



Disability Advisory Council Meeting Minutes

Date: Wednesday, April 9, 2025, 3 P.M. – 5 P.M.

Location: Dakota County Western Service Center, Room 106
14955 Galaxy Avenue, Apple Valley, MN, 55124

Attendance

Council Member	Representing	Attended
Valentina Barnes	Lived experience	x
Linda Bailey	Lived experience	x
Aiden Kilgannon	Lived experience	x
Amy Hunting	Lived experience	x
Sumukha Terakanambi	Lived experience	x
Heidi Myhre	Lived experience	
Michael Cashman	Lived experience	x
Lucianna Wolfstone	Lived experience	x
David Shaw	Lived experience	x
Lisa Surdinha	Family member	
Roberta Armbruster-Murray	Family member	
Eva Johnson	Family member	x
Stephanie Thomas	Family member	x
Alison Niemi	Family member	x
Susan Pagnac	Service provider	x
Ann Bailey	Service provider	x
Jodi Yanda	Service provider	
Mike Welsh	Service provider	x
Toby Hearn	Service provider	
Michael Dahl	Service provider	x
Bilan Arab	Faith community	
Andrea Engstrom	Education	
Sheila Hawthorne	Housing	x

Dakota County Staff in Attendance

- Sky Jarvi, Dakota County Inclusion Diversity Equity Access (IDEA) Manager
- Jessica Johnson, Dakota County Administrative Coordinator to the County Manager

- Megan Zeilinger, Program Coordinator, Dakota County Social Services
- DeAnn Prouty, Program Coordinator, Dakota County Social Services

Agenda

- I. **Call to Order & Introductions**
- II. **Approval of Agenda**
- III. **Approval of March 2025 minutes**
The meeting minutes for March 12, 2025, are attached for review.
- IV. **Council Business**
Council Priority Discussion (continued)
- V. **County Updates (Dakota County Staff)**
- VI. **Council Member Announcements/Updates**
- VII. **Adjourn**

Decisions Made

- **Decision:** Approval of Agenda.
- **Decision:** Approval of March 2025 meeting minutes.
- **Decision:** Combine the seven identified priorities into four priorities
- **Decision:** Meeting Adjourned.

Action Items

- **Action:** Jessica Johnson will edit the Council Priorities and return them to the May 2025 Council meeting for review and approval.
- **Action:** Dakota County staff who are knowledgeable about internal systems for people with disabilities/disabled people will be identified and invited to the next Council meeting to provide information and training to understand better how systems are designed and how access can be improved.
- **Action:** Submit proposed agenda items to Jessica.johnson@CO.DAKOTA.MN.US

Discussion Items:

- Council members can attend the Dakota County Board meetings. Please let Dakota County liaisons know if you need an alternate form to participate. Meetings are held at the Dakota County Administration Center in Hastings.
 - Live Stream: <https://www.co.dakota.mn.us/Government/BoardMeetings/Pages/default.aspx>
- Follow up on the March 2025 presentation from the libraries about the libraries and what they are doing to ensure they are inclusive and welcoming to all.

- They are trying to serve the southern part of the county better.
- They are looking into interpreters and determining if there is a better way to provide them.
- The libraries asked the Council to submit their recommended reading for the upcoming featured reading lists at the library in conjunction with disability awareness month.
- Discuss priorities and merge some priorities to condense from a list of seven to four. Jess will make changes and bring them back.
- Jessica Johnson reported that the County supports her work as the ADA Accessibility Coordinator. Most departments have been spearheading their own accessibility projects, and the county board and leadership are fully supportive of DEI's work.

Next Meeting

Date: Wednesday, May 14, 2025
Time: 3:00 PM – 5:00 PM
Location: Dakota County Western Service Center, Apple Valley, MN

Next County Board of Commissioners Meeting (for your information):
 Tuesday, April 22, 2025, 9 a.m.

Minutes Prepared by: DeAnn Prouty
 Date: 4/9/25