



CIVIL RIGHTS

*People with developmental disabilities are at a high risk of having their civil rights violated or removed, especially people who also are of a racial, ethnic, or other minority. **The Council will advocate for:***

- ✓ People with developmental disabilities to be inclusive citizens in the most integrated setting in their community.
- ✓ Improvements in home and community-based services that meet individual needs.
- ✓ A service and support system that does not rely on institutions and other congregate settings.
- ✓ Supported decision-making as an alternative to guardianship.
- ✓ People with disabilities will give informed consent to services and supports in a manner understood by the person.

PUBLIC FUNDING

*The Council will continue to advocate for the restoration of, and increases in, State and Federal funding necessary to maintain or enhance critical support services that allow all people with developmental disabilities to live, learn, work, and fully participate in the most integrated setting in the community. **The Council will advocate for:***

- ✓ Adequate funding for home and community-based services that allow people with developmental disabilities to remain in their homes.
- ✓ Autism-specific services and supports, including the consideration of a Medicaid 1915(c) Waiver.
- ✓ Adequately compensated, accessible, competent home and community services and supports personnel who are accountable to the people they serve.
- ✓ Universal design for adult size changing tables in public restrooms so that people with developmental disabilities have access to safe, dignified, and hygienic assistance.
- ✓ Policies, initiatives, and services that lead to more valued, integrated employment with competitive wages.
- ✓ Tax breaks and other incentives that would promote employers to hire people with developmental disabilities.
- ✓ Uniform, consistent and nationally recognized training of mid-management and direct support workers.
- ✓ Accountability of publicly funded and regulated services and supports to be provided in a safe, inclusive and integrated manner.



HEALTH

*People with developmental disabilities face extraordinary barriers and obstacles to access needed healthcare when compared to people without disabilities. The Council is committed to advocating for policies that improve the overall health of people with developmental disabilities. **The Council will advocate for:***

- ✓ People with developmental disabilities will receive medical treatment at the same standards of service and access as other residents in the community.
- ✓ Elimination of treatment policies that inadvertently harm or even hasten death by medical professionals who have the legal authority to judge the value of a person's life by invoking "quality of life" concerns or factors.
- ✓ Elimination and reduction of barriers leading to health disparities of people with developmental disabilities.

EDUCATION

*The Council is concerned that students with developmental disabilities are not receiving a free and appropriate public education in the least restrictive environment in order to access their education and receive the supports and services they need to succeed. **The Council will advocate for:***

- ✓ Full implementation and enforcement of all state and federal education laws and policies.
- ✓ Local education agencies (LEA) being held accountable for the lack of educational progress of student's with developmental disabilities, especially those students who are considered otherwise disadvantaged.
- ✓ The elimination of suspension, expulsion, out of school environment, or alternative placements for students, particularly those of a minority race or ethnicity, whose behavior is likely related to their disability.
- ✓ Appropriate and effective training and professional development for all teachers, aides, and other service personnel in the area of special education.
- ✓ Coursework and practicum experiences for all general education teacher candidates, long term substitutes to prepare them to serve and support more diverse learners in inclusive settings.
- ✓ Appropriate standards for preparing students with disabilities for person-centered post-secondary training and experiences that will lead to integrated employment and meaningful inclusion in the community.
- ✓ Pay incentives for teachers and aides to provide special education services, and to provide administrative staff to special education teachers to assist with IEP timelines.