

**Indiana Governor's Council for People with Disabilities**  
**Agency Overview**  
**FY2014 - FY2015**

The purpose of the agency's overview as documented in the instructions is to summarize the agency's total budget request. The Indiana Governor's Council for People with Disabilities (IGCPD) is 100% federally funded. The Council has **never sought** and **is not requesting** state general funds currently or in the future.

The Council's federal budget is predicated on the tenets espoused in the Developmental Disabilities Assistance and Bill of Rights Act. The Council collects and reports data based on the Federal Fiscal Year (October 1 – September 30) and not the State Fiscal Year. Federal grant funds unexpended at the end of the grant period remain with the federal government and do not revert to the state general fund. The federal grant, administered by the council, permits two years to obligate the funds and a third year to liquidate. IGCPD has been diligent in insuring complete obligation and expenditure of funds so that Indiana receives full benefit from the allocation which, if unspent or unobligated, would revert to Washington.

Although the Council will not be requesting any state funds, the Council is pleased to provide the following as a point of information.

### **1. Agency Programs and Functions**

The Indiana Governor's Council for People with Disabilities is an independent state agency whose mission is "To advance public policy that leads to the independence, productivity, and inclusion of people with disabilities in all aspects of society." The IGCPD is entirely funded through a federal grant and does not receive state appropriated funds. Currently, the Administration on Developmental Disabilities provides funding for the IGCPD to carry out its mission on behalf of individuals with disabilities.

The IGCPD does not provide direct services. It is charged with the responsibility of capacity building, systems change, and advocating for people with disabilities. This charge is met through a variety of activities and relies on the development of strategic partnerships in order to maximize the IGCPD's resources.

The IGCPD's federal grant defines the types of activities which may be carried out under the grant. As a result, the accomplishments achieved and the challenges faced by IGCPD fall within the parameters established by the federal grant.

### **2. Accomplishments and Challenges**

**Among the major accomplishments were:**

- 114 people received training in leadership, self advocacy, and self determination.
- 40 active local self advocacy groups, an increase of 30%, have been established and are members of the statewide organization Self Advocates of Indiana.

- 35,044 people were reached directly through grassroots special events and education programs coordinated by advocates with the help of disability information packets during March Disability Awareness Month.
- 1,414 persons with disabilities and family members received support to attend conferences and seminars to increase their knowledge of critical issues affecting the disability community.
- More than 13,000 people participated in a statewide survey which collected information about the status of the service delivery system and priorities. All 92 counties were represented in the survey results.
- 28 advocates from six communities were successful in advocating for increased funding for accessible housing units and in establishing a fund for accessible home modifications.
- The annual Conference for People with Disabilities was attended by approximately 450 people who received cutting edge information and training.
- The Fifth Freedom Network continues to support 17 local community projects such as accessible parking, accessible housing, special education, and transportation.

**Among the challenges were:**

- Continued negative attitudes and low expectations by the general public regarding people with disabilities and the contributions they make.
- Lack of access to sufficient support and services for people with disabilities to achieve full inclusion in their communities and in their employment.
- Limited avenues for people with disabilities and families to be involved in the decision making and policy development process related to the programs and services they need/receive.
- Inadequate or no involvement of people with disabilities in local planning and engagement activities designed to solicit the input and involvement of all community members.
- Policies and programs that support dependence and segregation.

**3. Agency Objectives for the biennium**

- A. Leadership - People with disabilities and their family members are leaders in all aspects of society including their personal lives, their communities, and at the state and national levels.
- B. Health and Long Term Care - People with disabilities have quality affordable accessible health care, including long term supports and services, which meets their needs and reflects their choices throughout the course of their lives.
- C. Education and Lifelong Learning - People with disabilities have equal access to education and lifelong learning opportunities with options, choices, and supports in inclusive school and community settings.

- D. Employment - People with disabilities are employed with fair and equitable wages and benefits, and have opportunities in all typical employment settings, with upward mobility and appropriate accommodations and supports.
- E. Transportation - People with disabilities have quality, convenient, and affordable accessible transportation to achieve full participation in their communities of choice.
- F. Inclusive Communities - People with disabilities are full participants in communities, with affordable accessible housing, based on their desires and choices.

#### 4. Key Performance Indicators

**KPI 1.** Number of people with disabilities active in systems change advocacy:

*Results FFY11 - 9,411 people: met green target*

Justification: The mission of the Council, to advance public policy which leads to the independence, productivity and inclusion of people with disabilities in all aspects of society, is key to this measure. The engagement of people with disabilities is critical to insuring policy decisions are sound, informed and in the best interests of the people they impact.

Methodology: Results are compiled from program performance reports of grant and internal projects funded by and/or conducted by the Council. Methodology includes surveys, membership numbers, and participation records.

**KPI 2.** Percentage of clientele who believe their life is better from Council Activity:

*Results FFY11 - 99%: met green target*

Justification: This measure is one set by the Council's federal performance report as an indicator of the value of the programs offered to people with disabilities and their families. It asks our core constituents whether programs and activities funded by the Council have had a positive impact on their lives in terms of our mission to increase independence, productivity and inclusion.

Methodology: Results are based on one of the measures in a yearly satisfaction survey completed by people participating in the grant and internal programs of the Council. People select an answer, and the percentage of people who report a positive response is calculated.

**KPI 3.** Number of people who participated in a disability awareness grassroots special event or education program utilizing Council provided materials:

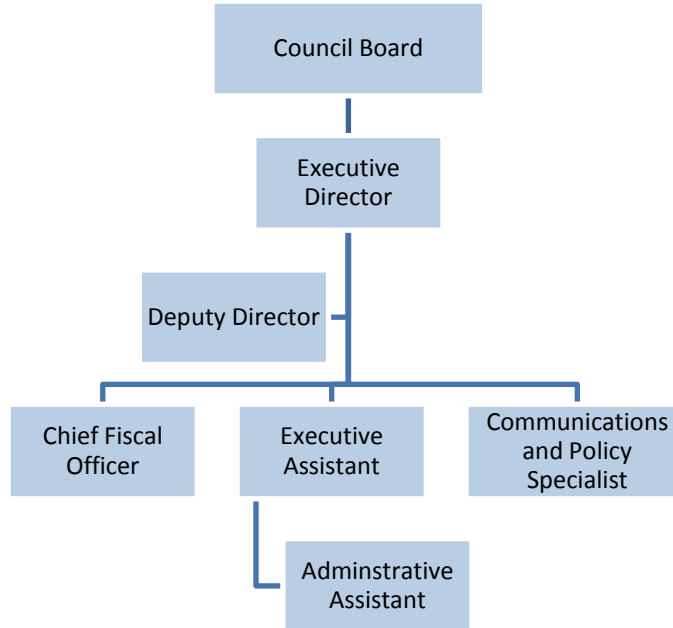
*Results FFY11- 35,044 people: about halfway between yellow and green target*

Justification: The Council conducts a yearly March Disability Awareness Campaign designed to engage the public and private sectors in activities that will further the Council's mission of inclusion of people with disabilities in all aspects of society. Community leaders, i.e. mayors, educators, businesses, faith-based organizations, philanthropic and advocacy groups, work together to plan and organize community activities.

Methodology: Awareness month evaluations and event/activity reports are solicited from everyone who orders materials during March Disability Awareness Month.

Results are based on a compilation of the numbers reported by community coordinators who plan and conduct grassroots activities during March.

## 5. Organizational Chart



## 6. Anticipated Program changes

In accordance with the IGCPD state plan, some projects may be active and others inactive depending on the fiscal year and adjustments made to ensure anticipated outcomes are achieved. New projects will be developed in the context of contributions to the achievement of state plan goals and available federal funds and/or partnerships and sponsorships via other organizations.

## 7. New Special Initiatives

IGCPD receives funding through the Administration on Developmental Disabilities which can establish new priorities and initiatives by which the IGCPD would be under an obligation to respond. Funding for the IGCPD appears to be solvent and has remained solvent for 40 years. The IGCPD has been successful in leveraging funding from other sources throughout its existence.

In conclusion, the IGCPD is pleased to serve in the unique position as an advocate for people with disabilities over the past 40 years. Please accept my thanks in allowing the Indiana Governor's Council for People with Disabilities this opportunity to present information pertaining to the Council and the unique role it plays as the state's chief advocate and visionary in addressing issues impacting people with disabilities.

Your willingness to take the extra time to better understand the IGCPD will assist the Council's board as it implements the intent, spirit and letter of the Developmental Disabilities Assistance

and Bill of Rights Act in channeling its federal funds to benefit Hoosiers with disabilities. We look forward to the next biennium and to collaborative efforts with the Office of Management and Budget.