

DRAFT RIDDC FIVE YEAR PLAN GOALS

Council Goal 1: Self Determination, Self-Advocacy, Leadership Development

The Rhode Island Developmental Disabilities Council (RIDDC) will collaborate with self-advocacy organizations, DD Network Partners, State Agencies, and other stakeholders to implement and expand the tenets of self determination, increase the ability and opportunity for people to advocate for themselves and others, and increase the number of individuals who meaningfully participate in policymaking and leadership roles each year of the plan.

Council Objective 1.1. Strengthen, through direct funding, a statewide self-advocacy group as mandated by the DD Act. Provide opportunities for individuals with developmental disabilities to participate in leadership development classes and attend statewide self-advocacy meetings and events. Purpose of which is to support efforts to represent the DD community in integrated community activities, conferences, board meetings etc, thereby increasing the visibility of issues in the DD community to the general public.

Council Objective 1.2. Strengthen by providing funding and technical assistance, a statewide advocacy RI Cross-Disability Coalition (CDC) to address current and emerging issues related to meaningful, productive community inclusion and person directed planning for people with various types of disabilities.

Council Objective 1.3. Provide and support comprehensive advocacy training in leadership, public policy, and self-determination for at least 5 individuals with developmental disabilities and/or family members each year of the plan.

Council Objective 1.4. Annually support/provide 3 opportunities in which people with developmental disabilities and their families can be engaged in advocacy activities with state and federal policy-makers regarding issues of interest to the Developmental Disabilities community. At least one of these opportunities annually will accommodate at least 30 people.

Council Objective 1.5. The Council will increase the use and effectiveness of Person Centered Planning.

Council Objective 1.6. The Council will increase the participation, effectiveness, and independence of family members in policy and advocacy roles.

Council Goal 2: Education, Training, and Outreach

The RIDDC will increase the capacity of individuals with developmental disabilities, family members, service providers, and the public to understand issues and topics that are important to people with disabilities, understand and navigate disability and community systems, allow people to advocate for themselves and others, and further the tenets of self determination.

Council Objective 2.1. The Council will identify strategies for increased public awareness about the integration, inclusion and self-determination of people with disabilities and other issues of importance to people and their families.

Council Objective 2.2. The Council will drive social and system change in RI to build positive financial futures and economic empowerment for people with developmental disabilities and their families.

Council Objective 2.3. The Council will drive social and system change in RI to ensure the protection of human rights, civil rights, and increase self-determination concepts for people with developmental disabilities and their families.

Council Objective 2.4. The Council will work to reduce the incidence of sexual abuse of people with disabilities in RI.

Council Objective 2.5. Target people with developmental disabilities/families in the Latino community in RI who experience disparities in access, support services, and ongoing system, policy, and program changes in the DD system.

Council Goal 3: Advocacy and Policy

The Rhode Island Developmental Disabilities Council will support policies and practice that promote systems change efforts and activities that further advance self determination and inclusion for people with developmental

disabilities and their families. The Council will identify one to three emerging issues and provide policy recommendations and actions on that issue.

Council Objective 3.1. Monitor state and federal legislation and policy. Educate and inform legislators and policymakers as necessary.

Council Objective 3.2. The Council will be able to address issues that were not foreseen or that have grown to be a priority.

Council Objective 3.3. Collaborate and plan with the Rhode Island Disability Law Center (P&A) and the Sherlock Center (UCEDD), collectively the DD Network, to research, plan, and develop a Supported Decision Making model for persons with developmental disabilities in RI.

Council Objective 3.4. The Council will decrease the use of restraint and seclusion through systems change by implementing Trauma informed Care.

Council Objective 3.5. The Council will assess and develop methods to increase the use of communication technology by non-verbal individuals with developmental disabilities in order to improve their quality of life.