



## Council Executive Committee

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Location: Virtual Meeting (Zoom)  
Date: Tuesday, March 5, 2024  
Time: 11:00 am CDT / 12:00 pm EDT

**Present:** Ryan Durham, Sarah Cripps, Brent Wiles, Clancey Hopper, Edward Mitchell

**Absent:**

**Staff:** Lauren Percy, Lynette Porter, Ashley Edwards

The Committee conducted this meeting by electronic means of communication (Zoom for Government). Members of the committee reside across the state, which is key to their ability to represent the diversity of Tennessee. The matters considered by the Executive Committee at that meeting required timely action by the body and physical presence by a quorum of the members is not practical within the period of time requiring action. Required public notice was given.

1) **Call to Order**

After confirming there was a quorum, Ryan Durham, Chair, called the meeting to order at **11:01 a.m. CDT / 12:01 p.m. EDT.**

2) **Consent Agenda: Approve today's Executive Committee Agenda and January 2024 Executive Committee minutes.**

The committee reviewed the agenda with no discussion.

***Sarah Cripps moved for approval as edited; Clancey Hopper seconded. Approved.***

3) **Continuation Grant Proposals (Action Item)**

Staff provided an overview of the Councils current projects that are requesting continued funding through FY25:

- The Vanderbilt Kennedy Center at Vanderbilt University Medical Center for information and referral services (TN Disability Pathfinder). Recommended \$20,000 in funding for this contract, a decrease of \$60,000 from the previous contract. This decrease in funding is balanced by increased funding from interagency contracts for this project. This contract begins July 1, 2024.
- The United Cerebral Palsy of Middle Tennessee for administrative support for Leadership Development programs, including the Council Scholarship Fund and Partners in Policymaking. Recommended \$46,975 in funding for this contract, an increase of \$5,253 compared to what was funded in FY24. This increase will provide funding to reimburse Partners in Policymaking® graduates for travel to Disability Day on the Hill in 2025. This contract begins July 1, 2024.
- The University of Tennessee Center for Developmental Disabilities for continued



evaluation of the Leadership Institute. Recommended up to \$15,998 in funding for this contract, an increase of \$6,173 compared to what was funded in FY24. This contract begins July 1, 2024.

- The Vanderbilt Kennedy Center at Vanderbilt University Medical Center for continued development, implementation, and analysis of statewide disability services needs (Joint Needs Assessment). Recommended \$60,000 in funding for this contract, an increase of \$36,000 from the previous contract. This increase in funding will allow Vanderbilt to provide additional analysis and align needs assessment data collected. This contract begins July 1, 2024.

***Clancey Hopper moved to approve the continuation slate for FY25 funding at the level suggested, with the exception of the Joint Needs Assessment project. Edward Mitchell seconded. Approved.***

***Sarah Cripps moved to recommend the increased funding for the Joint Needs Assessment project to the full Council body. Clancey Hopper seconded. Discussion: The Committee would like input from the Council on this expenditure, but recommends this contract be approved. Approved.***

#### 4) **Staff Updates**

- The Tennessee Council has been selected to participate in the Administration on Community Living (ACL) Phase 2 of state match monitoring. ACL selected six states to participate in this phase, of which Tennessee was included, to learn grantee knowledge, controls, and compliance with the DD Council State grant match requirement. This monitoring is for research purposes and is not an audit.
- Council staff presented the proposed state budget to the state House Finance, Ways, and Means committee on Monday, March 4. Staff were grateful for the questions asked by House committee members and the opportunity to share the good work of the Council and its members.
- Disability Day on the Hill was well attended and the Council was well represented.
- Council staff is working to fill upcoming Council vacancies and will keep the committee updated on this process.
- Council staff provided a general overview of the agenda for the April 19, 2024 Council meeting.

#### 5) **Other Business**

- The Council will sponsor the Sycamore Institute's Annual Forum in May. Executive Committee and Council members are invited to attend as guests of the Council. Staff will email members with an invitation.
- The team at Vanderbilt University have completed what they believe is the final draft of the joint Public Input Survey (a part of the Joint Needs Assessment). Executive Committee members are invited to review and provide feedback on this survey. Council staff will also send these links to Council members who represent unique



disability perspectives in the coming weeks.

- 6) **Motion to Adjourn**  
***At 11:45 a.m. CDT / 12:45 p.m. EDT Sarah Cripps moved to adjourn the meeting. Edward Mitchell seconded. Approved.***

**Next meeting:** Thursday, April 18, 2024, 3:30 p.m. CDT  
Embassy Suite, Nashville Airport (10 Century Blvd, Nashville)

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Prepared by: Ashley Edwards, Executive Assistant

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Approved by: Lauren Percy, Executive Director