



Developmental Disabilities
Council of Oklahoma

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**Self-Advocacy Training
Coordinator**
Morgan Davis

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Jenifer Randle

**Advocacy, Training, & Outreach (ATO)
Committee Meeting Agenda**

Thursday, March 26, 12:15 p.m.

Center for NonProfits, 701 N Lindsay Ave, Oklahoma City, OK 73104

Join ZoomGov Meeting:

<https://www.zoomgov.com/j/1603375568?pwd=NuayxwyuHrrdfz3CuZRJdmbUIC8nC6.1>

Meeting ID: 160 337 5568

Passcode: 8675309

Members attending online:

David Blose, 724 Ranchoak Dr., Yukon, OK 73099

- I. Call to Order: Ms. Janie Fugitt, ATO Chair
- II. Roll call and recognition of quorum: Ms. Janie Fugitt
- III. Review of November 7, 2025 Meeting Minutes*: Ms. Janie Fugitt
- IV. Old Business & Possible Voting*: Project Updates & Discussions:
 - a) PIP and YLF Updates: Bradley Mays
 - b) Self-Advocacy Training Updates: Morgan Davis
 - c) Council Marketing / Outreach Updates: Alissa Patterson
 - d) OK ABLE updates: RoseAnn Duplan
 - e) Candidate Questions & Answers
- V. New Business & Possible Voting*
- VI. Announcements
- VII. Adjournment

ATO Committee Members: Janie Fugitt ATO Chair, David Blose, Margaret Bond, Brett Cunningham, RoseAnn Duplan, Laura Haney ATO Vice Chair, Bryce Wooten



Developmental Disabilities Council of Oklahoma
Advocacy, Training & Outreach Committee Minutes


DATE: Friday, November 7, 2025

TIME: 12:00 p.m.

PLACE: 2400 N. Lincoln Blvd, Room C-48, Oklahoma, OK 73125

BE IT REMEMBERED that on Friday, November 7, 2025, at 12:00 p.m., the Advocacy Training & Outreach Committee met 2400 N. Lincoln Blvd, Sequoyah Building, Room C-48, Oklahoma City, OK 73125 in accordance with the Open Meetings Act.

NOTICE of the schedule for all regular and special meetings of the DDCO Advocacy Training & Outreach Committee for the calendar year 2024 have been given in writing to the Oklahoma Secretary of State and public notice and agenda having been posted on the Council's website at or before 12:00 pm on Thursday, November 7, 2025, in accordance with the Oklahoma Open Meetings Act, 25 O.S. Section 311.

I.  **CALL TO ORDER:** Ms. Fugitt called the meeting to order at 12:25 p.m.

II.  **ROLL CALL:**

Present: Janie Fugitt, RoseAnn Duplan, for Melissa Sublett, Margaret Bond (12:29 p.m.)

Members Online: David Blose, Laura Haney, Bryce Wooten

Members Absent: Brett Cunningham

Guests:


Staff: Jennifer Robinson, Morgan Davis, Bradley Mays, Alissa Patterson, Jenifer Randle

Guests: Stacey Hammond

By roll call, it was determined there was not a quorum of members in person so no business was conducted, however, the committee heard discussion over projects.


III.   **MINUTES REVIEW**

Review of the Minutes of August 15, 2025 ATO Committee Meeting.


 **Discussion:** The committee reviewed minutes from the August 15, 2025, meeting, however, no action was taken.

IV.  **Old Business: Project Updates & Discussions.**

a) **Partners in Policymaking (PIP) and Youth Leadership Forum (YLF):**

 **DISCUSSION:** Dr. Mays reported on Partners in Policymaking and the Youth Leadership Forum. Dr. Mays explained what PIP and YLF were. This weekend will be the 3rd weekend of PIP and students will hear from Al Condeluci and others. YLF is scheduled for June 9-13, 2026 with speakers and other arrangements being made.


b) **Self-Advocacy trainings:**

 **DISCUSSION:** Ms. Davis reported on the Self-Advocacy trainings the Council hosts. Ms. Davis reported that in 2025 there were 389 people with I/DD trained and 7 family members. So far in 2026, we've had 2 trainings with 6 self-advocates trained. Two trainers and Morgan will be presenting at the Transition Institute.

c) **Council Marketing/Outreach:**

 **DISCUSSION:** No update. Ms. Randle forgot to request updated numbers.

d) **OK STABLE updates:**

 **DISCUSSION:** Ms. Duplan reported there have been 3 trainings since our last meeting, training 45 people. They've also had a training with Child Welfare professionals as they (Child Welfare) will begin using ABLE Accounts for children who are eligible in state custody. Ms. Duplan explained what ABLE Accounts are briefly for the committee guest.

VII.  **New Business:**

Candidate Questionnaire: Ms. Randle explained the background of the questionnaire. The committee continued to discuss the Q&A over several topics for Oklahoma Gubernatorial and possibly State Legislative Candidates. Topics for questions include Medicaid, education, voting access, civil rights.

Ms. Bond mentioned for their podcast, they have begun interviewing candidates, using these questions paraphrased. She mentioned that many answers were answered with 'it's a matter of funding.' So far, they have heard from Gentner Drummond and Cyndi Munson. They've had productive conversations with both and she feels candidates will attempt to answer.

Ms. Duplan reminded the committee that some candidates in NJ didn't respond to each question and asked how many questions they asked (NJ asked 9 questions).

We do think that many candidates will answer with the same response as Ms. Bond mentioned (re: it's a matter of funding). Ms. Davis mentioned could say something like, "How do you plan on working with the disability organizations already established?"

Under Social and Spirituality: Isolation and loneliness are significant public health concerns with widespread impacts on mental and physical well-being for everyone and have plagued people with I/DD for too long. **What plans do you have to promote policies that prompt social inclusion to increase positive relationships and improve the mental and physical well-being for everyone?**

Possible change to:

What are your ideas to using existing partners to promote policies that promote social inclusion to increase positive relationships and improve the mental and physical well-being for everyone?

Ms. Bond mentioned maybe we can use this as way to plant a seed and mention partnerships.

Ms. Haney mentioned that even if we don't get answers we want, it will begin the dialogue.

Ms. Bond suggested adding the disclaimer about asking questions to the Council to the end of the questionnaire as well.

Ms. Duplan suggested sending the questions to Senator Kirt for her thoughts and suggestions. The committee agreed to sending the list of questions to the Senator.

VIII.  **Announcements:**

Mr. Wooten announced that he was appointed on the NACDD Self-Advocacy Leadership Circle. He also announced that he will be speaking with Tyler Bond at this year's OTI.

IX.  **Adjournment:** Ms. Fugitt adjourned the meeting at 1:18 p.m.



Developmental Disabilities Council of Oklahoma

PIP, YLF, and Advocacy Updates

Partners in Policymaking (PIP)

- Number of PIP students: 31
 - Family members: 18
 - Professionals: 9
 - Person with a lived experience: 4
- 2025-2026 PIP location/dates:
 - Connect Auditorium
 - Weekend 1 – Sept 26-27, 2025
 - Weekend 2 – Oct 17-18, 2025
 - Weekend 3 – Nov 7-8, 2025
 - Weekend 4 – Jan 9-10, 2026
 - Weekend 5 – Feb 6-7, 2026
 - Weekend 6 – Mar 6-7, 2026 – Mock Legislative Hearing
 - Weekend 7 – Apr 17-18, 2026 – Graduation
- Oklahoma Partners in Policymaking (PIP) Session Five on February 6-7
 - Former Representative Collin Walke spoke about the importance of negotiation to PIP on Friday, February 6.
 - Derrick Dufresne discussed “Behavior and Communication” during PIP on Saturday, February 7. Dee Blose discussed Autism Oklahoma, Jen Randle discussed Charting the LifeCourse and Brad Mays discussed the importance of participating on boards and councils
- Oklahoma Partners in Policymaking (PIP) Session Six on March 6-7, 2026
 - On Friday, March 6, PIP graduate Carly Putnam discussed the legislative process
 - 24 PIP students participated in the mock legislative hearing on Saturday, March 7. Each student delivered a testimony in disability-related bills. Senator Julia Kirt, Senator Jack Stewart, and Representative Jacob Rosecrants participated in the hearing and offered feedback for the PIP students’ testimonies



Developmental Disabilities Council of Oklahoma

Oklahoma Youth Leadership Forum (YLF)

- 2025 YLF Alum Luke Bleeker has been accepted to the University of Oklahoma for Fall 2026
- YLF Graduate Aiden Strednak will be completing PIP this year.
- Preparations for the 23rd Oklahoma Youth Leadership Forum are underway
 - The 2026 YLF is scheduled for June 9-13 for delegates, June 8-13 for staff/alumni

Other Advocacy updates:

- Developmental Disabilities Awareness Day, March 23
- 2026 Oklahoma APSE Conference presentation, April 7: *Beyond Accommodations: Fostering Success in the Community and Workplace,*



Self-Advocacy Trainings Report, 3/19/2026

Fy26 Trainings

- Number of work sessions FY 26: **21**
- Number of training courses completed: **20**
- Number of Self-Advocates trained: **91**
- Number of professionals and family members trained:31, includes “Unsure” identification data

Highlight quotes from training courses:

- People said they will use this information learned from trainings to “be prepared.”
- Comments people have left include, “I liked learning” and “The Trainers have a disability like me.”
- When asked what the best part of a training was someone said “everything.”

Upcoming training courses:

- 3-20-26: Ask the experts-DDCO Virtual Self Advocate Q&A
- 3-28-26: Self-Advocacy Leadership Training -4RKids Conference
- 4-14-26: Taking Control of Your Health- Bridges Foundation
- 5-5-26: Developmental Disabilities Awareness-Bridges Foundation

Quarterly Social Media Report



Developmental Disabilities Council of Oklahoma

October 2025 - January 2026

Followers Growth

+122 Total Increase
3.5%

Total Followers

3,618

Views

85.5K

Compared to Last Quarter

2%

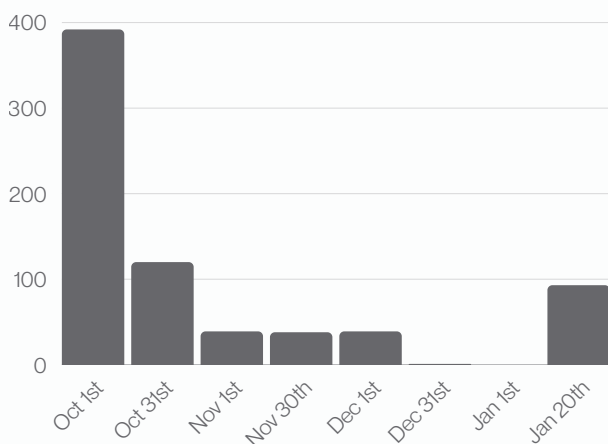
Interactions

2,381

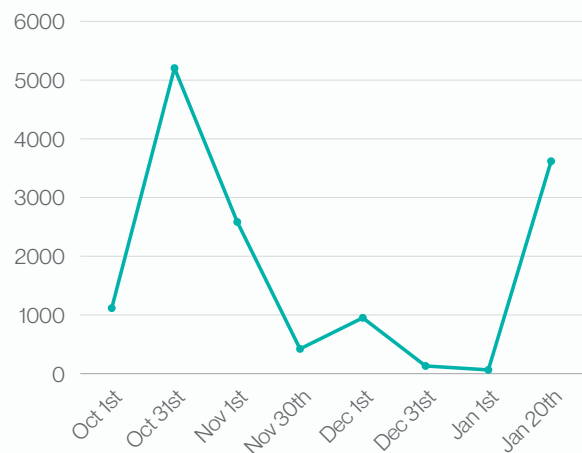
Compared to Last Quarter

1.5%

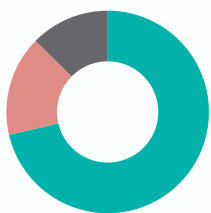
Page Engagement



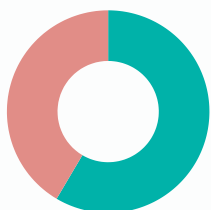
Views Breakdown



Interactions



Reactions
71.3%
Shares
16%
Comments
12%



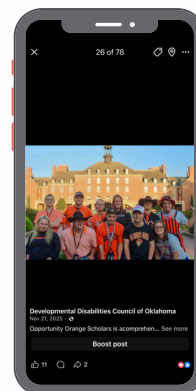
Followers
58.5%
Non-Followers
41.5%

3 Best Posts

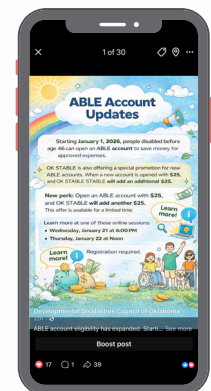
views:



10,473



10,232



3,734

According to the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), 1 in 4 adults in the U.S. has a disability. This includes impairments with vision, hearing, mobility, and cognition. Many people with disabilities rely on programs and services funded by the state to support them in maintaining their health, access to education and employment, and participate in their communities.

To put this into perspective, Oklahoma has over 62,500 Oklahomans who have developmental disabilities. These Oklahomans, along with their families and caregivers, represent a significant and vital portion of the Oklahoma electorate. Their success in achieving independence, access to employment, quality education, and full community inclusion is directly tied to the overall health and prosperity of our state. This number is based on the prevalence rate which is 1.58% of the population, per the Health and Human Services National Health Interview Survey (NHIS-D).

The Developmental Disabilities Council of Oklahoma (DDCO) requests your position(s) on the questions below. All candidate responses will be provided in one document for Oklahomans. Questions are organized by the Charting the LifeCourse (CtLC) Life Domains. Life domains are the different aspects and life experiences that we consider as we age and grow. We lead whole lives made of specific, connected and integrated life domains that are important to a good quality of life. Life domains help us think about the current reality in our lives as well as the life experiences we'd like to have, which can lead us to the good life we want.

We understand these questions are specific to issues facing Oklahomans with intellectual/developmental disabilities (I/DD) and their families. If you would like to gain deeper insight or discuss these topics further including learning more about Charting the LifeCourse, staff and members of the Developmental Disabilities Council of Oklahoma (DDCO) (people with developmental disabilities, family members, and key state agency representatives) are available as a resource. We welcome the opportunity to connect you with them and/or other Oklahoma disability advocates to help you in developing plans for our state's disability community. Please email us at exe.DD.Council@okdhs.org!



DAILY LIFE & EMPLOYMENT

What a person does as part of everyday life (school, employment, volunteering, communication, routines, life skills, etc.).

Question: College and University tuition continues to rise. While Oklahoma has increased inclusive college opportunities for students with intellectual/developmental disabilities (I/DD), the cost of these programs can be twice that of a typical college student. What are your plans to support students with I/DD with these cost increases?

Question: What are your plans to help people with disabilities receive the necessary support to find and maintain jobs in the community that offer equal wages to those without disabilities, which will help to address the high unemployment rates for people with disabilities?



COMMUNITY LIVING

Where and how someone lives (housing and living options, community access, transportation, home adaptations and modifications).

Question: What is your plan to improve Oklahoma’s transportation systems to meet the needs of all Oklahomans, including people with I/DD who are non-drivers?

Question: What is your plan to increase access to available, accessible, and affordable housing for people with disabilities who are seeking housing or who are experiencing homelessness?



HEALTHY LIVING

Managing and accessing health care and staying well (medical, mental health, behavioral health, developmental, wellness and nutrition).

Question: What is your plan to address potential federal reductions to the current level of Medicaid funding so Oklahomans with I/DD and their families can have the support and services they currently receive to maintain their health and independence?

Question: What is your plan to help people with intellectual/developmental disabilities (I/DD) remain in their communities and out of costly Medicaid-funded institutions such as nursing homes or intermediate care facilities (ICFs)?



SAFETY & SECURITY

Staying safe and secure (emergencies, well-being, guardianship options, legal rights and issues).

Question: What plans do you have to address Oklahoma’s community-based direct care workforce crisis, the pressure it puts upon family caregivers and provider agencies, and the barriers it creates to ensuring people with disabilities have access to a qualified essential workforce?

Question: What plans do you have to address Oklahoma’s teacher workforce crisis, including the need for special educators and paraprofessionals to ensure students with

intellectual/developmental disabilities (I/DD) have access and ensure students are prepared for the workforce or a postsecondary opportunity after completing high school?



SOCIAL & SPIRITUALITY

Building friendships and relationships, leisure activities, personal networks, and faith community.

Question: Isolation and loneliness are significant public health concerns with widespread impacts on mental and physical well-being for everyone and have plagued people with I/DD for too long. What are your ideas to use existing partners to promote policies that promote social inclusion to increase positive relationships and improve the mental and physical well-being for everyone?



ADVOCACY & ENGAGEMENT

Building valued roles, making choices, setting goals, assuming responsibility and driving how one's own life is lived.

Oklahomans with I/DD deserve to understand and exercise their personal and civil rights to lead safe and successful lives as independently as possible, and they deserve equal protection when their rights are infringed upon.

Question: What will you do to increase the protection for the personal and civil rights of Oklahomans with I/DD?

Question: What is your plan to appoint people with lived experience (people with disabilities or their family members) to policy making positions which includes agencies, boards, and commissions, throughout your administration?

We understand these questions are specific to issues facing Oklahomans with intellectual/developmental disabilities (I/DD) and their families. If you would like to gain deeper insight or discuss these topics further including learning more about Charting the LifeCourse, staff and members of the Developmental Disabilities Council of Oklahoma (DDCO) (people with developmental disabilities, family members, and key state agency representatives) are available as a resource. We welcome the opportunity to connect you with them and/or other Oklahoma disability advocates to help you in developing plans for our state's disability community. Please email us at exe.DD.Council@okdhs.org!