

# Iowa Developmental Disabilities Council's 2023 work plan

Blue Highlighted: We need help from Council and/or much more needed here

## Goal #1 (Advocacy):

**Develop strong advocates and leaders who create the positive change they want.**

<b>Objective 1.1 Annually increase the number of lowans with developmental disabilities and family members who engage in the civic and political decision-making process.</b>			
<b>Key Activities</b>	<b>Expected Outputs</b>	<b>Expected Outcomes</b>	<b>Progress</b>
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Host local Capitol days and town hall meetings.</li> <li>2. Provide training for 2022 General Election to both community and facility sites</li> <li>3. Provide advocacy trainings and advertise our ability to offer this assistance.</li> <li>4. Host and support Make Your Mark! and other self and family advocacy conferences.</li> <li>5. Educate and inform advocates, stakeholders, and legislators, through infoNET, social media posts, and emails.</li> <li>6. Increase the number of advocates connected to the lowans with Disabilities in Action network.</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Five advocacy groups visit the State Capitol during session. Three advocacy groups hold town hall meetings during off session</li> <li>2. 200 lowans attend voter trainings</li> <li>3. Voter materials are updated at least annual to ensure they remain current</li> <li>4. Training and Advocacy tools update</li> <li>5. 120 lowans with Disabilities and family members are active participants in advocacy trainings</li> <li>6. 100 lowans with disabilities participate in the annual Make your Mark conference and other self and family advocacy conferences support by the DD Council</li> <li>7. Fifteen electronic issues of infoNet are produced, four print publications are produced. 4000 stakeholders receive information</li> <li>8. Information is shared weekly through social media/and or emails</li> <li>9. 50 new advocates connect with our network</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. People with disabilities and family members learn about the legislative process and engage with lawmakers</li> <li>2. People with disabilities using DD Council resources are registered and voting.</li> <li>3. People with disabilities and a family members use the DD Council resources to stay informed and to increase their effectiveness as advocates</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Grant application and marketing begun for this. One organization has expressed interest</li> <li>2. Hosted in Muscatine for 40 PWD and hosted one for VR Counselors</li> <li>3. Shared successful advocacy stories during capitol chat.</li> <li>4. Planning will start in January for this</li> <li>5. InfoNET election edition came out Sept/Oct. Two capitol chats were held. Medicaid was guest speaker at Dec. Capitol chat</li> </ol>

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**Objective 1.2 Annually increase the number of Iowans with developmental disabilities—including young adults and their family members—who lead and mentor others and take on leadership roles in projects, coalitions, councils and boards that increase the inclusion of people with disabilities in community living.**

Key Activities	Expected Outputs	Expected Outcomes	Progress
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Support peer-mentoring programs such as Community Ambassadors.</li> <li>2. Create an intern position for a person with a disability to assist with advocacy</li> <li>3. Continue partnerships with our DD network to provide the Youth Leadership Academy (YLA).</li> <li>4. Support graduates of the youth leadership academy to engage in other councils, boards, community action groups at the local or state board</li> <li>5. Support the mentoring program in the Iowa Talent Bank (Iowa's State and Local board and commission application site) by hosting outreach and awareness campaigns about opportunities available on commissions and boards at the local and state level.</li> <li>6. Work with the Talent Bank and the Governor's office to begin tracking those with disabilities that serve on boards and commissions</li> <li>7. Work with DD network to train and mentor people with disabilities on how to be effective members of boards, councils, and commissions.</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. At least five people become peer mentors as a result of Council support</li> <li>2. An intern is hired</li> <li>3. 10 youth attend the Youth Leadership Academy</li> <li>4. 100% of graduates of YLA are engaged in other leadership types activities.</li> <li>5. 2 outreach events are held to create awareness of opportunities available on boards and commissions</li> <li>6. At least one training is held for people with disabilities to be more effective Council/commissions boards.</li> <li>7. Two or three Conversations/meetings are held with leaders/chairs of boards and commissions on how to be more inclusive.</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Iowans with disabilities are trained by their peers to vote and become advocates.</li> <li>2. Youth with disabilities are active as leaders in their communities and state boards and commissions</li> <li>3. Boards and commissions are more inclusive for people with disabilities</li> <li>4. People with disabilities are active members on boards and commission.</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. DD Council is supporting this for 2023. Discussion has started to see if HHS will provide some funding support. Met with Illinois group that does the same thing. Will plan a joint meeting with the two states to get together to meet.</li> <li>2. Continue to put feelers out for people. We need to make sure we have funding.</li> <li>3. Planning as begun for next year.</li> <li>4. Will be hosting an alumni meeting in January and DRI will present.</li> <li>5. Present at MYM. There are 8 people that identified as having a disability that were mentees this year.</li> <li>6. They are tracking this now. 81 people identified as having a disability applied.</li> <li>7. Need more work on this.</li> <li>8. Will see if HHS would like us to develop a training for their admins.</li> </ol>

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8. Work with boards, councils, and commissions to share ways they can be more inclusive of people with disabilities and the importance of inclusion.			
<b>Objective 1.3 With the support of our disability network of advocates, annually support to strengthen self advocacy organizations led by individuals with developmental disabilities so that there are more leaders with developmental disabilities and a more unified self-advocacy movement.</b>			
<b>Key Activities</b>	<b>Expected Outputs</b>	<b>Expected Outcomes</b>	<b>Progress</b>
1. Support self-advocates to train others to register to vote and vote 2. Support self and family advocates and council members by hosting town hall meetings and other public events with local and state leaders in their communities 3. Continue to support initiatives by leaders in the self-advocate movement developed during MYM leadership summit.	1. Five proposals for voter education and engagement that include people with disabilities in lead roles are supported by the Council 2. Two townhall meetings and/or other events, led by people with disabilities are supported by the Council. 3. Two initiatives are supported by the council led by self-advocate leaders.	1. Iowans with disabilities and family members demonstrate leadership skills through participating and leading community projects, training and local events 2. Iowans with disabilities are trained by their peers to vote and become advocates 3. People with disabilities are leading self-advocacy initiatives to create change.	1. One was hosted in Iowa City. Need to figure out next election a better way to do these 2. Will work on this after session 3. Met twice with this group who is led by Zach Mecham, Jenn Wolfe and Garret Frye. They developed a bill of rights and now working on their priorities. Will see if they want to do a capitol day grant.
<b>Objective 1.4 : In Collaboration with our DD network partners, annually the DD Council will provide advocacy and voter training to young adults (18-26) with developmental disabilities across all populations in two rural communities. The council will reduce the lack of civic engagement and increase self-advocacy in rural areas for youths with developmental disabilities. This is our targeted disparity goal.</b>			

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Key Activities	Expected outputs	Expected Outcomes	Progress
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. With the assistance of Council members, seek out opportunities in Council members' rural communities to host and/or sponsor advocacy and voter training and townhall meetings</li> <li>2. Partner with our DD network partners including Department of Human Rights to promote events and host events</li> <li>3. Continue to sustain relationships developed by adapting DD Council tools, training and resources so people can better advocate for their needs and stay engaged and informed.</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Six community conversations are held in rural areas</li> <li>2. Tools and resources adapted</li> <li>3. Two voter training and/or local capitol days are hosted</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. The DD Council will establish relationships with underserved populations</li> <li>2. Underserved populations advocate for their priorities</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Need Council's help in establishing these events.</li> </ol>

## Goal #2 (Systems Change):

**Improve policy and practice that positively supports services, supports and communities for people with developmental disabilities.**

Objective 2.1 Annually, target at least three key policy proposals (e.g. legislation, executive orders, or regulations being announced) to identify opportunities to educate policymakers about the impact of specific policies and make recommendations to ensure policies align with the principles of the Developmental Disabilities Act and the legislative priorities of the DD Council.			
Key Activities	Expected Outputs	Expected Outcomes	Progress
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Research state and federal public policies and trends effecting people with disabilities and share information to keep people informed</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Number of policies shared through email social media and at events.</li> <li>2. Two policy briefs developed</li> <li>3. Number of events and projects with other community organizations</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. As of a result of the DD Council education, each session sees positive policy changes for people with disabilities.</li> <li>2. Legislative leaders and state agencies obtain input from the DD Council about policy</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Hired a new public policy manager ! YEA!</li> <li>2. Possible position on the HCBS recommendations. Work force crisis situation with stories</li> </ol>

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<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>2. Develop Policy briefs and/or white papers with key recommendations</li> <li>3. Facilitate strong relationships with community organizations.</li> <li>4. Collaborate with DD network partners (Disability Rights Iowa and the Center for Disabilities and Development) to identify issues and needs.</li> <li>5. Foster relationships with policymakers to influence policy by meeting with key leaders prior to the 2023 session.</li> <li>6. Participate and provide public comment in commissions and council meetings (Mental Health Disability Services, Medical Assistance Advisory Council, the Autism Council, the Brain Injury Council, and the Olmstead Task Force) and before administrative rules and legislative committees</li> <li>7. With Council members and DD network partners, develop an annual list of policy priorities that increase community living for people with disabilities.</li> <li>8. Educate policymakers and other state leaders about gathering input from people with disabilities and sharing information in plain language.</li> <li>9. Educate policymakers and other state leaders on how to gather input from people with disabilities.</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>4. Monthly meetings with the DD network and number of issues identified</li> <li>5. Five meetings held with legislators prior to session</li> <li>6. DD Council open house held yearly with legislators.</li> <li>7. Council staff will provide public comment at five or more commissions and council</li> <li>8. Priorities developed</li> </ol>	<p>changes that effect people with disabilities</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>3. Working closely with ASK supported Autism Society conference. Brooke</li> <li>4. Presented at the GAIN Conference.</li> <li>5. We work regular with DRI and the UCED 5</li> <li>6. Meeting with Representative Turek. We are hosting the open house</li> <li>7. Brooke made public comment at the MHDS meeting and the Autism Council</li> <li>8. Met with Turek to discuss how we can be a resource to gather input</li> <li>9. We need to do more work in this area</li> </ol>
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<b>Objective 2.2 With the use of DD Council resources, people with developmental disabilities and/or their family members will annually educate policy makers about proposed new legislation and/or policy changes about an issue important to them.</b>			
<b>Key Activities</b>	<b>Expected Outputs</b>	<b>Expected Outcomes</b>	<b>Progress</b>
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Use infoNET to inform Iowans with disabilities and their families about policies that impact community living and inclusion.</li> <li>2. Share grassroots success stories of people advocating for themselves locally and at the state and federal levels.</li> <li>3. Support and collaborate with the Iowa Family Leadership Training Institute to help families advocate for themselves and others.</li> <li>4. Host regular (at least monthly) policy calls with advocates and stakeholders during the legislative session for discussion and questions about proposed legislation.</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Fifteen electronic issues of infoNet are produced, four print publications are produced.</li> <li>2. 2,000 people with disabilities receive InfoNet</li> <li>3. Thirty-five social media posts are made</li> <li>4. Three success stories shared</li> <li>5. 10 family members are trained through the Iowa Family Leadership Training</li> <li>6. Eight policy calls are held</li> <li>7. 10 advocates attend each call</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. As a result of using the DD Council resources, people with disabilities and family members are instrumental in positive policy changes.</li> <li>2. Legislative leaders and state agencies obtain input from people with disabilities and family members about policy changes that effect people with disabilities</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Fall edition on elections went out. End of year email with health oversight committee notes and consent decree information sent out. Medicaid was on the capitol chat. Legislative guide</li> <li>2. Discussion began with their training in May and we promoted registration</li> <li>3. Two capitol chats held.</li> </ol>

## Goal #3 Capacity Building

**By 2026, communities will be strengthened so that people with developmental disabilities will have the supports they need to live and thrive in the community.**

<b>Objective 3.1 Through annual training, technical assistance, and resources, the DD Council will collaborate the DD network, state agencies, and community programs to improve competitive integrated employment outcomes for people with disabilities.</b>
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Key Activities	Expected Outputs	Expected Outcomes	Progress
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Partner with Iowa Vocational Rehabilitation, the Iowa Coalition on Integrated Employment, and our DD network to provide training opportunities to community rehabilitation providers.</li> <li>2. Through infoNET and Iowans with Disabilities in Action, promote National Disabilities Employment Awareness Month with various activities with local and state officials and legislators.</li> <li>3. Share employment success stories, with advocates, stakeholders, legislators and community businesses.</li> <li>4. Sponsor and collaborate with DD partners (the Autism Society, Association of People Supporting Employment First, Iowa Vocational Rehabilitation, and others) to host employment-specific conferences for people with disabilities and their families.</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Five community rehabilitation providers are trained</li> <li>2. Four events promoting integrated employment are held during NDEAM month</li> <li>3. Four employment success stories are shared</li> <li>4. Thirty people with disabilities attend an employment related conference.</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Iowans with disabilities and their families advocated for policies and practices that support integrated community employment</li> <li>2. More people with disabilities are competitively employed.</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. The Council will not be funding the Customized Employment but the program has been sustained through VR funding. We will continue to partner with VR on other projects and ICIE</li> <li>2. Hosted a take your legislator to work day. Had two people partake. Shared videos and Facebook posts.</li> <li>3. NDEAM only so far</li> <li>4. Autism Employment conference sponsored.</li> </ol>

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**Objective 3.2: By September 30, 2026, the DD Council will partner with the DD network, state agencies, and/or other community programs to respond to emergent needs that impact individuals with developmental disabilities and their families.**

Key Activities	Expected Outputs	Expected Outcomes	Progress
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Work with community partners to host community conversations to determine emergency issues that could be addressed through new initiatives supported by the DD Council.</li> <li>2. Develop and communicate informational briefs on lessons learned.</li> <li>3. With DD network and other partners develop resource toolkit to provide health and health advocacy education for people with ID/DD and those supporting them</li> <li>4. Implement the use of the health advocacy toolkit</li> <li>5. Continue to partner with the IABLE staff to provide education about the IABLE accounts to increase financial independency of people with DD</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Four community conversations are held.</li> <li>2. One informational brief developed</li> <li>3. One health advocacy training is held</li> <li>4. One IABLE training is held</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Innovated practices promoting community inclusion are developed</li> <li>2. An increase in IABLE account holders</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. We partnered with the UCED, and Public health of HHS to develop a vaccine video starring our council member Kristen Aller. Email will go out first of year and will be held on our spot</li> </ol>