**NDMC Meeting**

**8/5/15**

**Meeting Minutes**

Attendees:

Rayna Aylward, PolicyWorks

Derek Shields, PolicyWorks

Mylene Padolina, USBLN

Jeanne Argoff

Genelle Thomas, PYD

Erin Pluto, MCB

Judy Shanley, Easter Seals

Diane Quest, MENTOR (guest)

Kristin Humphrey, PYD

Kevin Webb, MEAF

Gary Goosman, PolicyWorks

Rachel Patterson, Reeve Foundation

Carolyn Jeppsen, Broad Futures

Ray Hutchinson, DC Public Schools

1. Rayna opened the meeting and welcomed members. She apologized for the change in teleconference lines and explained that we will search for a more reliable teleconference service prior to the next meeting.
2. Rayna announced that the Hall of Fame launch and induction of the first class of “25 for 25” will take place at the USBLN conference at the end of September (http://www.usblnannualconference.org/). Mylene Padolina shared that the launch will be announced at an evening reception targeting Emerging Leaders and celebrating the ADA. Attendees will include students, recent graduates, and disability leaders. Speakers will focus on the history of getting the ADA passed and looking to the next 25 years. Judy asked if guidance can be provided for emerging leaders to define “what makes a leader?” Derek pointed out that there will be a tribute to Susan Daniels and her legacy, which can begin to set the stage for characteristics and qualities of a leader and mentor role model. For instance, Susan always committed time to mentor aspiring leaders. Genelle recommended that we ask inductees to answer one to two questions about leadership and their commitment to mentoring, and the answers could be shared with emerging leaders.
3. Genelle introduced the 25 for 25 Call for Nominations (document attached) and reviewed the eligibility requirements and timeline. She asked that every coalition member nominate at least one individual. She also pointed out that this first round of inductees will be geared toward significant leaders in the field, and the second call for nominations in January will be geared toward grassroots mentors and local leaders creating impact. A recommendation was made that we acknowledge all those nominated. Genelle recommended that everyone that is nominated receive an acknowledgement letter from the NDMC. Kevin asked if posthumous nominations could be made or if this should be a separate category. Genelle stated she would support posthumous nominations. Rayna wondered if including posthumous nominations would be difficult given how many important leaders are no longer with us. [Note: After further review of the numbers, we decided to honor posthumous nominations in a separate category.]
4. Genelle introduced Diane Quest, Senior Director of External Affairs at MENTOR: The National Mentoring Partnership. Diane shared information about the organization, its history, and the valuable resources it provides throughout the U.S. A copy of her presentation is attached. Rayna asked if MENTOR had ever conducted a webinar on inclusion. Diane stated they had not during her tenure, but that she would be open to discussing a collaboration that could lead to this service. Erin also shared that Mass Commission for the Blind would be hosting an upcoming related webinar. (Follow-up note: The webinar, “A Review of Program Development and Management,” takes place on August 24 from 1:00-2:00. This webinar will also be archived after the live version. Please email Erin Pluto, erin.pluto@state.ma.us, if you are interested in attending this webinar.) Due to an unexpected technology issue, Diane’s presentation was cut short, and Rayna adjourned the meeting, stating that minutes would be distributed soon for everyone’s review and additional input. (Follow-up note: Rayna and Genelle provided thank you letters to Diane, apologized for the technical issues, and invited Diane to join the NDMC).

Post-Meeting Note:

Moving forward, we will use a more stable teleconference environment.