Our Mission:

To provide national leadership promoting the interests of people with developmental disabilities and their families, and serve as the united voice representing Councils on Developmental Disabilities
Our Vision

- People with developmental disabilities are fully included as valued members of their communities and have equal opportunities to achieve their potential, make their own decisions, and exercise their civil rights
- We stay true to our mission through our strategic plan
What NACDD Does

- Federal Advocacy

- Technical Assistance for our 56 member DD Councils

- Address key trending issues and work to develop projects/workgroups/solutions to address these issues
Federal Policy

- NACDD Defines a yearly Policy Agenda with input from the Association’s members and Public Policy Committee

- We work with Capitol Hill, Federal Agencies and the White House to enact or protect laws that support individuals and their families to lives independently in their communities

- We seek federal funding for the DD Councils through the annual federal appropriations process

  - We report back to Congress and the Federal Agencies on Councils’ Successes
Technical Assistance

- NACDD provides Training and Technical Assistance (TA) to all of the 56 DD Councils.

- Currently we have worked with every Council to ensure each submitted a new 5-year state plan.

- Soon we will review all of the plans to look for commonalities and key trends. We will also be compiling a comprehensive review of the last 5 years based on the completion of the Program Performance Review measures that will be completed by Councils in December.
Addressing Trending Issues

- NACDD is a learning organization – we share information, work collaboratively and leverage our resources to bring the best thinking we can on key issues of the day

- Members bring their ideas to us through our conference, through our committees, and through our policy work

- We identify key trending issues by talking with Councils to assess what concerns you and where you have put your priorities (State Plan)
Self-Advocacy/Self-Determination

• Every Council MUST have Self-Advocacy as one of goals in their 5-Year State Plan

• What Does this Mean?

• This means supporting statewide self-advocacy groups, providing opportunities for self-advocate leaders to train other self-advocates to become leaders, and supporting opportunities to participate in cross-disability, culturally diverse leadership coalitions
Self Advocacy – NACDD’s Role/Councils’ Role

- NACDD is building a network of highly trained, diverse advocates who can carry messages to policymakers at all levels
  - We are building a menu of options for training – Partners in Policymaking, Close-Up, Art of Impact, tools and resources

- DD Councils are working locally to implement, adapt and support these types of training activities and working to support and provide guidance to their statewide self-advocacy organization(s)

- Many are collaborating with their UCEDD and P&A in this support. Others also include YLF as well
Diversity/Targeted Disparities

- Identifying a specific group of individuals in state/territory that needs greater focus (e.g., Amish, Hmong, Asian American, Native American)
- Working across communities and building partnerships with leaders in ethnic communities to bring disability to the forefront
- Helping building leadership opportunities for people with I/DD in their own ethnic or religious-based communities as that is where we may identify first and get our first experience serving on a committee or a Board of Directors
- Making sure that everything we do is culturally and linguistically competent
Diversity – NACDD’s Role and Councils’ Role

- DD Council must identify a targeted disparity for their new plan – our TA team at NACDD is helping them to understand what is needed
- Councils will be defining a goal, projects and activities for reaching that population.
- NACDD is partnering with the National Center on Cultural and Linguistic Competence on several initiatives to provide us mentorship so that we may help Councils be successful, training (Leadership Academy), and Communities of Practice
Collaboration

• While DD Councils have always collaborated with their sister partners – University Centers on Developmental Disabilities (UCEDDs) and the Protection and Advocacy agencies (P&As), there is a new planned collaboration activity requirement for the 5-Year State Plan. This item requires the DD Network partners in the state/territory plan an activity for meaningful collaboration around an issue or topic specific to their state/territory.
Collaboration – NACDD’s Role/ Councils’ Role

• Councils must identify a collaborative project – for many it is their work to support Self-Advocacy and new models for support of SA leadership and mentorship
  • Others are selecting employment for a collaboration activity
  • Any collaboration must bring together the strengths and unique skills of the UCEDD, P&A and DD Council
    • NACDD is supporting through Technical Assistance
Civic Engagement

• Working within communities to ensure everyone’s assets are valued
• Designing community projects, bringing multiple communities together
  • Addressing the importance of voting and access to polling places
• Ensuring that People with I/DD are front and center with civic leaders
Civic Engagement – NACDD’s Role/Councils’ Role

• NACDD contracts with a specialist in civic engagement to advise DD Councils on their projects

• NACDD hosts opportunities for Councils to come together to share ideas and resources with one another and with specialists

• Councils have designed community-based projects with other communities e.g, Georgia’s Real Communities Initiatives and Utah’s Community Gardens Project

• Many Councils are partnering with CNCS and NACDD has led the way
Raising People out of Poverty

• Employment is a major trend across all DD Councils: customized employment, building partnerships with business leaders, speaking with governors (Blueprint – A Better Bottom Line), Employment First, PIE Grants

• Financial Literacy – helping individuals with DD and their Caregivers when appropriate understand how to save and spend money appropriately and to understand the benefits system
Ending Poverty –
NACDD’s Role and Councils’ Role

• 9 DD Councils are part of the Partnership in Employment Effort

• DD Councils are working with APSE chapters and others to move the Employment First philosophy forward in their state/territory

• Building partnerships with local employers, mentoring projects for individuals with I/DD, Project Search expansion, improved employments supports

• NACDD partnering with APSE and others to educate further on Employment First, Partnered with RespectAbility, NCIL, and others on meetings with governors to ask them to utilize the Blueprint and to serve as a spokesperson to business leaders in their state/territory
Ending Poverty Continued

• Projects and partnerships with financial institutions and training groups for people with I/DD to learn about money/saving and what the ABLE Act means for you

• NACDD has partnered with National Disability Institute and others on webinar on Financial Literacy, provided tools and resources, convened a workgroup of interested Councils to discuss and learn together
Community Living

• Many Councils are focused in the next 5 years on making communities more livable and welcoming for people with I/DD. This is a big topic area that for DD Councils encompasses areas such as:

  • Housing

  • Transportation

  • Inclusion of kids in school and after-school activities

  • Volunteerism/civic engagement

  • Safety in the community – emergency prep, first-responder training
Education

• Higher Education is trending – as more young folks today graduate from High School they are expecting to go to college or trade schools for a higher degree or certification

• Mentorships and Internships are key
Education –
NACDD’s Role, Councils’ Role

• Councils are educating families in children’s early years to make higher education an expectation. Many do this through the CoP Supporting Families Across the LifeCourse

• Councils are Building Partnerships with local universities for collaborative curriculums and programs that will be sustainable and fully inclusive

  • Think College

• NACDD is working through the CoP to change Attitudes and with Department of Education and Congressional Leaders to support more opportunities
Community Living – NACDD’s Role/Councils’ Role

- Councils are engaging in State Plans on the HCBS Settings Rule
- Councils are identifying new housing options and many are working with Independent Living Councils on new models and lessons learned
  - Councils are working on emergency preparation and first responder trainings
- NACDD partners with the CDC, HRSA, and CMS and handles the policy behind the issue
  - NACDD provides learning opportunities, trainings and discussions
Healthy Living

- Accessible recreation and exercise
  - Nutrition
  - Health screenings
- Improving transition of pediatrics to adult care
  - Caregiving
Healthy Living - NACDD’s Role/Councils’ Role

• Councils are providing family education, provider capacity building

• Some Councils have focused on access to dental care, mental health care and are involved in building acumen and education for managed care plans

• Councils are building partnerships in the community with local gyms, recreations centers, YMCAs and schools

• NACDD has ongoing conversations and partnerships/projects with industry around health, wellness and caregiving

• NACDD provides opportunities for learning, sharing and discussion
Conclusion

• DD Councils are excited to begin implementation of their new 5-Year State Plans

• Please consider how you might become involved

• FYI – NACDD/ITACC is producing a 5-Year Impact Report on how the last 5 year State Plans have addressed systems change
Thank You!

Thank you for your attention

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