

NH COUNCIL ON DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES

**FIVE-YEAR PLAN 10/01/16 – 9/30/21
GOALS AND OBJECTIVES**

Effective October 1, 2016

As submitted August 15, 2017

Goal – What does the Council want to accomplish for people with developmental disabilities over the next five years?

Goal 1. Children’s Issues: Children, youth and families who experience developmental disabilities will receive timely quality supports and services in inclusive and welcoming environments that enable them to reach their potential in their community.

Objectives – How will the Council achieve its goals?

Objective 1. In collaboration with the local University Center of Excellence on Developmental Disabilities (UCEDD) and the Disability Rights Center (DRC), New Hampshire State laws, policies and practices will be strengthened to better support children and their families with developmental disabilities in the areas of early supports and services, education including transition to adult, health and social relations, through:

- (1) building relationships with policymakers and engaging in legislative and administrative advocacy and,
- (2) empowering, supporting and engaging in promising initiatives and training families, guardians, self-advocates and professionals in best and/or promising practices to become stronger advocates supporting them to influence policy.

Activities:

- (1) With key partners, including the Institute on Disability (UCEDD), the Disability Rights Center monitor and analyze state and federal budgets to quantify the impact of the state budget on children with developmental disabilities in order to develop strategies that diminish these.
- (2) Collaborate with the New Hampshire Children’s Action Network, the Parent Information Center, New Hampshire Council on Autism Spectrum Disorder, Institute on Disability, Disability Rights Center, and other key organizations to develop strategies on issues of common concern.
- (3) Support individuals advocates to monitor State Legislation that could impact children with disabilities to be able to provide meaningful feedback to legislators on its potential effects.

<p>(Goal 1, continued)</p>	<p>(4) Provide support, education and direction for families of children with developmental disabilities to meet with and educate their legislators.</p> <p>Objective 2. Provide support and education in best and/or promising practices, from 0-21, including early supports and services, education, transition planning and training as well as possible service gaps between 18 and 21.</p> <p>(1) Training for at least 100 families regarding education, access and support for navigating the early supports and services system and preparation for transition to education system at age 3.</p> <p>(2) The Council will support the implementation of best and/or promising practices in at least 6 programs and the Council will collaborate with the Institute on Disability, the Disabilities Rights Center, and other key stakeholders to educate at least 1000 self-advocates, family members, guardians, and professionals about best transition practices including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) person centered planning b) employment/vocational c) secondary and post-secondary education d) health care e) community inclusion f) self-advocacy g) self-determination h) guardianship <p>Activities:</p> <p>(1) Collaborate with key organizations to hold at least one yearly information sessions in area of early supports and services, special education or transition to adulthood.</p> <p>(2) Support the development of, and advocate for new or revised policies to improve access to early supports and services and education and transition planning.</p> <p>(3) Provide education information on our website and other social media on the options, as well as best and/or promising practices of early support and services, special education and transition planning.</p>
----------------------------	--

Goal – What does the Council want to accomplish for people with developmental disabilities over the next five years?

Goal 2. Quality of Life: Individuals with developmental disabilities living in New Hampshire will have greater opportunities for inclusion through meaningful competitive employment, friendships and relationships, recreation and choice of social activities, increased choice with housing options, and increased transportation options.

Objectives – How will the Council achieve its goals?

Objective 1. Increased opportunities for, and awareness of vocational training, competitive employment, expanded work hours and increased career options by:

- (1) improving vocational programs, policies and practices through support of promising local or statewide initiatives and
- (2) advocating for systems change that leads to increased opportunities for positive work activities

Activities:

- (1) In collaboration with key partners, including the Institute on Disabilities, the Disability Rights Center and Vocational Rehabilitation, support the development of, and advocate for, initiatives and systems change that lead to increased opportunities for meaningful employment and learning opportunities.
- (2) In collaboration with key partners, provide information to individuals and their families about options for competitive employment while maintaining benefits.
- (3) Promote knowledge about, and access to, positive work incentives such as MEAD, Social Security and Medicare incentives by educating 100 people regarding these programs.

Objective 2. The Council, in collaboration with disability, aging and other organizations, will support the development or improvement of a minimum of 12 community-based programs, policies or practices that promote inclusion of people with developmental disabilities in all aspects of community life including:

- (1) inclusive emergency preparedness and management,
- (2) social integration, meaningful relationships and acceptance of differences
- (3) and transportation, housing and infrastructure.

Activities:

- (1) Collaborate with key partners to develop inclusive emergency preparedness programs
- (2) Partner with groups to develop and hold disability and awareness education sessions
- (3) Develop and support systems to educate individuals and families on housing options for adults

<p>(Goal 2, continued)</p>	<p>(4) Promote the adoption of successful transportation models, especially in New Hampshire’s rural communities.</p> <p>Objective 3. The NH Council on Developmental Disabilities will collaborate and support local and statewide initiatives that offer choice for the education and support of individuals and their families regarding relationship building and retention of those relationships. Including but not limited to friendships, relationships and family dynamics.</p> <p>Activities:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> (1) Develop and support systems to educate individuals and families on social opportunities and relationships (2) Collaborate with key partners on creating opportunities for inclusive social events that promote acceptance and awareness. (3) The Council will assure that at least 1000 self-advocates, families, guardians and caregivers can access information, training, and resources through a user-friendly web site, personal education and training opportunities and materials disseminated through multiple forms of media.
----------------------------	--

<p><u>Goal – What does the Council want to accomplish for people with developmental disabilities over the next five years?</u></p> <p>Goal 3. Personal Choice: Promote and improve self-determination activities for people with developmental disabilities to lead meaningful lives through an increased level of personal choice and greater control over their lives including access to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> (a) medical, dental and behavioral support and services (b) in home and community service delivery 	<p><u>Objectives – How will the Council achieve its goals?</u></p> <p>Objective 1. The Council will collaborate with key partners to promote and strengthen independent advocacy by individuals with developmental disabilities through:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> (1) supporting the formation and strengthening of self-advocacy organizations and activities led by people with disabilities, including cross-disability advocacy initiatives. (2) providing opportunities for individuals with developmental disabilities considered leaders to provide training to other individuals with developmental disabilities who may become leaders. (3) assure that at least 100 self-advocates can access information, training, and resources through a user-friendly web site, personal education and training opportunities and materials disseminated through multiple forms of media. <p>Activities:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> (1) Continued support of self-advocacy groups in New Hampshire local, statewide, and regional
--	---

(Goal 3, continued)

- (2) In collaboration with key partners to educate and support individuals with developmental disabilities in advocacy and support leaders in self-advocacy to train other potential leaders experiencing developmental disabilities.
- (3) The Council's website and other social media outlets will have up to date information on self-advocacy opportunities, trainings by self-advocates for people with Developmental Disabilities, and education.

Objective 2. In collaboration with disability, aging, and other organizations, the Council will work to increase awareness about, and access to, health education, nutrition and physical activity initiatives for adults with developmental disabilities living in the rural counties of Belknap, Carroll and Coos New Hampshire.

Activities:

- (1) The Council will collaborate with key partners including agencies and facilities in the rural counties of Belknap, Carroll and Coos to provide information, support and/or training opportunities related to health and wellness for individuals with I/DD and their families.
- (2) The Council will partner with agencies, facilities, and other direct support providers to provide information, support and training on the importance of sharing information about health education, nutrition and physical activity initiatives with individuals with I/DD and their families in the rural counties of Belknap, Carroll and Coos.

--	--

Goal – What does the Council want to accomplish for people with developmental disabilities over the next five years?

Goal 4. Access to Quality Services:

Individuals with developmental disabilities, families and caregivers will have increased access to quality services in the home and community.

Objectives – How will the Council achieve its goals?

Objective 1. The Council, in collaboration with key partners, will support the establishment of outcome measures and evaluation methods that define and measure the adequacy, quality, access to medical and/or behavioral services in the state’s developmental services system. The Council will support system change efforts designed to improve quality, prevent abuse and make services more flexible and responsive to individual needs.

Activities:

- (1) The Council will have active membership on the Quality Council and representative will apprise NHCDD of Quality Council activities in order to inform the need for future work plan activities.
- (2) Collaborate with stakeholders in data collection, review, and family engagement to ensure satisfaction of services.

Objective 2. The Council in collaboration with other groups will provide support through education and training to direct support providers who assist individuals who experience developmental disability. These positions include but are not limited to Paraprofessionals, Direct Support Professionals, Caregivers and families all of whom may be paid or unpaid. This support will be provided by:

- (1) training of 500 paraprofessionals, direct support professionals, caregivers and families to support individuals with disabilities to have greater opportunities, community inclusion, choice and control over their lives and
- (2) working to develop and maintain a workforce capable of meeting the current and projected direct care needs of individuals with disabilities.

Activities:

In collaboration with key partners The Council will:

- (1) educate, organize and professionalize direct support providers to improve their knowledge and skills, Including but not limited to Paraprofessionals, Direct Support Professionals and other Caregivers
- (2) will support conferences, workshops and other training on best practices for Paraprofessionals, Direct Support Professionals and Caregivers.
- (3) will provide training and support to self-advocates and family members about how to participate in self-directed services.

(Goal 4, continued)

Objective 3. The Council will collaborate and communicate with Medicaid Managed Care Organizations (MCO's) to support and ensure that all covered services and support for individuals who experience developmental disabilities and have coverage through Medicaid Managed Care are accomplished in a respectful, timely, positive manner.

Activities:

- (1) Collaborate with key partners on educating the MCO's on best practices and timely delivery of services
- (2) The Council will be involved in the lead-up to the implementation of Medicaid Managed Care by participating in New Hampshire Department of Health and Human Services stakeholder groups
- (3) Develop with key partners a clear process to keep individuals and families informed about the process toward Medicaid Managed Care implementation and beyond, including updates on the decisions of the Medicaid Managed Care Commission.