

**MINNESOTA GOVERNOR'S COUNCIL ON DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES  
PROPOSED FIVE YEAR PLAN  
GOAL STATEMENTS (FFYs 2022-2026)**

**INTRODUCTION**

The current Five Year Plan that guides the allocation of approximately \$700,000 in grant funds expires on September 30, 2021. The Minnesota Governor's Council on Developmental Disabilities is seeking public input about program goals for the next Five Year Plan that begins on October 1, 2021 and ends on September 30, 2026.

**I. EMPLOYMENT**

Increase opportunities and the supports needed by individuals with developmental disabilities to be employed in integrated settings at or above minimum wage and benefits by:

- A. Providing individualized, person led, and person centered supports that may include technology and are necessary for a broad range of employment options prioritizing competitive, customized, or self employment.
- B. Increasing and improving access to inclusive postsecondary education and other career focused training opportunities.
- C. Educating and building the capacity of employers and providers and implementing employer incentives that contribute to workforce development. This should include an introduction to disability culture and equity.
- D. Raising the expectations of individuals and families about the importance of having work experiences prior to and during high school (transition years). Increase their involvement by using and building their relationships and personal networks to reach public and private sector employers, and identify job experiences in the community.
- E. Educate individuals and families on how to navigate the disconnects between large systems as they pursue employment, and support efforts for large systems to work more seamlessly for individuals and families.
- F. Increasing long term sustained employment for adults with job opportunities and careers, including follow up with individuals on careers and job transitions.
- G. Encouraging and developing robust person led and person centered profiles for integrated and competitive employment training opportunities for youth ages 16-21 through K-12 school programs, school-employer partnership, and other options to promote workforce development into adulthood consistent with Minnesota Statutes, section 300.43.

**II. SELF ADVOCACY**

Develop a statewide network of well trained and informed self advocates by fulfilling the federal Developmental Disabilities Assistance and Bill of Rights Act (DD Act) requirements –

- A. Establish or strengthen a program for the direct funding of a state self advocacy organization, led by individuals with developmental disabilities;
- B. Support opportunities for individuals with developmental disabilities who are considered leaders to provide leadership training to individuals with developmental disabilities who may become leaders;
- C. Support and expand participation of individuals with developmental disabilities in cross disability and culturally diverse leadership coalitions (Public Law 106-402, Section 124); and
- D. Assist in identifying alternative/other funding opportunities.

### **III. TRAINING CONFERENCES**

Provide ongoing education and training that reflect and address the outcomes (independence, productivity, self determination, integration and inclusion) as found in the DD Act into programs and supports for people with developmental disabilities and their families. These conferences will lead to greater networking and partnering with others across the state through a variety of delivery modes.

### **IV. LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT**

Support and promote the development of leadership skills for families of children with developmental disabilities and adults with disabilities as advocates, spokespersons, and members of the larger disability rights movement.

Educate people about rights, self-determination, engagement in public policy advocacy, and learning best practices in the areas of education, technology, housing, employment, and other aspects of community participation.

Provide face to face training, online learning, blended learning, and graduate workshops as a means of reaching people and strengthening personal leadership skills.

### **V. CULTURAL OUTREACH**

Support the development of leadership skills in culturally diverse communities through collaborative efforts with organizations in these communities. The purpose of this effort will be to increase knowledge and develop skills that will encourage participation in the *Partners in Policymaking*<sup>®</sup> program and joining the larger disability justice movement. Recognize the public health disparities and inequities facing people with disabilities who are also members of communities of color and further encourage their participation in training, leadership, and advocacy.

### **VI. PUBLICATIONS, WEBSITES, AND ONLINE LEARNING COURSES**

Provide information, education, and training that increases knowledge, skills, and abilities of end users through a broad range of multiple media formats by:

- A. Promoting accurate historical archiving of resource materials;
- B. Continuing to adopt the latest technological advancements in communications that may include social networking;
- C. Showcasing the positive roles and contributions of people with developmental disabilities;
- D. Increasing marketing efforts to ensure accessibility and wide dissemination of Council products; and
- E. Exploring new technology that is focused on the individual and saves the user's preferences and choices and suggests additional resources or learning courses based on those preferences and choices.

## **VII. CUSTOMER AND MARKET RESEARCH**

Conduct or commission statewide research studies to measure and assess quality outcomes (independence, productivity, self-determination, integration and inclusion) of the DD Act through annual qualitative and quantitative surveys on new topics or issues or further research on topics or issues previously studied.

## **VIII. QUALITY IMPROVEMENT**

Identify and implement an approach that promotes continuous quality improvement and apply those principles to all Council work.

### **TO SUBMIT YOUR COMMENTS:**

The public comment period will be open until January 15, 2021 at 5:00 pm. All comments will be summarized for consideration by the Council at its February 3, 2021 meeting.

Please submit your comments via our comment form at <https://mn.gov/mnddc/extra/form/five-year-plan-comments.html> or email [admin.dd@state.mn.us](mailto:admin.dd@state.mn.us).

If you have any questions or to request alternative formats, please contact:

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