

**DISABILITY RIGHTS NEW MEXICO
PRIORITIES 2010-2012
ANNUAL OBJECTIVES 2010**

Approved by the Board of Directors on 9.16.09

Decreasing Abuse, Neglect and Exploitation of Persons with Disabilities

Priority: Improve the practices and procedures of programs where there are significant allegations of abuse, neglect, or exploitation of individuals with disabilities.

A/N/E.1 Objective: Use DRNM investigations to improve the quality of services of programs
Systems alleged to have committed recurring and/or significant acts of abuse,
Case neglect or exploitation or any such act causing serious injury or death.

A/N/E.2 Objective: Promote or provide oversight of Representative Payees for Social Security
Systems beneficiaries when the Payee is in a potential conflict situation, investigate
Case the conditions of beneficiaries for whom the Payee is also the employer of
the beneficiary, and assist beneficiaries as needed to change Payees.

A/N/E.3 Objective: Ensure that facilities that are required to report serious incidents of injuries
Systems or deaths caused by restraint actually report such incidents to the proper
authorities, including DRNM where applicable.

Improving the Quality and Adequacy of Community Services

Priority: Assure that community programs provide services that meet the need of individuals qualifying for or receiving those services.

C.1 Objective: Assist eligible consumers or applicants of the self-directed Medicaid waiver
Systems (“Mi Via) program who have been denied eligibility or who experience
Case inappropriate reductions related to service planning or consumer choice.

C.2 Objective: Assist eligible individuals or applicants who have been denied or terminated
Case from Medicaid funded community-based long-term services, or who face
inappropriate modification/reduction in such services.

C.3 Objective: Assist eligible individuals or applicants who have been denied or terminated
Systems from appropriate community based services from the Brain Injury Trust
Case Fund, BITF contractors or TBI Service Coordinators, or who face
inappropriate modification/reduction in such services.

C.4 Objective: Monitor the implementation of the Coordinated Long-Term Services
Systems (“CoLTS”) managed care program with respect to increasing community-
based services that meet the needs of participants with disabilities.

C.5 Objective: Promote and participate in collaborations designed to expand the
Systems availability of affordable accessible housing for individuals with disabilities.

C.6 Objective: Advocate for individuals with disabilities to maintain current housing
Case which they are in danger of losing.

- C.7 Objective:** Ensure that the state Defendants are complying with the court orders in the *Jackson* case to improve services for persons with developmental disabilities.
- C.8 Objective:** Assist people with disabilities to obtain necessary assistive devices through their health insurance, public schools, or other available programs.

Improving the Quality and Adequacy of Services in Detention Facilities

Priority: Improve services for persons with disabilities in detention facilities.

- D.1 Objective:** Ensure the delivery of at least minimally adequate mental health treatment and medical care to individuals with disabilities in the Dona Ana County Detention Center.
- D.2 Objective:** Promote the development of state-wide standards for the delivery of services to adults with mental health issues in detention centers.

Assuring Appropriate Public School Services for Students With Disabilities

Priority: Reduce the number of children whose IEPs are not implemented or who are excluded from appropriate special education services and placements.

- ED.1 Objective:** Advocate for students who are being excluded from special education services due to the lack of adequate evaluation or inappropriate delay through the SAT (Student Assistance Team) process.
- ED.2 Objective:** Advocate for students with IEPs that are wholly or substantially inadequate or whose substantial lack of implementation by their local school districts keeps the student from benefiting from special education
- ED.3 Objective:** Pursue formal complaint strategies designed to compel the PED (Public Education Department) to enforce IDEA compliance in specific districts.
- ED.4 Objective:** Develop and implement strategies that result in state and/or federal legislation or regulations that eliminate or significantly reduce the use of seclusion and unsafe restraint in public schools.

Improving Employment and Rehabilitation Services

Priority: Persons with disabilities receive appropriate services and supports needed to obtain or return to employment.

- EM.1 Objective:** Ensure that eligible applicants or recipients are informed of and receive an appropriate range of individualized services from vocational rehabilitation and independent living programs.
- EM.2 Objective:** Review/investigate complaints of Social Security beneficiaries who have experienced a denial, delay or barrier in obtaining services necessary to the success of their return to work or maintenance of work efforts.

Protecting and Expanding Medicaid

Priority: Preserve and expand Medicaid as the leading source of coverage for health care and community based services for persons with disabilities.

- M.1 Objective:** Promote efforts to maximize Medicaid funding and reduce waiting lists for community-based waiver services, and oppose reductions in Medicaid funding that would decrease eligibility or benefits for persons with disabilities.
Systems
- M.2 Objective:** Promote expansion of health care coverage for currently uninsured adults, with provisions that address the specific needs of persons with disabilities.
Systems
- M.3 Objective:** Review and comment on proposed regulatory changes in Medicaid or other publicly funded programs that would have a significant effect on eligibility, benefits, or procedural protections for persons with disabilities.
Systems
- M.4 Objective:** Promote design features that assure adequate supports and services for persons with disabilities in the Developmental Disabilities waiver program as the renewal application for the program is developed.
Systems

Promoting the Development of Crisis Mental Health Services

Priority: Promote the creation and expansion of alternative community based services for persons with mental illness who are in crisis.

- MHC.1 Objective:** Promote the establishment of crisis response and crisis prevention services that utilize peer support and voluntary community program options, foster stabilization and provide linkage to appropriate follow-up services.
Systems
- MHC.2 Objective:** Promote voluntary alternatives to mandated treatment.
Systems
- MHC.3 Objective:** Monitor the implementation of the Optum Health managed behavioral health program in order to promote community alternatives to in-patient hospitalization.
Systems

Promoting Self-Determination

Priority: Persons with disabilities have control over decisions that affect them.

- SD.1 Objective:** Ensure that persons with disabilities are able to exercise their right to vote.
Systems
Case
- SD.2 Objective:** Promote the least restrictive level and form of guardianship necessary, promote meaningful input from the individual with disabilities when a guardianship is proposed or changed, and assure that guardians are qualified, suitable, effective, and active in the lives of the protected person.
Systems
Case