

2011 ANNUAL REPORT

Sharing
the
Vision

40
Years

New
Jersey
Council on
Developmental
Disabilities
njcdd.org

Building
Success

Building
Leadership

Building
Community

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Sharing
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Tab

Building
Community



Sharing the Vision

Since its establishment in 1971, the New Jersey Council on Developmental Disabilities has pursued its mandate to ensure that people with developmental disabilities and their families have every opportunity to participate in the design and implementation of programs, services, and supports that promote self-determination and community inclusion.

Through outreach, leadership and advocacy programs, and the funding of innovative grant projects, the Council works to realize its vision that all individuals with developmental disabilities have the opportunity to be active members of their community; to set real goals and make their own choices; and to exercise the same rights, privileges, responsibilities, and opportunities that any other New Jersey resident enjoys.

Building Community



The NJCDD believes that individuals with developmental disabilities deserve the same level of respect and community inclusion as all other New Jersey citizens. The Council works to support these values through public awareness events and conferences, and through the distribution of publications, literature, and online resources. These initiatives facilitate public dialogue and promote pride and empowerment within the developmental disabilities community in New Jersey.

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Building
Leadership



*B*uilding Leadership

A key element of full equality and participation is the ability to stand up for one's self and one's own interests. Whether building leadership and advocacy skills in our *Monday Morning* and *Partners in Policymaking* programs, fostering self-reliance among young people in our *Youth Leadership Program*, or offering an environment for the exchange of resources and supports in our *Regional Family Support Planning Councils*, *The NJCDD* works to give people with developmental disabilities and their families the opportunity to develop the skills they need to successfully meet their goals, achieve their dreams, and advocate on behalf of themselves and others.

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*S*Building Success



One of the ways the NJCDD works to promote the goals and objectives in its five-year plan is by offering grants to organizations and programs that are true innovators in providing services to people with developmental disabilities. Whether by teaching social skills through the arts, promoting inclusive education, or providing innovative new forums for the exchange of ideas and support, our grantees offer new, creative, and sustainable programs to broaden opportunities for people with developmental disabilities in New Jersey.



From the Chair

2011 saw the beginnings of exciting and important new Council initiatives that promote inclusion and respect for people with developmental disabilities throughout New Jersey. In September, the Council held its first annual Developmental Disabilities Awareness Day at Six Flags Great Adventure in Jackson, during which the Council promoted its R-word campaign, and drew the attention of thousands of park-goers. This year, the Council also launched its "An Institution is Not a Home" campaign, which supports the closure of developmental centers in New Jersey, and stresses the importance for self-determination and community inclusion for people with developmental disabilities.

The Council's programs grew and reached new levels of excellence in 2011. The Monday Morning project and Youth Leadership program both thrived this year, gaining more new members and participants, and expanding their reach throughout the state. Our nationally recognized Partners in Policymaking program, which recently celebrated its 15th anniversary in New Jersey, has graduated over 300 individuals, and has seen its participants become better advocates for themselves, their families, and others. Our Family Support councils have continued to provide excellent resources, education, and supports to family members of people with developmental disabilities across the state.

2011 marks the 40th anniversary of the New Jersey Council on Developmental Disabilities. In that time we have strived to make our vision for people with developmental disabilities in New Jersey a reality. Our vision – that people with developmental disabilities have the freedom to live independently; set real life goals; enjoy the same rights, responsibilities, and opportunities as any other citizen; and live in a fully inclusive setting – is what continues to guide this Council into the future. We will continue to share our vision and to work with policymakers, educators, and the public to make this vision a reality.

Elaine Buchsbaum
Chair, The New Jersey Council on Developmental Disabilities

Welcome to our report on the activities of the New Jersey Council on Developmental Disabilities for Federal Fiscal Year 2011. The purpose of the Council is to ensure that people with developmental disabilities and their families have a chance to participate in the design and implementation of services and supports, have a strong voice in their communities, and have the ability to live lives of full community inclusion and self determination. The Council's actions continue to reflect that purpose, and we are proud to report on the major accomplishments that our organization has achieved over the past year.

As with all Councils on Developmental Disabilities, the New Jersey Council on Developmental Disabilities (NJCDD) operates on a five-year planning cycle. Doing so allows us to clearly define the Council's major goals, objectives, and vision for the near future and share these plans with individuals, families, partner organizations, legislators, and the public at large. In 2011, we established the goals of our next five-year plan, emphasizing a need to reexamine and enhance support systems for people with developmental disabilities so that they may be better served within the community. For more information about the NJCDD's five-year state plan, please visit our website at njcdd.org.



From the Executive Director

In fact, the authorizing law states the Council shall “engage in advocacy, capacity building, and systemic change activities” that will “enable individuals with disabilities to exercise self-determination, be independent, be productive, and be integrated and included in all facets of community life.” (PL 106-402, B, Sec 121, (1) & (2).)

The change in focus can be clearly seen in the five-year plan that was developed by the Council in 2011 and submitted to the Administration on Developmental Disabilities in August. Each of the five goals has at its core improving the lives of people with developmental disabilities and their families in the community. The goals include providing support for individuals to advocate for themselves; promoting career development and employment in the community; supporting health and wellness programs in the community; enhancing community based supports to facilitate full community participation; and developing affordable, accessible, and visitable housing in the community.

We have come a long way in 40 years since the Council was advising the community about people with developmental disabilities. Now, we aim to have those very people decide for themselves how they will live their lives as fully integrated members of their communities. We have a long way to go to have all people with developmental disabilities living as full members of our communities, but we are heading in the right direction. It is exciting to think what the next 40 years will bring.

*Alison Lozano, MPA, Ph.D.
Executive Director,
The New Jersey Council on Developmental Disabilities*

In 2011 the New Jersey Council on Developmental Disabilities celebrated its 40th anniversary. The Council was authorized by Executive Order #20, signed on July 1, 1971 by Governor William T. Cahill.

The Federal law that authorized the establishment of Councils on Developmental Disabilities around the country, and the Executive Order that created the New Jersey Council, had a different focus from what we see today.

Originally, the Councils were planning councils with the attention given to studying and reviewing problems that people with developmental disabilities and their families faced. Councils were to make recommendations to the national and state policy makers and service providers regarding how to improve the lives of people with developmental disabilities, and make sure facilities that were constructed to house such individuals were safe and appropriate.

Over the past 40 years the Council’s emphasis has changed to support and foster community based living.

Sharing the Vision

Since its establishment in 1971, the New Jersey Council on Developmental Disabilities has pursued its mandate to ensure that people with developmental disabilities and their families have every opportunity to participate in the design and implementation of programs, services, and supports that promote self-determination and community inclusion.



Through outreach, leadership and advocacy programs, and the funding of innovative grant projects, the Council works to realize its vision that all individuals with developmental disabilities have the opportunity to be active members of their community; to set real goals and make their own choices; and to exercise the same rights, privileges, responsibilities, and opportunities that any other New Jersey resident enjoys.

The Council collaborates with various partners and stakeholders in the developmental disabilities community to monitor the state's formal and informal systems of supports for people with developmental disabilities. The group then makes recommendations to public officials, government agencies, private providers, and community representatives about ways to improve those systems.

The Council also works with individuals with developmental disabilities and their families to help them obtain the tools they need to be better advocates for themselves and others. Furthermore, we guide them towards finding their own voice in working with leaders of public agencies that control critical supports and services. We also open our dialogue to other professionals with influence over public and private systems of support for people with developmental disabilities, creating an exciting mix of perspectives and a truly responsive and representative organization.



Sharing the Vision

Other members include representatives from key state agencies, ensuring that these policymakers have a direct way to interact with and get input from people with developmental disabilities and family members about key public policy issues.

The Council also includes the director of a private provider agency, which brings an additional opportunity to work with another vital stakeholder group.

The Council may have up to 30 members. Currently, there are 25.

The majority – 60 percent – are people with developmental disabilities and immediate family members of people with developmental disabilities. These members are appointed by the Governor.

The executive directors of the The Elizabeth M. Boggs Center for Excellence at the University of Medicine and Dentistry of New Jersey (UMDNJ) and Disability Rights New Jersey are also members of the Council. These are the Council's two sister agencies, which are mandated, as we are, by the federal Developmental Disabilities Assistance and Bill of Rights Act.

The Council meets four times a year. Through its planning committee, and guided by federal requirements, the Council develops and operates under a five-year planning structure that is adjusted annually. Members discuss and define priority areas, and focus activities towards accomplishing the goals and objectives identified through the planning process. Those goals and objectives are accomplished through the Council's grants, in-house projects, and on-going collaborations with many partners.

For a complete list of Council Members, meeting schedules, and other background information, visit our website at njcdd.org.





Sharing the Vision

The Council's Vision

All People with Developmental Disabilities...

- are participating, equally included members of their neighborhoods and communities
- make real choices and have control over their own lives
- have the freedom to strive, excel, and make mistakes
- are in a position to achieve personal goals
- are in a position to affect policy and decisions that have an impact on their lives
- have the same rights, privileges, responsibilities, and opportunities of citizenship as does any other New Jersey resident.

What are Developmental Disabilities?

"Developmental Disability" means a significant, chronic disability of an individual that...

- is attributed to a mental or physical impairment or combination of mental and physical impairments
- is manifested before the individual reaches 22 years of age
- is likely to continue indefinitely
- results in substantial limitations in three or more of the following areas of major life activity
 - i. self-care
 - ii. receptive and expressive language
 - iii. learning
 - iv. mobility
 - v. self-direction
 - vi. capacity for independent living
 - vii. economic self-sufficiency

- reflects the individual's need for a combination and sequence of special, interdisciplinary, or generic services, individualized supports, or other forms of assistance that is of lifelong or an extended duration and is individually planned and coordinated

An exception to this definition applies to children from birth to age nine, who have substantial developmental delays or specific congenital or acquired conditions which have a high probability of becoming developmental disabilities if services are not provided.

Some examples of developmental disabilities are: intellectual disabilities, cerebral palsy, chronic seizure disorders, autism spectrum disorders, spina bifida, and early onset brain traumas.



Building Leadership

Partners in Policymaking (PIP)

Partners in Policymaking is a leadership training program expressly for individuals with developmental disabilities and family members. Participants (Partners) acquire knowledge and skills that build their competency as advocates who can effectively influence public policy. Partners have access to the most up-to-date information on disability issues and best practices in the field. They become familiar with policymaking and legislative processes at the local, state, and federal levels. The overall goal of the program is to achieve an effective partnership between people needing and using services and those in a position to affect policy and law.

Made up of eight two-day sessions, each session is devoted to specific topics with nationally known experts as presenters. Sessions include such topics as the history of the independent living, parent, and self advocacy movements; community organizing; how government works; family support; and many others. Partners must complete assignments between sessions and commit to one major project, such as participating in an internship, organizing a letter writing campaign, or organizing a reception or town meeting with public officials.

The graduating class of 2011, which began training in September 2010 and concluded in April 2011, consisted on 16 participants. Graduates from this class have already gone on to serve as members of the NJCDD, as well as on various school boards, and have engaged in numerous advocacy initiatives.

Each year, representatives from the New Jersey State Legislature are invited to preside over a "Mock Legislative Hearing" at which participants are tasked with forming teams to write and deliver testimony on an issue that is of special concern to the group. Year after year, a wide array of legislators and professionals donate their time to serve as committee members for the Mock Hearing, which provides invaluable advocacy training and experience for the Partners.

For more information about the Partners in Policymaking program, contact PIP Coordinator Dennie Todd at (609) 984-4516 or dennie.todd@njcdd.org.

*A key element of full equality and participation is the ability to stand up for one's self and one's own interests. Whether building leadership and advocacy skills in our **Monday Morning and Partners in Policymaking** programs, fostering self-reliance among young people in our **Youth Leadership** program, or offering an environment for the exchange of resources and supports in our **Regional Family Support Planning Councils**, the NJCDD works to give people with developmental disabilities and their families the opportunity to develop the skills they need to successfully meet their goals, achieve their dreams, and advocate on behalf of themselves and others.*



Building Leadership

The Monday Morning Project is nationally recognized and has been duplicated by Developmental Disabilities Councils across the country.

2011 saw the founding of three new Monday Morning chapters in Union, Mercer, and Gloucester Counties. Beginning in February, chapter facilitators began joining together for monthly state-wide facilitator meetings at the NJCDD offices in Trenton.

In September 2011, the Monday Morning Project was responsible for organizing the NJCDD's first annual Developmental Disabilities Awareness Day at Six Flags Great Adventure in Jackson, NJ, around which the Monday Morning Project's "R-word" Campaign was the centerpiece. (For more information about the first annual Developmental Disabilities Awareness Day, turn to page 11.)

Looking ahead, the Monday Morning Project will be focusing on its next campaign, "An Institution Is Not A Home".

Training consultant Kate Blisard has developed new materials for the campaign and a statewide launch event was held in April 2011. Each Monday Morning chapter will receive three training sessions from Kate focusing on the history of developmental centers (institutions), the developmental disabilities civil rights movement, and on how to testify about the closing of institutions. Each chapter will also meet with their local legislators regarding the closure of developmental centers.

For more information about the Monday Morning Project, contact Monday Morning Coordinator Barbara Lee at (609) 777-3293 or barbara.lee@njcdd.org.

Monday Morning Project

Since it began in 1995, the Monday Morning Project has brought self advocates together to work towards positive changes for people with developmental disabilities in the Garden State.

Made up of a network of county-based chapters across New Jersey, Monday Morning is a state-wide organization of empowered people with developmental disabilities speaking out for systems change, access to public places and services, and a greater voice in community planning. These self advocates work with community leaders, educate the general public on issues that are important to all persons with developmental disabilities, and encourage others to join them in their efforts.

Building Leadership

Regional Family Support Planning Councils

The NJCDD's Regional Family Support Planning Councils (RFSPCs) provide a way for family members caring for someone with developmental disabilities at home to come together to exchange knowledge and participate in the design of needed community services.

RFSPCs throughout New Jersey serve specific regions made up of one to three counties each. Family members of people with developmental disabilities living at home and people with developmental disabilities themselves serve as volunteers on their local RFSPCs.



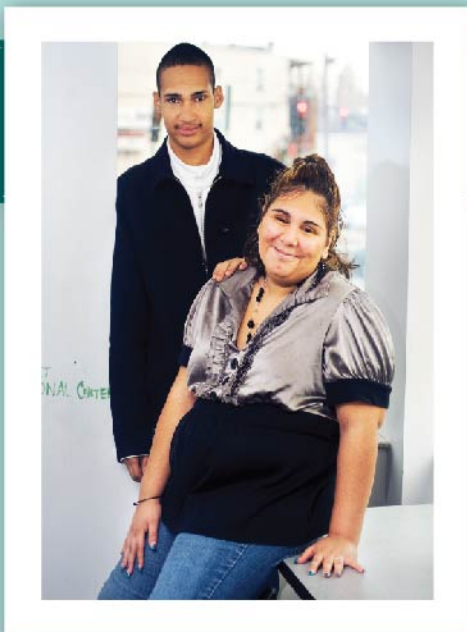
RFSPC members monitor and evaluate family support programs, inform families about current family support issues, provide information to policymakers, and advocate to local officials and state legislators about the needs of those who support a family member with a developmental disability at home. They also collaborate with the New Jersey Division of Developmental Disabilities (DDD) to provide input on policy decisions that directly impact individuals and their families.

Additionally, RFSPC members attend various trainings, stakeholder meetings, lectures, and conferences throughout the year regarding policy changes, available services, Medicare/Medicaid, and resources.

In Fiscal Year 2011, RFSPCs reached over 2,000 family members at 31 outreach events throughout New Jersey in an effort to educate families on topics that impact their ability and efforts to support and assist their family members living at home. Additionally, four statewide meetings were held, including a Statewide Education Day in October. Presenters included DDD Deputy Commissioner Dawn Apgar, who spoke about the current state of family supports within DDD, and Ruthie Marie Beckwith, who delivered a special presentation, entitled "Microboards – What Are They & How Do I Start One?"

Advocacy efforts in 2011 included obtaining approximately 2,500 signatures on a petition asking the Administration of Governor Chris Christie and the New Jersey State Legislature to commit to reinvesting all federal Medicaid matching funds for the new supports waiver back into DDD's family support service system. In conjunction with the Family Support Coalition, "To Do" lists, which outlined the daily challenges encountered during a typical day for families caring for a person with a developmental disability, were written by families and sent to members of the legislative super committee to raise awareness of the need for long-term community supports for individuals with developmental disabilities and their families.

For more information about the Regional Family Support Planning Councils, contact the Statewide Coordinator Bonnie Brien at (609) 341-3112 or bonnie.brien@njcdd.org.



Building Leadership

Over the course of eight two-hour sessions, participants learn to hone their advocacy skills, participate in team building exercises, develop public speaking skills, and learn how government works.

The program encourages its participants to carry the wide variety of skills and information that they gain in the training sessions with them out into the world of self-advocacy. Each year, participants within the group also have the option to bring suggestions for specialized training in an area that is important to their group or community.

The Youth Leadership Program has seen significant growth this past year, increasing awareness within the developmental disabilities community of the benefits it offers to young self-advocates.

As the program continues to grow, we have been able to see participants put their training to use by taking active roles as advocates in their communities. In Fiscal Year 2011, two of our past participants joined the New Jersey State Team of the Alliance for Full Participation - an organization made up of self-advocates and other stakeholders who seek to change the existing employment landscape for people with developmental disabilities in New Jersey.

***Youth Leadership Program**
Established in 2008, the NJCDD's Youth Leadership Program works with local groups and community based organizations to provide leadership training for young adults with developmental disabilities. Through attendance of fun and informative training sessions, these young people develop skills to make them leading voices for themselves and other people with developmental disabilities.*



Building Leadership

Youth Leadership Program continued...

Moving forward, it is the Council's hope that these young leaders continue to develop their skills as effective advocates in their communities. We strongly believe that in our young advocates, we have the best chance to advance the state of the developmental disabilities community on the state level and across the nation.

Currently, the NJCDD is developing a Youth Leadership Institute, which will offer additional leadership training to young self advocates who have completed the Youth Leadership Program, and will consist of an all-day session where they will work with experts in the developmental disabilities field to gain further knowledge about issues facing the disabilities community and what they can do to make an impact.

While the pilot year of this program will consist of a one-day session, the NJCDD plans to grow the program incrementally over the next few years – expanding it to a weekend-long course, and ultimately to a full week of training sessions.

For more information about the Youth Leadership Program, contact the Youth Leadership Coordinator Frank Latham at (609) 292-3453 or frank.latham@njcdd.org.





Building Community

First Annual Developmental Disabilities Awareness Day

On Saturday, September 3, 2011, the NJCDD hosted its first annual Developmental Disabilities Awareness Day at Six Flags Great Adventure in Jackson, NJ.

That day, park-goers were greeted by NJCDD volunteers and staffers who were on hand to pass out materials and promote understanding about the everyday lives of people with developmental disabilities. The volunteers – forty in all – set up booths throughout the park to engage the crowd in dialogue and pass out materials.

The centerpiece of the NJCDD's display was the R-Word campaign, which calls on the public to eradicate the words "retard" and "retarded" from everyday vocabulary and the media, raises awareness that these words are hurtful to people with developmental disabilities and their families, and encourages community members to respect people with developmental disabilities and welcome them as full members of their communities.

Throughout the day, R-Word materials including t-shirts, buttons, stickers, and more were offered to park goers. Visitors were also encouraged to sign an R-Word pledge, promising to be mindful of their speech, to remember that the R-word is hurtful to those with intellectual disabilities and those who love them, and to spread the message of tolerance and understanding to others.

By the end of the day, the NJCDD and its partner organizations had collected almost 1200 pledges. In addition, 3000 t-shirts, along with countless buttons and stickers, were passed out to park goers – many of whom wore the materials through the park as they enjoyed their day.

The NJCDD has begun planning for the next Developmental Disabilities Awareness Day, which will again be held at Six Flags Great Adventure on September 1, 2012. For more information, visit www.njcdd.org.

The NJCDD believes that individuals with developmental disabilities deserve the same level of respect and community inclusion as all other New Jersey citizens. The Council works to support these values through public awareness events and conferences, and through the distribution of publications, literature, and online resources. These initiatives facilitate public dialogue and promote pride and empowerment within the developmental disabilities community in New Jersey.





Building Community

Community Building Awards

Each year, the New Jersey Council on Developmental Disabilities looks to members of the community to help us identify individuals or organizations who have shown an exceptional commitment to promoting community inclusion for individuals with developmental disabilities.

Whether a devoted educator, a visionary community leader, or a diligent advocate, the Council believes such individuals or organizations should be encouraged, supported, and given recognition. The Council created the Community Building Awards to honor hard work and dedication to causes of importance to the developmental disabilities community in New Jersey. These prestigious awards are given in a ceremony in April.

Community Building Awards-2011 Winners

Colleen Frasier Self Advocate Award

Todd Emmons

Elizabeth Boggs Family Member Advocate Award

Peggy Kinsell

Lifetime Achievement Award

Bernard King

Distinguished DD Systems Change Award

Robert Hage

Access Above and Beyond Award

Dr. Richard Holstein

Exceptional Policymaker Award

Senator Robert Menendez

Multi-Media Award

Linda Walls

Fellowship in Inclusive Education Award

Pauline E. Albrecht & Brett Novick



Building Community

Campaigns

An Institution is Not a Home

In the past, developmental centers (institutions) offered the only option for families seeking assistance in caring for a family member with a developmental disability. However, with time, attitudes began to change. Society began to see that people with developmental disabilities do not need to be isolated in institutions. People with developmental disabilities began to ask to live in true homes and be a part of the community.



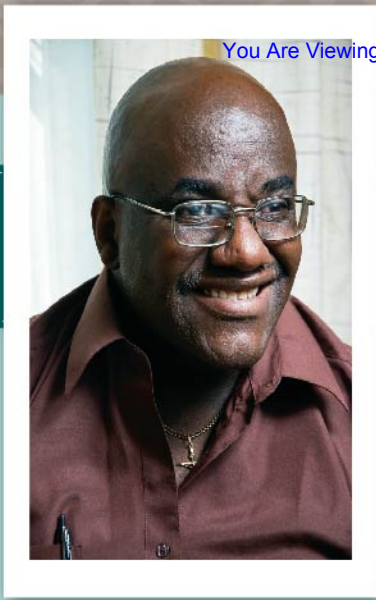
*People with disabilities have the right to use the same schools, stores, buses, and other community resources that everyone else uses. In 1999, the US Supreme Court said in the **Olmstead Decision** that a state may not force people with disabilities to live apart from everyone else in order to get the services they need. Unfortunately, twelve years later, New Jersey is still far behind other states in providing services in the community.*

The NJCDD believes that people with developmental disabilities deserve to have real choices about where they live and receive services. The Council believes those services should meet a person's individual needs.

Now, the NJCDD is organizing to bring public attention to this issue because...An Institution is Not a Home. Council members and members of the Monday Morning project and Family Support Planning Councils have visited

policymakers and legislators to express their desire to close institutions and promote community inclusion. Chapter members from the Council's Monday Morning Project have also held local rallies and public outreach events to raise awareness of this important issue with the public.

To learn more about the Council's "An Institution is Not a Home" campaign, visit njcdd.org.



Building Community

These partnerships continue to focus on highlighting a number of pressing policy issues facing New Jersey and the nation, such as:

- *the benefits of community living;*
- *the need to reduce New Jersey's over-reliance on institutions;*
- *the need to better support families caring for members with developmental disabilities at home;*
- *reducing and eventually eliminating the use of restraints and seclusions in educational settings;*
- *increasing employment opportunities for people with developmental disabilities; and*
- *improving transition services for students with developmental disabilities leaving school and joining the adult world.*

Partnerships

Council members, staff, and volunteers have also worked with the NJCDD's sister agencies – The Elizabeth M. Boggs Center and Disability Rights New Jersey – and other partners to promote full inclusion in the community for all people with developmental disabilities.





Building Community

Common Ground

Since 1992, the NJCDD's publication **Common Ground** has been reaching out to a broad range of stakeholders – general education teachers, parents, legislators, speech therapists, and others – to share information about issues that affect students with disabilities.

Published three times a year, **Common Ground** features articles that cover current issues in special education, highlight legal and legislative developments that shape educational services, and provide important resources and information for parents, educators, and professionals.

In Fiscal Year 2011, **Common Ground** launched a new website, which features an archive of all past articles; additional resources for parents, educators, and professionals; and further coverage of important legal and legislative developments.

Visit NJCommonGround.org to find out more.

Publications

People & Families Magazine

People & Families, the NJCDD's nationally recognized quarterly magazine, focuses on issues of importance to the developmental disabilities community in New Jersey. The magazine also provides vital up-to-date information for families and self advocates; highlights organizations, programs, and individuals making positive changes in the developmental disabilities community; and shares noteworthy stories from across the state and across the nation.

Topics covered in 2011 include special education, guardianship laws, the closure of developmental centers, people with developmental disabilities in the workplace, and much more.

To view past issues of **People & Families** or to sign up for a free subscription, visit njcdd.org.



Building Success

Grants the Council funded in Fiscal Year 2011 include:

Arts Unbound

Arts Unbound is a nonprofit organization that provides arts education, skills building, and a variety of vocational opportunities in the visual arts to youth and adults with developmental and other disabilities. The program offers classes in the visual arts which cultivate new avenues of self-expression, personal achievement, and life enrichment. The program also provides the professional training necessary for participants to compete on the retail market and other areas of the arts business and to share their creativity with the world as artists.

In Fiscal Year 2011, Council funds allowed the program to have a measurable impact on 30 participants with developmental disabilities and to modify and adjust the program to encourage future growth, independent sustainability, and longevity.

One of the ways the NJCDD works to promote the goals and objectives in its five-year plan is by offering grants to organizations and programs that are true innovators in providing services to people with developmental disabilities. Whether by teaching social skills through the arts, promoting inclusive education, or providing innovative new forums for the exchange of ideas and support, our grantees offer new, creative, and sustainable programs to broaden opportunities for people with developmental disabilities in New Jersey.





Building Success

New Jersey Coalition for Inclusive Education

The NJCIE was established in 1989 by parents and professionals to promote the inclusion of children with disabilities in general education classrooms in their neighborhood schools. Today, the NJCIE continues to be the only organization in New Jersey whose sole focus is inclusion. The Council hopes that through the involvement of parents in this particular NJCIE project, children with developmental disabilities will be more likely to have jobs and live independently in their communities as adults.

In the first year of a three-year pilot project, Council funds allowed the organization to gather a core collective of self-sustaining parent groups to focus on inclusion around the state. Using their person-centered planning tools to problem-solve and develop effective planning strategies, these participants are currently in the process of drafting a manual entitled "Inclusion Works!", which will contain valuable materials and practical information for parents who are working toward getting their children with developmental disabilities included in general education classrooms for a greater part of the day.

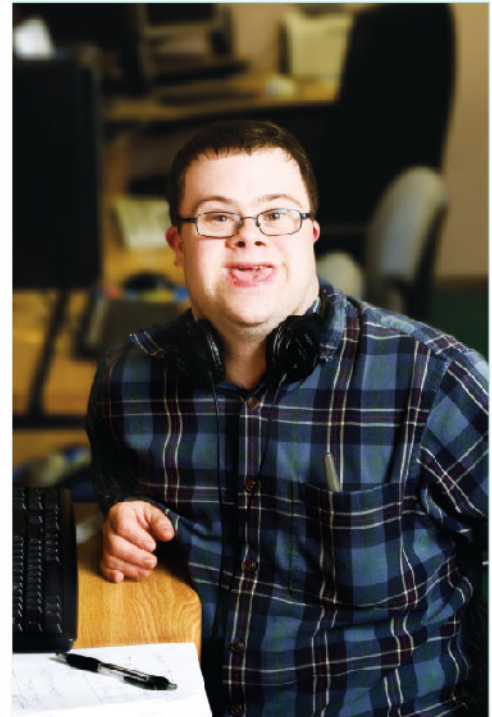
Sharing the Vision

New Jersey Institute of Technology—

DD Connect: A Virtual Online Mentoring Environment

In an effort to develop a sustainable online community for the sharing of information and supports for individuals with developmental disabilities, the Council granted funds to the New Jersey Institute of Technology to create and host a searchable, interactive peer-mentoring website. The interactive website now includes three main components:

- *“Family Forum Roundtables”;*
- *a subscriber-based listserv with searchable archives; and*
- *links to other developmental disability resources, particularly those specific to New Jersey.*



Mini Grants

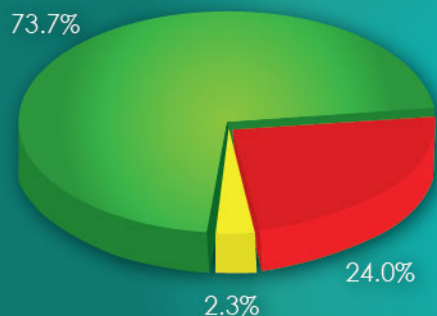
The NJCDD introduced a mini-grant process in FY-2007 to encourage new and innovative local activity that will result in meaningful benefits for people with developmental disabilities and their families.

Specifically geared toward smaller, community-based ideas and programs, past mini-grant funds have been used in a variety of ways, such as: to establish an anger management library; organize a student poster contest to promote inclusive education; teach social skills through creative arts; and to organize community events around housing and community inclusion.

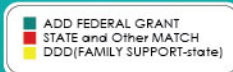
For more information or to apply for a grant, please visit njcdd.org

Federal Grant End of Year Report

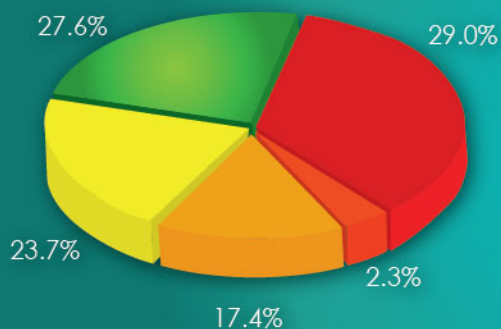
Funds Received FFY-11



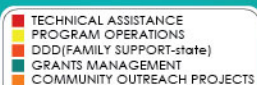
ADD FEDERAL GRANT	1,586,644	% 73.7
STATE and Other MATCH	515,577	% 24.0
DDD(FAMILY SUPPORT-state)	50,000	% 2.3
TOTAL FUNDS AVAILABLE	2,152,221	



Funds Distribution for FFY-11



TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE	624,144	% 29.0
PROGRAM OPERATIONS	509,827	% 23.7
DDD(FAMILY SUPPORT-state)	50,000	% 2.3
GRANTS MANAGEMENT	593,764	% 27.6
COMMUNITY OUTREACH PROJECTS	374,486	% 17.4
TOTAL FUNDS AVAILABLE	2,152,221	



Council Members

CHAIR

Elaine Buchsbaum

VICE-CHAIR

Christopher Miller

SELF-ADVOCATE MEMBERS

Todd Emmons, Voorhees
Russell Fried, Laurel Springs
Andrew McGeady, Jackson
Christopher Miller, Neptune City
Myrta Rosa, Plainfield
Gary Rubin, Elizabeth
David Tag, Voorhees
Betsy Smith, Montclair

PARENT OR GUARDIAN REPRESENTATIVES

Elaine Buchsbaum, Stockton
Ellie Byra, Flemington
Walter Fernandez, Barnegat
Purnima Hernandez, Glen Rock
Leah Ziskin, Cherry Hill
Regina Tegler, Bridgewater

Federally Mandated Members

Federally mandated members of the Council serve in accordance with the federal Developmental Disabilities Bill of Rights and Assistance Act.

A) State Agency Representatives

**NJ Dept. of Health and Senior Services
Division of Family Health Services**
Gloria Rodriguez, Assistant Commissioner
Designee: Pauline Lisciotto

NJ Department of Education Office of Special Education Programs

Barbara Gantwerk, Assistant Commissioner
Designee: Kimberly Murray

NJ Department of Labor Div. of Vocational Rehabilitation Services

Alice Hunnicutt, Director
Designee: David Free

NJ Department of Human Services Div. Medical Assistance & Health Services

Valerie Harr, Director
Designee: Phyllis Napier Melendez

B) Add Funded Agencies

**Protection and Advocacy System
Disability Rights New Jersey (DRNJ)**
Joseph Young, Executive Director

University Center for Excellence in Developmental Disabilities Education, Research and Service - The Boggs Center on Developmental Disabilities

Deborah Spitalnik, Ph.D., Director
Designee: Michael Knox

C) State Statute Mandated Members

**NJ Department of Human Services
Div. of Developmental Disabilities**
Dawn Apgar, Deputy Commissioner

NJ Department of Human Services Div. of Disability Services

Joseph M. Amoroso, Director
Designee: Harry Pizutelli

Public Member

The Arc of Union County
Frank Caragher

Council Staff

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Alison M. Lozano, Ph.D., M.P.A.

DEPUTY DIRECTOR

Shirla Simpson

Coordinator of Regional Family Support Planning Councils

Bonnie Brien

Project Manager/ Diversity Coordinator

Jane Dunhamm

Fiscal Officer / Office Manager

Gail Furrer

Public Policy Coordinator

Sue Gottesman

Clerk/Receptionist

Gail Hodges

Youth Leadership Coordinator

Frank Latham

Monday Morning Project Coordinator

Barbara Lee

Communications Manager

Jonathan Waller

State Plan Coordinator / Contracts Manager

Dolores Roselli

Advocacy Training Coordinator

(Partners in Policymaking)
Dennie Todd

Administrative Assistant

Jacinta Williams

Web Administrator/Graphic Designer

Maria Ali

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