**ANNUAL SURVEY Results**

**Websites:** 98% of advocates are satisfied with the Iowa DD Council network websites.

**Electronic Communication:** 76% of advocates like the change to less print and more electronic communication.

**Voting:** 89% of advocates are more likely to vote in upcoming elections due, in part, to their involvement with the DD Council and staying informed on issues most important to them.

**Legislative Guide:** 79% of advocates have used infoNET’s Guide to the Iowa Legislature to gain information about legislators.

**Elected Officials:** 50% of advocates spoke with their elected officials about an issue that was important to them in 2022. Of those, 78% saw a change as a result of their conversation.

Topics discussed with elected officials:
- Childcare (affordability, caregiver shortage)
- Direct care workforce (funding, shortages)
- Employment
- HCBS supports and services
- Medicaid
- Transportation
- Voting laws and accessibility
- Waiting lists

**LEADERSHIP and Advocacy**

**Take Action Center:** 31 advocates sent 121 messages to their federal elected officials using our Take Action Center. 37 advocates sent 110 messages to their state elected officials, including the Governor and 60 legislators.

**Youth Leadership Academy:** 10 students graduated from the 2022 Youth Leadership Academy.

**Learning Opportunities:** 23 events were hosted to help people stay up to date with advocacy opportunities and legislative changes.

**Monthly Capitol Chats:** Gave advocates the chance to learn about policies impacting Iowans with disabilities. These are great opportunities to ask questions and find out what’s happening at the Capitol.
- **Capitol Chats:** 8
- **Attendees:** 297

**IAble Webinar:** Achieve a Better Life Experience through the IAble program. A Partnership with the State Treasure of Iowa and Iowa DD Council.
- **Attendees:** 131

**Capitol Day Advocacy Grants:**
- **Advocacy Groups:** 4
- **Attendees:** 31

**Testimonials:**
- “What a great day at the Capitol!”
- “I learned so much!”

**New in ’22 - Capitol Snapshots:** We distributed 12 “Capitol Snapshot” videos also highlighting what was being discussed by lawmakers. These videos were viewed on average 76 time per video. 87% found these snapshots helpful.
2022 YEAR IN REVIEW

GOAL #1 Advocacy: Develop strong advocates and leaders who create the change they want.
GOAL #2 Systems Change: Improve policy and practice that positively impacts people with disabilities.
GOAL: #3 Capacity Building: Strengthen communities to support people with disabilities.

The DD Council launched a COVID-19 vaccine confidence campaign. The goal was to educate Iowans about the vaccine and provide resources to help individuals with disabilities make the best choices for themselves.

79% of advocates viewed or utilized the #lookingforward vaccine toolkit.

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EMPLOYMENT Opportunities

The Iowa DD Council partnered with Iowa Vocational Rehabilitation Services (IVRS) to provide customized employment training. This approach to employment is designed to increase competitive, integrated job placement.

“IVRS continues to see successful outcomes through the use of Customized Discovery/Customized Employment not only because of the funding through the Iowa DD Council but the level of partnership goes beyond the funding. The Iowa DD Council walks the talk when it comes to leading by example and that has permeated into the communication and partnership between Community Rehabilitation Program partners, IVRS and case managers at DHHS and the MCOs.”

~ Vienna Hoang, Resource Manager with VR

MAKE YOUR MARK! Conference

- Attendees: 148
- Sponsors: 5
- Volunteers: 11
- Exhibitors: 15

Testimonials:
“I’m going to take action in one way or another.”
“I learned to better advocate for me and my housemate.”
“I now know easy ways to vote.”
“I will be a better leader by engaging my audience.”
“People with disabilities are finally taking the stage.”

COVID-19 Education

The DD Council launched a COVID-19 vaccine confidence campaign. The goal was to educate Iowans about the vaccine and provide resources to help individuals with disabilities make the best choices for themselves.

79% of advocates viewed or utilized the #lookingforward vaccine toolkit.

99% of those advocates found it to be very helpful or kind of helpful.