www.utahddcouncil.org

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2012-2013

Annual Report

Utah Developmental Disabilities Council

OVERVIEW

2012-2013 Year in Review

The 2012-2016 5-Year Strategic Plan goals are listed below. This is the second year of work on these goals.

(1) Support the development of opportunities for people with disabilities to pursue a range of post–public school education experiences.

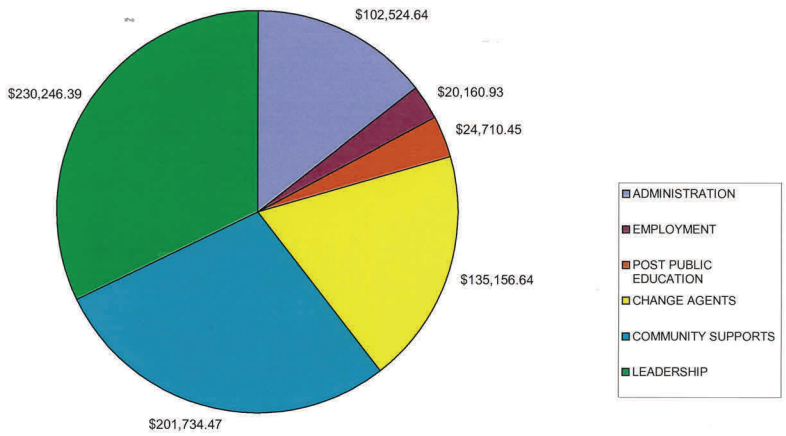
(2) Support the development of networks of self-advocates and advocates becoming effective change agents.

(3) Support self-advocates and advocates in leadership opportunities.

(4) Support the evolution of community resources and supports that empower people with developmental disabilities to lead independent lives in the community

(5) Support the development of opportunities for people with disabilities to get and keep jobs.

DISTRIBUTION OF ACTUAL EXPENDITURES BY PROGRAM AREA FFY 2013



Cover From Upper Left: Kayci Lynam, Libby Oseguera, Tom Brownlee, Eric Stoker, Adina Zahradnikova, Elsie Dee, Tracy Johnson, Jennifer Kuhn, Deborah Bowman, with Temple Grandin and Claire Mantonya, Sen. John Barrasso of Wyoming with Bryon Murray

Pictured: SABE President Bryon Murray with Council Members Kayci Lynam and Eric Stoker in Washington D.C.

Council Mission

The Mission of the Utah Developmental Disabilities Council is to be the State's leading source of critical innovative and progressive information, advocacy, leadership and collaboration to enhance the lives of individuals with developmental disabilities.

A MESSAGE

From 2012-2013 Council Chair

I have been honored to serve as Chair of the Utah Developmental Disabilities Council for the past year and proud of the many accomplishments of the Council. We have worked hard to educate legislators about the needs of individuals with disabilities, partnered with the Division of Services for People with Disabilities and other agencies and organizations to form and promote legislative priorities, and worked with self-advocates to help them find their own voice and communicate their needs to legislators, as well! The Council has also provided funding for a number of projects to promote the interests of individuals with disabilities and their families, including Disability Safety Training (to minimize abuse and neglect), developing an online Registry (HireMyCare.org) for caregivers to find qualified staff, promoting family-directed co-operatives (for those that have no government funding or need additional services), coordinating supports in the 4-corners area, developing a self-advocate leadership training, and promoting post-secondary educational opportunities.

Our Council staff, led by Claire Mantonya as Executive Director, has been a model for excellence to the rest of the nation. Claire is always finding new ways to bring people together to identify and solve big issues and encourage successful cooperation. Libby Oseguera, Administrative Assistant, is a skillful support to staff and to the Council. Frank Long, Contract Analyst, is a knowledgeable sounding board and keeps the finances in order. Troy Justesen, Director of Public Policy, has had vast public policy experience in Washington, DC and is a trusted advisor to the Council on legislative and other policy issues. We are fortunate to have such dedicated and talented people to support the Council.

The Council is a diverse group of people, but all of us have the focus of bettering the lives of individuals with disabilities and their families. It is exciting to see the achievements we have made toward the completion of our 5-Year Plan and to the disability system in Utah. Thank you to our wonderful, capable and generous Council members who help make this happen!

Deborah Bowman

EDUCATION

Post Public

Post public educational experiences for individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities is a rather new idea for many individuals and parents to consider. Historically formal education stopped for a person with a disability when they left the public school system. Now more than ever with the Utah law of "Employment First", individuals and families need to consider including personal goals of continuing education to increase employment skills that will lead to better careers.

The national movement, "Think College!" can be researched at the website: www.thinkcollege.net .

The Utah State Center for Persons with Disabilities Professor Robert Morgan is directing the second year of the long-term workgroup called the Utah Transition Action Team (UTAT). Quarterly meetings bring representatives from major Universities and Colleges, professional educators, Vocational Rehabilitation and parents together to focus upon eliminating barriers that people with intellectual and developmental disabilities might experience as they enroll in post-secondary education. In June, Council members attended the day long Summit focused upon barrier removal. Over 15 organizations representing the various constituencies are all now working together with the goal of enabling more young people to attend post-secondary education in Utah.

The Council has connected with Michelle Holbrook, a parent and teacher, from Lehi who is leading a group of parents to make their dream of developing the Curtis Center for Arts and Education in Lehi. The parents enlisted have support from the Lehi Mayor and City Council and they are moving forward with major fund raising to create and build this new school.

Council member, Reed Hahne from Orem, continues to be a pioneer and inspiration as a young person attending Utah Valley University with the employment goal of becoming a teacher's aide. Reed and his supportive parents, Karen and Bob, have been trail blazers in opening doors for future students.

Pictured: Reed Hahne

CHANGE AGENTS

Becoming Effective

Pictured: Park City People First Members

Approximately 1,130 Utahns personally impacted by disability were engaged with public policy issues this year! The Council supported 11 organizations in these efforts which in leveraged $6,163,000 for disability related programs and supports.

Direct involvement of 130 regularly active People First members (individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities) and members of the Grass-roots Advocacy Partnership (the GAP), Utah citizens engaged with their Legislators from all across the State of Utah.

GAP Regional Organizers helped facilitate many meetings with public policy officials and train individuals and families on topics such as guardianship, dual diagnosis, emergency preparedness, and how to use Franklin Covey's "Habits of Highly Effective People" to their best advantage.

ABOUT

The Council

2012-2013 Council Members

Adina Zahradnikova	Ginny Rouse	Nels Holmgren
Bryce Fifield, PhD.	James McFadden	Nevah Stevenson
Cheryl Hansen	James O'Neill	Paul Smith
Christine Timothy	Jane Tuttle	Reed Hahne
Clarissa Crisp	Jeanie Pettit	Richard Harward
Deborah Bowman	Jennie Gibson	Tom Brownlee
Donald Holt	Jennifer Kuhn	Tonya Hales
Don Uchida	Kayci Lynam	Tracy Johnson
Dustin Erekson	Kelie Babcock	Rep. Paul Ray
Eder Soriano	Kristen Hone	Sen. Patricia Jones
Elsie Dee	Lenny Jones	
Eric Stoker	Lisa Breitenstein	

EMPLOYMENT

In July, the Council sponsored two trainings focused on the benefits of self-employment for people with significant disabilities. David Taylor, Jr., known as Racecar Waterboy, and his mother Judy developed his successful water and ice selling business at the NASCAR races in North Carolina. David's passion for NASCAR and the development of his successful business, allowed him to buy his own home, travel all over the country, and share his knowledge of how to start your own business if you have a disability. David is best friends with all the NASCAR drivers making him the envy of many people!

Jennifer Kuhn, Chair of the Council's Employment / Education Committee, was recognized by the Utah Business Magazine as one of "Utah's 30 Women to Watch." Jennifer was selected as a result of her start-up business supporting people with disabilities to get and keep jobs. Jennifer attributes the knowledge she gained through service on the Council as being integral to her own personal business success!

Pictured: Jennifer Kuhn

LEADERSHIP

Development

Pictured: Claire Mantonya and acting Commissioner Aaron Bishop of the AIDD.

This year marked the first full year of two national disability organizations being led by elected presidents from Utah! Bryon Murray of Roosevelt (past Council Chair) is the current President of the Board for Self-Advocates Becoming Empowered (SABE). The Council's Executive Director, Claire Mantonya, is the President of the National Association of Councils on Developmental Disabilities (NACDD).

President Murray held SABE's quarterly Board meeting in Salt Lake in July and President Mantonya held the National Executive
Director's annual meeting in Midway, UT.

The Next Step Leadership contract with Utah State University developed an adapted leadership curriculum and held a ten-week initial class training for five individuals. Attendees identified a plan to utilize their new skills within community organizations of their choice. New trainers are preparing to share their skills more broadly with the disability community.

The Empowerment Fund scholarship sent an adult sibling, Eric Mitchell, to the National Sibling Leadership Network Conference in Pittsburgh in June. Eric leads a small planning group of adult sibs who are organizing a Utah Sibling Leadership Network. This network will provide information, connection, and resources to many Utah siblings who likely will be the longest lasting family relationship for their sib with a disability!

Pictured: SABE President Bryon Murray

COMMUNITY

Resources

In an ongoing effort to reach out and serve rural and underserved populations, the Council contracted with Mike Green, an Asset-Based Community Development (ABCD) facilitator from Denver, to use this ABCD process with members of the Navajo Nation. In October 2012 the Council sponsored an initial workshop at the Aneth Chapter House. Professionals from the Navajo Tribe's disability services (i.e., Native American Disability Law Center, Vocational Rehabilitation) as well as local professionals from San Juan County and community members came together to learn and discuss options possible. The group joined forces with the Navajo Episcopal Mission in Bluff. A community garden was started and Council staff obtained donations to provide raised garden beds to help with accessibility issues. Council member Elsie Dee, took the lead on this project. She attended a national ABCD training in Chicago conducted by 80+ year old professor John McKnight, originator of the ABCD process.

Pictured: Myron Jones with raised garden box in Bluff, UT

Access Utah, an 18 year old Disability Information and Referral 800 number and website transitioned into United Way's I & R (2-1-1) that serves all human services issues. Longtime staff member, Mark Smith, transferred to 2-1-1 to ensure a successful passage of information prior to his retirement in February 2013. Mark continues to volunteer weekly at 2-1-1 after retirement.

St. Christopher's Episcopal Mission Grounds

COMMUNITY

Resources

The Legislature voted to change state law to enable the Division of Services for People with Disabilities to permit 15% of new monies to go to families on the Waiting List for Respite services to be brought into services as a preventative measure. The Grassroots Advocacy Partnership (GAP) work helped educate legislators about the needs of families and the benefits of supporting families before their situation becomes an expensive crisis.

The Utah Caregivers Alliance (UCA) $50,000 annual contract with the Council develops cooperatives and a respite registry that enables people seeking care to connect with people willing to work as caregivers. We proudly announce that the new registry is up and working: www.hiremycare.com. In addition the UCA is working with operating coops to help more families see how to spread their own sweat equity and meet some needs without public dollars. The UCA helped the Utah Coalition of Caregiver Support get federal Lifespan Respite money for 36 families in desperate need of respite around the entire state!

The joint 5-year safety project focused on issues of abuse and neglect. Funded by the Council, with support from Utah State's Center for Persons with Disabilities and the Disability Law Center, 200 people with developmental disabilities were trained about safety issues and Self-Advocates were the lead trainers!

Council Vision

A world where all people have what they need to get what they want from life.