

disability.state.mn.us/

AT A GLANCE

- MCD represents and advocates for over 1 million people or 20% of Minnesota's population who have a disability
- 51% of people over the age of 65 have a disability
- In its 45 years, MCD has responded to over a half of a million requests for technical assistance from businesses, employers, state agencies, legislators, people with disabilities, and the general public
- From 2015-present, MCD engaged 361,000 technical and policy related inquiries
- MCD operates with a staffing compliment of 7.5 FTE
- The agency is advised by a geographically diverse, statewide council comprised of 17 Minnesotans who are people with disabilities, their family members, and disability professionals appointed by the Governor

PURPOSE

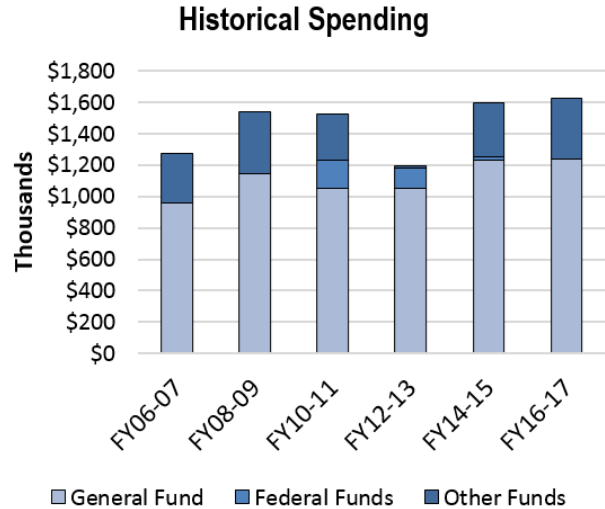
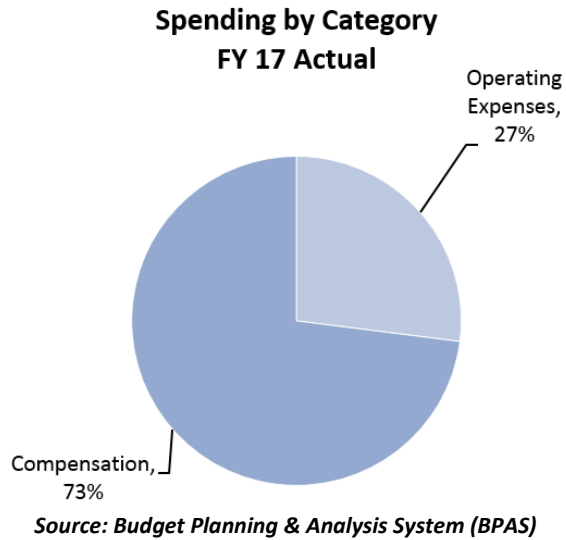
The Minnesota Council on Disability (MCD) exists to ensure programmatic, physical, and digital access to government for all Minnesota taxpayers and to promote Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) accessibility in the private sector to fuel a stronger Minnesota economy. The agency is a free policy, training, and technical resource for people with disabilities and their families, the private sector, and federal, state, and local governments to strengthen communities.

Minnesota recognizes the value of providing all people with the opportunity to engage in a safe and productive life. Because accessibility is typically not considered in the design of physical and digital spaces, there are many barriers that hinder the full and safe participation of people with disabilities. MCD holds government accountable to the ADA, Section 508 of the Rehabilitation Act, the Olmstead Act, the Minnesota Human Rights Act, Minnesota Building Code, and other rules and laws to ensure the right of every Minnesotan to live, work, and play in the community of their choice.

MCD contributes to the statewide outcomes:

- **A thriving economy that encourages business growth and employment opportunities**
- **Strong and stable families and communities**
- **People in Minnesota are safe**
- **Efficient and accountable government services**

BUDGET



Centers for Medicare/Medicaid Pathways to Employment infrastructure building grant. Federal funds have been categorized differently due to accounting requirements. Pathways to Employment funds received are represented in the graph as 'other' funds from SFY2006-2010. In SFY2011-2013 those funds were reclassified as 'federal funds'. In SFY2012-2013 MCD partnered with MN Dept. of Public Safety/Homeland Security and Emergency Management to further include people with disabilities in statewide emergency plans

STRATEGIES

MCD is statutorily obligated to advise the Minnesota Legislature, Office of the Governor, and every state agency on how to improve the accessibility, efficiency, and transparency of government services and to ensure accountability in compliance with civil rights laws. At the highest level of influence and leadership, MCD shapes policy by being the voice of the disability community. MCD utilizes a comprehensive communications strategy which includes providing training and technical resources in a wide variety of mediums to legislators, policymakers, agencies, and organizations to guide informed decisions. MCD provides professional assistance and training modules in digital access for employees and employers within the government. The Council also represents the disability community on various public advisory boards and commissions that serve both urban and rural Minnesota.

MCD is the epicenter of information flow: communicating the civil liberties of people with disabilities to policy makers, communicating information about rights and responsibilities to people with disabilities, and communicating rules from government to businesses. This communication is vital to protect the civil rights of people with disabilities and to prevent compliance-related lawsuits against businesses. MCD strengthens the Minnesota economy by working with businesses to find a financially-feasible path to ADA compliance, increasing access to services for customers with disabilities and employment opportunities for all Minnesotans.

The Council on Disability provides practical assistance, education and outreach to experts designing and building physical spaces and communication professionals in digital, audio and video environments. The Council on Disability leads public-private partnerships; providing access consultation on everything from government agencies to major sports facilities and transportation. MCD has a broad statutory scope; and the agency must apply expertise to matters where the balance of inequality is lacking.

RESULTS

<i>Type of Measure</i>	<i>Name of Measure</i>	<i>Previous:</i>	<i>Current:</i>	<i>Dates</i>
Quantity	ADA compliance training: focus on “ADA Litigation Prevention” for small businesses delivered to Chambers of Commerce throughout Minnesota (in response to ADA lawsuits brought against small businesses throughout MN)	6 trainings 48 individuals reached	26 trainings 1,300 individuals reached	FY16 & FY18
Quality	Satisfaction of ADA Litigation Prevention training delivered to Chambers of Commerce throughout Minnesota (training participant evaluation average score).	5 of 5	5 of 5	FY17 & FY18
Quantity	Digital/electronic accessibility communication technical assistance provided to 1. State Agencies (SA); 2. Non-state agency (NSA)	SA: 132 NSA: 10	SA: 272 NSA: 18	FY16 & FY18
Result	Diversity and inclusion cultural competency (self) rating before and after “Integrating the ADA in Employment Practices” for MMB State of MN Managers Core Training (199 trained)	Before training: 3/5 After training: 3.8/5	Before training: 3/5 After training: 4.13/5	FY16 & 18
Quantity*	Direct contact via phone calls, meetings, emails, presentations, trainings	16,000	16,000	FY16 & FY18
Quantity*	Website page views	128,565	157,164	FY16 & FY18
Quality*	Number of users who spend 30 minutes or more on our website.	60,544	44,918	FY16 & FY18
Result	Number of contacts given technical assistance to regarding service animals before and following agency-led passage of M.S 609.833 in 2018 legislative session, which outlawed misrepresentation of service animals in public spaces	85 contacts avg/yr	730 contacts	FY16 & FY18
Result	Number of eligible Connect 700** applicants currently employed.	Data not available	185	FY18

*2015 was the 25th Anniversary of the Americans with Disabilities Act Celebration, which increased our contacts.

**Connect 700 is an MMB policy that MCD played a vital role in implantation.

The legal authority for the Minnesota Council on Disability (MCD) comes from M.S. 256.482. (<https://www.revisor.mn.gov/statutes/?id=256.482>)