



# Introduction

## State Councils on Developmental Disabilities Purpose

The purpose the State Councils on Developmental Disabilities is to engage in advocacy, capacity building, and systemic change activities that support the implementation of the purpose and policies in the Developmental Disabilities Assistance and Bill of Rights Act of 2000 (DD Act), to contribute to a coordinated, consumer- and family- centered, consumer- and family-directed, comprehensive systems that includes needed community services, individualized supports, and other forms of assistance that promote self-determination for individuals with developmental disabilities and their families.

The Indiana Governor's Council for People with Disabilities is Indiana's State Council on Developmental Disabilities, and is the state advocacy agency that provides an independent voice for people with developmental disabilities and their family members to identify important community needs, collaborate with DD Act Partners, the State's DD service agency, and other governmental and non-governmental organizations to implement the DD Act in Indiana through the Five-Year State Plan goals and objectives.

## Five-Year State Plan Purpose and Timeline

Every five years, the Indiana Governor's Council for People with Disabilities is required by federal law to develop a five-year strategic plan, outlining goals and objectives that will be implemented over the five-year period. With public input and guidance from the Administration on Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities, the state plan is developed in accordance with requirements of the Developmental Disabilities Assistance and Bill of Rights Act of 2000 (DD Act).

State Councils on Developmental Disabilities are encouraged to engage with the community to continuously promote the tenants of the DD Act and ensure that the voices of people with developmental disabilities and their families are elevated and included in the implementation of the Council's State Plan.

The 2022 - 2026 State Plan covers the period from October 1, 2021 (the beginning of the 2022 federal fiscal year), to September 30, 2026 (the end of the 2026 federal fiscal year). It addresses specific information required by the federal Administration on Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities and includes the Council's determination of areas of emphasis and resulting goals and objectives for the five-year period. The Council must spend a minimum of 70 percent of its federal funding to address the Plan goals and objectives. All programs and projects of the Council are to be conducted in a manner that respects individual differences and cultural diversity. All Council programs and projects will be done in accordance with the Council Mission and Vision Statements, which are:

**Mission:** The Mission of the Indiana's Governor's Council for People with Disabilities is to advance social and policy changes that lead to respect for and meaningful inclusion of people with disabilities and their families.

**Vision:** Hoosier communities will be accessible, inclusive, and respectful of all people with disabilities.



# Five-Year State Plan

The Council voted on June 16, 2023, to consolidate the Five State-Plan goal areas from five goals and to two:

## Goal Area 1: Leadership and Advocacy

Increase leadership & advocacy among culturally and linguistically diverse people with IDD and families.

- Objective 1.1: Self-advocacy organization(s) led by people with IDD across Indiana have increased reach and capacity.
- Objective 1.2: Opportunities for skill building among people with IDD that is provided by others with IDD expand.
- Objective 1.3: More people with IDD are engaged in cross-disability and culturally diverse leadership coalitions.
- Objective 1.4: There is an increase in families across the lifespan engaged in personal and systems level advocacy.

## Goal Area 2: Community Inclusion and Belonging

Systemic barriers are addressed to facilitate increased community inclusion and belonging on the part of people with intellectual and/or developmental disabilities.

- Objective 2.1: Improve policy, practice, and programs to support people with IDD at the intersection of Home & Community Based Services and Social Drivers of Health.
- Objective 2.2: Black/African Americans with IDD and those with the most significant support needs will see greater representation and equity within disability related services and organizations.
- Objective 2.3: Increase community capacity for understanding, inclusion and belonging.

