

# DISABILITY RIGHTS NEW MEXICO

## PROGRAMS

### Federal Grant Programs

#### **Protection & Advocacy for Persons with Developmental Disabilities (PADD)**

- Created by the Developmental Disabilities Assistance and Bill of Rights Act of 1975 (42 U.S.C. § 15041).
- Federal funding source: Administration on Developmental Disabilities in the Administration for Children and Families, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services.
- PADD programs pursue legal, administrative, and other appropriate remedies under all applicable federal and state laws to protect and advocate for the rights of individuals with developmental disabilities.

#### **Client Assistance Program (CAP)**

- Established by the 1984 Amendments to the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 (29 U.S.C. § 732)
- Federal funding source: Rehabilitation Services Administration, Office of Special Education and Rehabilitation Services, U.S. Department of Education.
- CAP provides information and assistance to individuals seeking or receiving services under the Rehabilitation Act, including assistance in pursuing administrative, legal, and other appropriate remedies to ensure the protection of their rights.

#### **Protection & Advocacy for Individuals with Mental Illness (PAIMI)**

- Established by the PAIMI Act of 1986 (42 U.S.C. §§ 10801 *et seq.*)
- Federal funding source: Center for Mental Health Services, Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services.
- PAIMI programs protect and advocate for the rights of people with mental illness, including particularly persons in facilities that treat individuals with mental illness.

#### **Protection & Advocacy for Individuals Rights (PAIR)**

- Established in 1993 through an amendment to the Rehabilitation Act (29 U.S.C. § 794e)
- Federal funding source: Rehabilitation Services Administration of the Office of Special Education and Rehabilitation Services, U.S. Department of Education.
- PAIR programs protect and advocate for the legal and human rights of persons not covered by other programs (PADD, CAP, PAIMI) – such as those with visual or hearing impairments or those with physical disabilities acquired as an adult.

#### **Protection & Advocacy for Assistive Technology (PAAT)**

- Created in 1994 when Congress expanded the Technology-Related Assistance for Individuals with Disabilities Act (“Tech Act”) (29 U.S.C. § 2201 *et seq.*)
- Federal funding source: Rehabilitation Services Administration of the Office of Special Education and Rehabilitative Services, U.S. Department of Education.
- PAAT programs assist individuals with disabilities – and their family members, guardians, advocates and authorized representatives – in accessing assistive technology devices and services (e.g., motorized wheelchairs, “talking” computers, adaptive computer software).

### **Protection & Advocacy for Beneficiaries of Social Security (PABSS)**

- Created by the Ticket to Work and Work Incentives Improvement Act of 1999 (42 U.S.C. § 1320b-21)
- Federal funding source: Social Security Administration.
- PABSS assists Social Security beneficiaries with disabilities in obtaining information and advice about vocational rehabilitation and employment services, and to provide advocacy services that beneficiaries may need to secure or regain gainful employment.

### **Protection & Advocacy for Individuals with Traumatic Brain Injury (PATBI)**

- Federal funding source: Health Resources and Services Administration, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services.
- Established by Title XII of the Traumatic Brain Injury (TBI) Act (42 U.S.C. § 201), as part of the Children's Health Act of 2000.
- PATBI programs provide advocacy services to individuals with a traumatic brain injury, and work to increase and improve systems of support for persons affected by a TBI.

### **Protection & Advocacy for Voting Access (PAVA)**

- Created by Congress as part of the Help America Vote Act (HAVA) of 2002 (42 U.S.C. § 15461 *et seq.*)
- Federal funding source: Administration on Developmental Disabilities, in the Administration for Children and Families, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services.
- PAVA helps protect the rights of eligible individuals with disabilities to participate in the electoral process through voter education, training of poll officials, registration drives, polling place accessibility surveys, and similar activities.

## **State Grant Programs**

### **Civil Legal Services for Low Income New Mexicans**

- The Civil Legal Services program was established by the state legislature in 2001 (§34-14-1 NMSA 1978)
- State funding source: Civil Legal Services Commission
- DRNM receives funding to provide outreach, training and representation services for low income persons with mental illness and for low income individuals and families who have been denied a free, appropriate public education.

### **Special Projects**

- DRNM carries out special projects from time to time with through other grant programs. DRNM currently receives three grants from the state Developmental Disabilities Planning Council. These grants provide staff support for committees working to improve guardianship practices, to provide staff support for the Disability Coalition, and to provide training clinics and advocacy services for students in special education and their families.