2027.

10. 2026 Tri-Board Meeting Update – Kristen Larsen

The Tri-Board consists of the DD Network Partners (the DD Council, Disability Rights Nebraska, and Munroe-Meyer Institute/University of Nebraska Medical Center UCEDD). The 2026 Tri-Board training will be on **Friday – June 12, 2026**. The topic will be **Strengthening Disability Advocacy Through Resilience and Collaboration**. We will meet at the Munroe-Meyer Institute facility located near the UNO Scott Campus at 6902 Pine Street.

NOTE: You will need to register with Council staff by May 31, 2026 for the meeting. To register, contact Nikki Krause at 402-471-2330 or nikki.krause@nebraska.gov.

NOTE: MMI is working on a hotel room block. A few of the hotel rooms are being held for the Council. Please let Nikki Krause know as soon as possible if you will be attending in-person and will need accommodations.

11. Upcoming Election of Council Officers & Applying for Reappointment to the Council with the Governor – Beth Libra and Kristen Larsen

Officer elections for FFY2026 will be conducted at the August 21, 2026 Council meeting. This includes the offices of Chair, Vice-Chair, and Secretary. If you are interested in any of these offices or would like more information, please contact Kristen Larsen at 402-471-0143 or kristen.larsen@nebraska.gov.

Eligible Council members whose term expire on October 1, 2026, and are interested in continuing to serve on the Council, are encouraged to reapply with the Governor. Applications can be submitted either online at the *Boards & Commissions – Application for Executive Appointment* webpage at

<https://governor.nebraska.gov/board-comm-req> or by mailing a *completed Executive Appointment Application* to Pat Selk at the Office of the Governor. Council members eligible to apply for reappointment are:

Brent Hoffman (Individual)
Shaistha Kiran Karipi (Family)
Seamus Kelly (P&E – Disability Rights Nebraska)
Joe Valenti (Family with Relative at ICFMR)

The following Council members have terms that will expire October 1, 2026 and are ineligible for reappointment due to term limits:

Quinton Corwin (Individual)
Judy Trent (Family)

12. NCDD Public Comments – Kristen Larsen

Kristen will provide an update on the public comments that have been submitted on behalf of the Council since the last meeting.

NCDD Public Comments were included in the meeting packet.

13. Council Member Conference Report Summary – Eddie Kraska and Diane Cochran

Eddie and Diane will present their Conference Report Summary on the National Association of Service Providers (NASP) 2026 Conference that they attended March 31 and April 1, 2026 in Lincoln, NE.

14. Disability Advocacy Day, The Arc of Nebraska’s 57th Annual Senatorial Dinner, and DD Awareness Month– Those that Attended

A brief update will be given regarding Disability Advocacy Day, The Arc of Nebraska’s 57th Annual Senatorial Dinner, and DD Awareness Month.

15. Updates from Agency Representatives –Tony Green, Developmental Disabilities Division and Aging; Diana Meadors, Behavioral Health; Chris Chambers, Department of Education – Office of Special Education; DJ Plautz, Nebraska Vocational Rehabilitation; Jennifer Severe-Oforah, Maternal and Child Health, Division of Public Health; Dawn Sybrant, Medicaid and Long-Term Care

Council members representing state agencies will provide brief oral and written updates on activities that have occurred since the last meeting.

16. Lunch

Working lunch with time for networking among members.

17. Continuation of Agency Representatives Updates

Continuation of Agency Representatives Updates.

18. Updates from our DD Network Representatives – Seamus Kelly, Disability Rights Nebraska; Dr. Mark Shriver, Munroe-Meyer Institute/University Center for Excellence in Developmental Disabilities (UCEDD)

Council members representing our DD Network will provide brief oral and written updates on activities that have occurred since the last meeting.

19. Council Chair and Staff Updates

The Council Chair and Council staff will share information on activities and other matters of interest that have occurred since the November meeting.

20. Member Updates – Council Members

Time is provided for Council members to share any advocacy and/or disability activities they have been involved with since the November meeting.

21. Public Comment Period #2 – Beth Libra

All public meetings must allow time on their agenda for people who are not on the Council to comment.

22. Adjourn – Beth

The next Council meeting is scheduled for August 21, 2026. The Planning Committee meeting will be held the afternoon of August 20, 2026.

NOTE: In accordance with the provisions of Section 84-1401-1414 Nebraska Statutes (Nebraska Open Meetings Act) passed by the Unicameral, minutes of this meeting will be on file ten working days from the date of this meeting in the office of the Nebraska Council on Developmental Disabilities, Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services, 301 Centennial Mall South, PO Box 95026, Lincoln, Nebraska 68509-5026. All items known at time of distribution are listed and a current agenda is available. This meeting site is accessible. If special accommodations are needed, please contact our office at (402) 471-2330 / TDD (800) 833-7352 by April 10, 2025.

**Nebraska Council on Developmental Disabilities
Mission**

The Council engages in **Advocacy**, **Capacity Building**, and **Systemic Change** activities that assure that individuals with developmental disabilities and their families participate in the design and have access to needed community services, individualized support, and other forms of assistance that promote *self-determination*, *independence*, *productivity*, and *integration* and *inclusion* in all facets of community life.