



PENNSYLVANIA DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES COUNCIL

STATE PLAN UPDATE

2012–2016



DEAR FRIENDS:

We hope that you enjoy reading about some of the **highlights** of the work resulting from our current state plan. In this update, you will see a **snapshot of the achievements** over the course of one year.

In any given year of the state plan, our many projects are at different phases in the “life cycle” of their grant with us—some have recently started, some are mid-way through their grant and some projects are near completion. Each project and accomplishment contributes to our larger plan and our mission and vision for a Pennsylvania comprised of **inclusive communities** where all people with disabilities are **valued** and **thrive! Thank you** for your interest in this very **important work**.

THE PENNSYLVANIA DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES COUNCIL





Health care is a **major concern** in the lives of people with disabilities in Pennsylvania. In our plan, we focus on a **critical change** in the system—The Affordable Care Act and its implementation as it impacts individuals with disabilities in Pennsylvania. **Monitoring, information dissemination, and education about the ACA's impact** are crucial. Additionally, our plan and activities related to health have addressed **training** and **preparing** people with diverse disabilities and from diverse cultures to be **their own advocates** in healthcare.

500

The number of people that were reached through **training & publications** on the **impact** of the **Affordable Care Act** on people with disabilities.

**SEVEN
TRAININGS**

Were held on **health & wellness** topics related to people with disabilities from **diverse cultures**.

ONE VIDEO

"Rights of Deaf and Hard of Hearing People in Medical Settings" (English) or "Derechos de las Personas Sordas y con Dificultad Auditiva en Centros de Atención Médica" (Spanish).

The number of people with disabilities that were **trained & prepared** for encounters with **healthcare professionals**.

200



Our efforts in Education span the focus of **coalition building** and **changing the cultural context within schools** regarding inclusive education to **expanding and developing parent leadership**. In this plan, our parent leadership efforts include a new emphasis on **supporting leadership** in parents of children with disabilities who are home schooled, educated in charter schools, cyber schools, private or parochial schools, etc. **Disability advocacy support** was also provided to diverse parent groups that are organizing and networking around education issues.



40 PARENTS

Who have placed their children in **untraditional** settings such as charter, private and/or home school settings **received support** and **leadership development**.

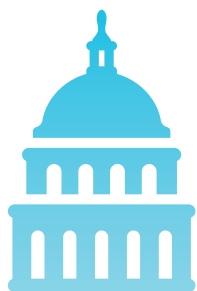
2 PUBLICATIONS AND PRODUCTS THAT SUPPORT EDUCATION GOALS

A FAMILY GUIDE TO INCLUSIVE
EARLY LEARNING (ENGLISH & SPANISH)

MEETING THE EDUCATIONAL NEEDS OF
STUDENTS IN THE CHILD WELFARE SYSTEM

300

PARENTS & FAMILY MEMBERS ADVOCATED FOR THEIR CHILDREN WITH DISABILITIES IN PENNSYLVANIA SCHOOL DISTRICTS.



LEGISLATORS, POLICYMAKERS AND WEBINAR PARTICIPANTS

EDUCATED ON THE
RIGHTS OF STUDENTS
WITH DISABILITIES IN
CHARTER SCHOOLS

295



948 PARENTS

RECEIVED TRAINING ON
TOPICS SUCH AS ADVOCACY
AND LEADERSHIP

4

ORGANIZATIONS REPRESENTING **DIVERSE CULTURES**, AND THE **FAMILIES** CONNECTED TO THESE GROUPS, **GAINED INFORMATION ON THEIR RIGHTS** WITHIN SPECIAL EDUCATION AND SUPPORT FOR EDUCATING STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES.



We have supported transition to adult life demonstration projects in a number of state plans. In this plan, we intend to develop a **replicable statewide approach** to transition to adult life in a systemic manner which will include college life transitions. Strategies and practices will be identified at a **Transition Summit**, to be held in conjunction with DD Act partners.



NUMBER OF **HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS & EDUCATORS** THAT ATTENDED SCHOOL ASSEMBLIES ON **LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT**



PUBLICATIONS & PRODUCTS

“Transition for Youth with Disabilities from the Child Welfare System to Adulthood”

FURTHER, WE SEEK TO **IDENTIFY ISSUES** RELATED TO SERVICE TRANSITIONS AND LIFE TRANSITIONS THAT AFFECT PENNSYLVANIANS WITH DISABILITIES AS THEY GROW OLDER AND TO **MAKE RECOMMENDATIONS** FOR FURTHER RESEARCH, DEMONSTRATIONS AND ADVOCACY IN THIS AREA.

1,000+

THE NUMBER OF PEOPLE RECEIVING **TRANSITION MATERIALS** DISTRIBUTED BY PADDC

WORK BEGAN TO IDENTIFY KEY COMPONENTS & STRATEGIES

Leading to successful transition and subsequently to develop **measurable means** by which to monitor its progress.





Building on our past efforts in supporting self-advocacy, the major emphasis in the current plan is to **develop and support** a statewide self-advocacy organization led by people with developmental disabilities. **Momentum was gained** through the creation of digital and online communication formats that enabled self-advocates to both **teach** and **learn** from one another about **their rights** and **the self-advocacy history and movement**.



Individuals with disabilities from state centers & family members **received assistance** in becoming **active participants** in decision-making that impacts their lives.



SELF-ADVOCATES & SUPPORTERS
ARE ON STATE-WIDE SELF-
ADVOCACY **MAILING LIST**

SELF-ADVOCATES UNITED AS 1 (SAU 1)

A STATE-WIDE PA SELF-ADVOCACY ORGANIZATION THAT WAS INCORPORATED & RECEIVED ITS 501(C) 3 IRS DESIGNATION AS A PUBLIC NONPROFIT CHARITY.



**TELECONFERENCE
MEETINGS & CHATS** WERE HELD
FOR SELF-ADVOCATES



Self-advocates received **information & training** on transportation, waiver funding, & employment.



In the area of inclusive community, we intend to **increase the capacity** of generic communities and systems to ensure that the systems and supports that are available to the community in general are **accessible** and **equally available**, with appropriate accommodation, to Pennsylvanians with disabilities. For example, one strategy is to increase each community's physical, attitudinal and programmatic accessibility and openness to include **all of its citizens**. Additionally, in the current state plan we focus on strategies which **support** people with disabilities to serve as members and decision-makers of public and private entities in their communities.



36 ENTITIES

LOCAL, REGIONAL, AND STATE,
RECEIVED EDUCATION & TRAINING
ON PUBLIC ACCESSIBILITY



150 TOTAL

DD COUNCILS, PROTECTION &
ADVOCACY AGENCIES, &
UNIVERSITY PROGRAMS SURVEYED
ON **MOST USEFUL MATERIALS**
FOR BOARD INCLUSION



6 SURVEYS

ON **COMMUNITY ACCESSIBILITY**
WERE COMPLETED



60 PEOPLE

ATTAINED MEMBERSHIP ON PUBLIC/PRIVATE
BODIES & LEADERSHIP COALITIONS

We also are working to help first responders (police, fire, & emergency services), as well as the criminal justice system, become more **competent** and **prepared** when encountering people with disabilities.



258

People completed surveys that addressed
physical & programmatic accessibility
in the **criminal justice system**.



950

Visor cards distributed to the **185**
police departments, fire stations, and
emergency services organizations.



160

The number of participants in our
"Encountering People with Disabilities
in Emergency Situations" webinar.

2

MINI GRANTS AWARDED TO CREATIVE, INNOVATIVE & VISIONARY APPROACHES
AIMED AT REDUCING STIGMA BY **CHALLENGING THE ATTITUDES** OF PEOPLE TOWARD
THOSE WITH DISABILITIES AT THE LOCAL COMMUNITY LEVEL.



ADVOCACY, EMPOWERMENT AND SYSTEMS CHANGE

Advocacy, empowerment, and systems change are themes that are **truly embedded** in nearly all of our activities and grant-making efforts. This section is comprised of those activities **not otherwise mentioned** in other specific cluster area activities and which capture our progress in advocacy and empowerment. (Note: For example, Self-Advocacy is identified as its own cluster, though self-advocacy efforts very often lead to empowerment.)

8

INITIAL NUMBER OF PEOPLE PARTICIPATING IN THE **PERSON-DRIVEN SERVICES PROJECT** AND **RECEIVING TRAINING**

9

INITIAL NUMBER OF SUPPORTS BROKERS **HIRED AND TRAINED FOR PERSON-DRIVEN SERVICES DEMONSTRATION**

PEOPLE THAT WERE TRAINED ON THE **CHILD WELFARE SYSTEM TO ADULTHOOD TOOLKIT**

639

INDIVIDUALS THAT WERE TRAINED IN **LEADERSHIP, SELF-ADVOCACY, SELF-DETERMINATION, & SYSTEM ADVOCACY**

1,694

THE NUMBER OF PEOPLE ATTENDING **LEADERSHIP SKILLS DEVELOPMENT FORUMS**

350

PARTICIPANTS FROM **61 DIFFERENT ORGANIZATIONS** THAT RECEIVED **ADVOCACY TRAINING/ASSISTANCE***

332

*Technical assistance was also provided to 140 entities across Pennsylvania.

140 ORGANIZATIONS WERE INVOLVED IN **COALITIONS, NETWORKS AND PARTNERSHIPS** FOR SYSTEM CHANGE



VIDEOS PRODUCED

Financial Powers of Attorney
Guardianship in Pennsylvania
Healthcare Decision Making and Substitute Decision Making through Trusts and Estates
Rights of Deaf and Hard of Hearing People



PUBLICATIONS PRODUCED

Consent, Capacity and Substitute Decision Making Guide*
Rights of Deaf and Hard of Hearing People*
A Family Guide to Inclusive Early Learning*
Meeting Educational Needs of Students in the Child Welfare System
Transition of Youth with Disabilities from the Child Welfare System to Adulthood

*Available in English and Spanish



300 VOTERS WERE PROVIDED WITH **EMERGENCY ABSENTEE BALLOT ASSISTANCE** IN THE 2012 ELECTION

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