DDPC Five-Year Priority Areas/Goals and Objectives for Public Comment

FY 2012 – FY 2016

April 2011

PRIORITY: Education
GOAL: All children, youth and students with developmental disabilities ages birth -21 receive individualized, evidence based supports and services in inclusive settings to help them attain their maximum potential.

Objectives:
1. Increase the number of families who report satisfaction with the content and implementation of their child’s IEP.
2. Reduce the incidence of suspension, expulsion, seclusion and restraint of children and youth with developmental disabilities.
3. Increase the number of students with developmental disabilities who receive their education in inclusive settings.
4. Increase the number of students with developmental disabilities transitioning from school into integrated employment.
5. Increase the number of students with developmental disabilities transitioning from school to post- secondary educational program.
6. Increase knowledge, skills and availability of professional staff involved in early intervention in inclusive settings for infants and children with developmental disabilities.

PRIORITY: Employment
GOAL: People with developmental disabilities who want to work will have meaningful job options and opportunities in inclusive settings.

Objectives:
1. Increase the array of job training, employment options and income generating opportunities for individuals with developmental disabilities.
2. Increase the expertise among service providers to transition from sheltered workshop placements to integrated employment and supported businesses that lead to minimum wage and prevailing market income.
3. Develop incentives for private employers to hire individuals with developmental disabilities.
4. Increase awareness of persons with developmental disabilities and their families about integrated employment options and models.

**PRIORITY: Community Supports**

**GOAL:** *All Individuals with developmental disabilities and their families have access to quality community services and supports based on their needs and preferences to lead productive, dignified, inclusive and self-determined lives.*

Objectives:
1. Increase the number of people served by the Developmental Disabilities Waiver Program and MiVia Program by 3,000 individuals by 2016. Reduce the number of people waiting for services on the DD Waiver Registry by 2,000 by 2016.
2. Increase the availability of family-to-family supports, such as support groups and networks.
3. Increase the awareness and knowledge of people with developmental disabilities and their families about available community supports & services (including disability-specific and generic community supports) and the array of funding options.
4. Develop and support leadership of persons with developmental disabilities and their families to build leaders equipped to advocate for systems change for inclusive lives.
5. Increase the number of competent community direct support professionals to increase the health and safety and quality of life of persons with developmental disabilities who receive services.
6. Increase options for people waiting for services and their families to prevent crises, burn-out and regression and preserve the integrity of the family.
7. Increase the array of community supports that lead to self determined and dignified lives.

**PRIORITY: Self Advocacy**

**GOAL:** *Being mindful of the saying “Nothing about us without us,” individuals with developmental disabilities will maintain self advocacy through self directed leadership in all life activities, actions and decision.*

Objectives:
1. Support and strengthen a strong statewide self-advocacy network, led and maintained by persons with developmental disabilities.
2. Support opportunities for individuals with developmental disabilities who are considered leaders to provide leadership training to individuals with developmental disabilities who may become leaders.
3. Support and expand participation of individuals with developmental disabilities in cross-disability and culturally diverse leadership coalitions.
4. Increase public awareness by highlighting the abilities and contributions of people with developmental disabilities.
5. Support a campaign(s) promoting respectful language, including highlighting the hurtful use of the “R” word.

Priority: Cross Cutting Strategies

Goal 1: The DDPC will promote collaborative approaches to public policy advocacy that include leadership and engagement of people with developmental disabilities and their families, including Native Americans.

Objectives:
1. The Council will be active in systems change that advances the Council’s mission by engaging in policy analysis and advocacy with, and on behalf of, people with developmental disabilities and their families.
2. The Council will collaborate with statewide advocacy organizations dedicated to the inclusion of children and adults with developmental disabilities in all aspects of community life through legislative and policy initiatives and promote best practices and an increased array of community services and supports.
3. The Council will work with state legislators to ensure that they are informed about issues of importance to people with developmental disabilities and their families and make decisions that result in increased self-determination, independence and community inclusion.
4. The Council will increase leadership by persons with developmental disabilities and their families in grassroots policy and legislative advocacy efforts.
5. The Council will collaborate with Native American communities to improve the lives of children and adults with developmental disabilities and their families around the DDPC initiatives in Education, Community Services, Employment, and Self Advocacy.

Goal 2: The New Mexico Developmental Disabilities Planning Council will be a resource for stakeholders to obtain information about best practices, advocacy and leadership opportunities, and current events.

Objectives:
1. Strengthen the DDPC website to be an easily accessible and dynamic resource for stakeholders.
2. The Council will disseminate and promote research and best practice findings and recommendations derived from DDPC-funded projects to stakeholders.
3. The Council will provide ongoing, regular, and dynamic electronic communications to stakeholders about best practices, state and federal legislation and policy, advocacy and leadership opportunities, and other current events.

Goal 3: Ensure quality services throughout the priorities of Education, Community Services, Employment, and Self Advocacy.

Objectives:
1. Increase the knowledge and awareness of best practices among persons with developmental disabilities and their families so they are influential agents of systems change and advocates for quality services and support.
2. Provide and/or support leadership training and opportunities for persons with developmental disabilities and their families so they are equipped to advocate for quality services and their rights.

3. Collaborate with advocacy agencies, professionals and service providers to increase community capacity and quality of services.