

#### **NOTICE/AGENDA**

### STATE COUNCIL ON DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES LEGISLATIVE AND PUBLIC POLICY COMMITTEE MEETING

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This meeting is being held via teleconference within the meaning of Government Code Section 11123.2. Members may be physically present at one or more teleconference locations. There may be members of the public body who are participating in today's meeting that were granted a reasonable accommodation per the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). Accessible formats of all agenda and materials can be found online at <a href="https://www.scdd.ca.gov">www.scdd.ca.gov</a>

TELECONFERENCE LOCATION: JOIN BY TELECONFERENCE:

SCDD HQ OFFICE Call-In Number: (888) 475-4499

North Freeway Blvd., #125 Meeting ID: 961 0387 0208

Sacramento, CA 95834

JOIN VIA ZOOM: <u>2024.LPPC.MEETING</u>

MEETING ID: 961 0387 0208

PASSWORD: 160244

**DATE:** March 14, 2024

**TIME:** 10:30 AM – 3:00 PM

COMMITTEE CHAIR: Harold Ashe

Item 1. CALL TO ORDER

Item 2. ESTABLISH QUORUM

Item 3. WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS

Item 4.	PUBLIC COMMENTS  This item is for members of the public to provide comments and/or present information to this body on matters not listed on the agenda. There will be up to 20 minutes allocated to hear from the public with each person allotted up to 3 minutes to comment.	Page 5
	Additionally, there will be up to 10 minutes allocated to hear from the public on each Council agenda item, with each person allotted up to 1 minute to comment.	
Item 5.	APPROVAL OF JANUARY 2024 MINUTES VMTE	Page 7
Item 6.	OVERVIEW OF LEGISLATIVE AND BUDGET PROCESS FOR MARCH THROUGH JUNE  Bridget Kolakosky, Deputy Director	Page 13
Item 7.	STATE LEGISLATIVE AND BUDGET UPDATES  Bridget Kolakosky, Deputy Director  a. Update on Legislative Priorities (Health, Home, Work)  b. 2024 Bill Introduction  Sponsor/Co-Sponsor: SB 37 (Housing)  Support:  Civil Rights: ACR-150; SB 1001  Education: AB 447; SB 483; AB 1885; AB 1938; AB 2821  Housing: SB 1443  Human Service: AB 2753; AB 2423; AB 1876  Health: AB 1977; AB 2510; AB 2043  Public Safety: AB 2002; AB 2289; SB 1285  Federal Act: House of Representatives H.R. 6405  c. Budget Update	Page 17
Item 8.	UPDATES AND STANDING AGENDA ITEMS  a. Council Updates  b. DDS Taskforce and Workgroup Updates  c. Self-Determination Program  d. CalABLE	Page 57
Item 9.	MEMBER UPDATES  All	Page 59
Item 10.	2024 MEETINGS AND ADJOURNMENT  June 25th and October 15th	

#### **Accessibility:**

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March 14, 2024

### AGENDA ITEM 4. INFORMATIONAL ITEM

#### STATE COUNCIL ON DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES - LPPC

#### **Public Comment**

This item is for members of the public to provide comments and/or present information to this body on matters not listed on the agenda. There will be up to 20 minutes allocated to hear from the public with each person allotted up to 3 minutes to comment.

Additionally, there will be up to 10 minutes allocated to hear from the public on each Council agenda item, with each person allotted up to 1 minute to comment.

#### March 14, 2024

#### **AGENDA ITEM 5.**

#### **ACTION ITEM**

#### STATE COUNCIL ON DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES - LPPC

#### Approval of January 2024 Minutes

Members will review and approve the January 2024 meeting minutes.

#### **Action Recommended**

Approve the January 16, 2024, minutes.

#### Attachment(s)

January 2024 Meeting Minutes



## DRAFT Legislative and Public Policy Committee Meeting Minutes January 16, 2024

#### **Attending Members**

Harold Ashe (FA)
Julie Neward (FA)
Nicole Adler (SA)
Rosie Ryan (SA)
Wesley Witherspoon (SA)
Andy Imparato (DRC)

#### **Members Absent**

Viviana Barnwell

#### **Others Attending**

Aaron Carruthers
Beth Hurn
Bridget Kolakosky
Ken DaRosa
Lynn Villoria
Rachel Liebert Lewis
Robin Maitino-Erben
Veronica Bravo
Ibrahim Muttaqi
Christofer Arroyo
Brian Weisel
Erick Thurmond
Kim Rothschild

#### 1. CALL TO ORDER

Committee Chair Harold Ashe called the meeting to order at 10:33 AM. The committee chair designated committee member Wesley Witherspoon to act as Chair pro tempore for the remainder of the meeting.

#### 2. ESTABLISH QUORUM

A quorum was established.

#### 3. WELCOME/INTRODUCTIONS

Members and others in attendance introduced themselves.

#### 4. PUBLIC COMMENTS

Kim Rothschild, representing the Public Authorities for In-Home Supportive Services, expressed that she wanted the committee to be aware of bill AB 817 of the Brown Act.

#### 5. APPROVAL OF THE OCTOBER 2023 MEETING MINUTES

It was moved/seconded (Ryan [SA]/Witherspoon [SA]) and carried to adopt the October 26, 2023, meeting minutes as presented. (Motion passed unanimously. Julie Neward was not present for the vote. See page one for a record of members present)

### 6. PURPOSE OF LPPC AND OVERVIEW OF LEGISLATIVE AND BUDGET PROCESS FOR JANUARY THROUGH MARCH

Deputy Director Bridget Kolakosky provided members with an overview of the Committee's purpose and provided a presentation to inform committee members about upcoming budget and legislative activity. This presentation included an overview of the legislative process in California, focusing on the events taking place in January, February, and March. This included the legislators return to Sacramento, the introduction of bills that will be championed this year, and the bill introduction deadline. Deputy Director Kolakosky informed members that they will review proposed legislation at the March 2024 meeting and make recommendations to the Council. The committee also went over the budget process of January through March. A constitutional deadline on June 15th requires the legislature to agree on a budget, which is then sent to the Governor to sign. The Governor has proposed a budget without significant cuts, with delays in certain programs. The full presentation can be found at the following link: https://scdd.ca.gov/wpcontent/uploads/sites/33/2024/01/2024.Jan .Legislative-and-Budget-Process.LPPC .pptFINAL.pdf

#### 7. LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

Deputy Director of Policy and Public Affairs Bridget Kolakosky provided members with an update on activities related to the Council's 2024 legislative priorities. This included the Select Committee Hearing on Opportunities and Barriers for People with Disabilities in the Workplace. This meeting, which was held on December 5<sup>th</sup>, was focused on connecting more people with disabilities with meaningful employment. This is done by addressing the lack of workplace accommodations and meaningful outreach.

#### 8. 2024 LEGISLATIVE PRIORITY FOCUSED PRESENTATION

During the 2022 California state budget process, the California Dental Association, with support from the Council, advocated for a \$50 million grant program to improve the accessibility of dental offices/services.

Members were scheduled to hear an update on the grant from the California Dental Association, however this item was tabled due to the release of the Governor's proposed budget.

#### 9. UPDATES AND STANDING AGENDA ITEMS

Members were provided with an update on Council activities and links to review updates on the DDS Taskforce and CalABLE. Members were informed that the Statewide Self-Determination Advisory Committee (SSDAC) held a Town Hall meeting on December 18<sup>th</sup>, which focused on issues regarding Financial Management Service (FMS). DDS also hosted a community meeting to review updates to the Self-Determination Program on January 20<sup>th</sup>. More information will be provided at the next SSDAC meeting.

#### 10. MEMBER UPDATES

Councilmember Wesley Witherspoon brought up a National Bill which focused on loneliness, which is a prevalent problem in the I/DD community.

#### 11. FUTURE MEETINGS AND ADJOURNMENT

The committee will meet on March 14, 2024. The meeting adjourned at 11:54 PM.

#### March 14, 2024

### AGENDA ITEM 6. INFORMATIONAL ITEM

#### STATE COUNCIL ON DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES - LPPC

#### Overview of Legislative and Budget Process for March through June

Deputy Director Bridget Kolakosky will provide members with an overview of the legislative and budget process. This presentation will help inform the rest of the meeting.

#### Attachment(s)

Plain Language Legislative Process Diagram

#### Handout(s)

May be handouts the day of the meeting.

### Step #1 **Idea for New Law** Organizations and agencies ask for ideas from community



Step #2 **Need a Legislator** to Sponsor Bill



#### **Step # 3**

Bill Is introduced in Legislature with an AB/SB number (example AB 1234 or SB 1234)



**Step #4 Committee Process** 

Bill is assigned to committee based on topic. Committee can make changes to bill before voting on if they want

the bill to continue in the

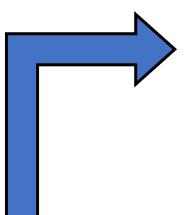
process.

**Last Step: Governor** Either Signs (says yes) or Vetoes Bill (says no) to the bill



Step #6 Steps 4 & 5 are repeated in the other House (Assembly / Senate)

Once a bill has passed both Houses, it moves to the last step.



**Step #5 After the** committees pass the bill, it goes to the **Senate or Assembly for** a full House Vote

#### **LEGISLATIVE PROCESS**

**Step #1**: **Idea**: someone has an idea to fix a problem.

**Step #2: Need a legislator** for the idea to become a bill and go through the legislative process.

**Step #3: Idea is assigned a number**. Now it can be called a "bill". The bill is introduced in the legislature. The number helps track the bill.

**Step #4: Committee Process:** The bill is assigned to a committee based on the topic of the bill. The committee votes to pass/fail the bill. Sometimes they make changes to the bill before voting whether it will pass to the next committee or not.

**Step#5:** After the committees pass the bill, it goes to the Senate or Assembly for a full House Vote.

**Step#6:** The bill goes to the opposite house for a committee and full House Vote. If the bill passes both houses it goes to the Governor for approval.

Last Step: Governor says yes or no to the bill. If he says yes, the bill becomes law.

#### March 14, 2024

### AGENDA ITEM 7. ACTION ITEM

#### STATE COUNCIL ON DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES - LPPC

#### State Legislative and Budget Updates

The goal of this agenda item is to go through the bills listed on the agenda and make recommendations on the bills identified under agenda item 7, B, 2. These recommendations will be brought to the Council at the March meeting. Members will be asked to take positions on up to 10 bills to allow bandwidth to co-sponsor one bill and potentially pursue several budget plays.

To assist in guiding this discussion, staff has included the Council-approved Policy Priorities and 2022-26 State Plan. Bills that are acted upon should reflect these documents.

#### **Attachments**

2024 Bill Chart Policy Priorities Presentation SCDD Policy Priorities SCDD 2022-2026 State Plan

#### Handout(s)

Could be additional handout(s) day of meeting.

### 2024 SCDD Legislation – Bill Support List

BILL # /TITLE	AUTHOR	WHAT DOES BILL DO?	CATEGORY	STATUS
ACR-150 Developmental Disabilities Month	Assemblymember Stephanie Nguyen	Creates awareness for I/DD in month of March	Civil Rights	Assembly Floor
SB 37 Older Adults and Adults with Disabilities Housing Stability Act	Senator Caballero	Provides cash assistance for elders/IDD that are homeless or at risk of homelessness.	Housing	Passed Senate – now in Assembly
SB 483 Prone Restraints	Senator Cortese	Prohibits prone restraints from being used on students	Education	Passed Senate – now in Assembly
AB 447 Public postsecondary education: students with disabilities: inclusive college programs	Assemblymember Arambula	creates inclusive college opportunities, creates pilot program in CSU/UC.	Education	Already Passed - awaiting approval of Budget only
SB 1384 Power Wheelchair Repair	Senator Dodd	Increases accessibility and affordability for wheelchair users, making it easier for consumers to maintain their devices and keep them in good working condition, by requiring manufacturers to provide information, tools, and replacement parts to an owner or repair provider	Human Services	Committees Business Professions & Economic Development & Judiciary
SB 1443 Interagency Council on Homelessness ICH	Senator Jones	Adds SCDD to ICH so that I/DD community is included in any conversations relating to housing and homelessness	Housing	Committees Human Services and Housing

BILL # /TITLE	AUTHOR	WHAT DOES BILL DO?	CATEGORY	STATUS
SB 1001 Death Penalty: persons with I/DD	Senator Skinner	protect individuals with an intellectual disability from the death penalty. The bill takes legal cases and puts them in statute (also known as "codifies" by specifying that individuals with an intellectual disability cannot receive the death penalty.	Civil Rights	Committee Public Safety
AB 1977 Health care coverage: behavioral diagnoses	Assemblymember Ta	does not allow a healthcare plan to require a person who is already diagnosed with developmental disorder or autism to be re-evaluated to maintain healthcare coverage for their condition.  Why this is important: these conditions are for life, they do not change or go away, getting re-tested just creates a risk of losing this important healthcare insurance.	Health	Committee Health
AB 2510 Health care coverage: behavioral diagnoses	Assemblymember Arambula	requires DDS to create a new program in the regional centers to improve dental care services to people with developmental and intellectual disabilities. These new programs also must reduce the need for regional center consumers to receive dental treatment using sedation and general anesthesia.	Health	Committees on Human Services and Higher Education

BILL # /TITLE	AUTHOR	WHAT DOES BILL DO?	CATEGORY	STATUS
AB 1885 Student Success Completion Grant program	Assemblymember Addis	requires community colleges to award \$1,298 per semester to students who enroll in 9 units, who are considered full-time (at 9 units instead of 12 units) as part of a disabled student programs Academic Accommodation Plan	Education	Committee Higher Education
AB 1938 Special education: inclusive practices and strategies	Assemblymember Gallagher	requires inclusive practices and strategies for children who are deaf, hard of hearing, blind, visually impaired, or deaf-blind	Education	Committee Education
AB 2821 Postsecondary education: students with disabilities	Assemblymember Grayson	a) will add/require the gathering of program costs and budget breakdowns to the systems (already in place) for evaluating state funded programs for students with disabilities b) makes a change to instead require the governing boards of community colleges districts to carry out the evaluation c) Also creates a Disability Access and Compliance Training Program for personnel	Education	Committee on Higher Education
AB 2753 Rehabilitative and habilitative services: durable medical equipment and services	Assemblymember Ortega	requires health plans to include coverage of durable medical equipment, services, and repair.	Human Services	Committee on Health

BILL # /TITLE	AUTHOR	WHAT DOES BILL DO?	CATEGORY	STATUS
AB 2423 Developmental services: regional centers: rates	Assemblymember Mathis	would require annual review of rates to assess whether the rates are sufficient to adequately provide transportation services to regional center consumers.	Human Services	Committee Human Services
AB 1876 Developmental services: individual program plans and individual family service plans: remote meetings	Assemblymember Jackson	indefinitely extends the requirements that, if requested, individual program plan (IPP) and individualized family service plan (IFSP) meetings be held remotely.	Education	Committees Human Services and Judiciary
AB 2043 Medi-Cal: nonmedical and nonemergency medical transportation	Assemblymember Boerner	requires the Department of Health Care Services to require Medi-Cal managed care plans to contract with public paratransit service operators who are enrolled Medi-Cal providers, for the purpose of establishing reimbursement rates for transportation trips provided by a public paratransit service operator	Transportation- Human Services	Committee Health
AB 2002 Vehicles: public safety: Blue Envelope Program	Assemblymember Sanchez	if person chooses, may add information in the "envelope" pertaining to the individual's needs or requested accommodations. Purpose of bill is to help promote communication and accommodation between law enforcement and community members	Public Safety	Committee on Transportation

BILL # /TITLE	AUTHOR	WHAT DOES BILL DO?	CATEGORY	STATUS
SB 1285 Driver's licenses: disability identifier	Senator Laird	allows a person to voluntarily disclose they have a disability on application forms for a driver's license or identification card.	Public Safety	Committee Transportation
AB 2289 Vehicles: parking placards for disabled veterans and persons with disabilities	Assemblymember Low	would add "licensed physical therapist" to list of people that can certify a disability - for DMV to issue disabled parking placards	Public Safety	Committees Transportation & Military & Veteran Affairs
H.R. 6405 Marriage Equality for Disabled Adults Act	Congressman Panetta	The Act will increase the federal asset limit for persons with disabilities from \$2,000 to \$10,000. For couples, the limit would be raised to \$20,000. So people do not have to choose between getting married or keeping benefits.	Human Services	Subcommittee on Health

# 2024 Legislative and Policy Priorities

Bridget Kolakosky, Deputy Director of Policy and Public Affairs



## 2024 Policy Priorities Review

This year we are focused on issues that came up in 2021, 2022 and 2023

- Health
- Home
- Work



# 2023 Bills Continuing in 2024 Quick Review

#### 2 Year Bills:

- 1. SB 37 (Caballero) Older Adults and Adults with Disabilities Housing Stability Act
  - Passed Senate House and now in Assembly
- 2. SB 483 (Cortese) Pupil rights: prone restraint
  - Passed Senate House and now in Assembly
- 3. AB 222 (Arambula) Civil Rights Dept Californians with disabilities workgroup
  - Failed on 1/31/2024

## 2023 Bills Returning in 2024

### SB 1384 (Dodd) Power Wheelchair Repair

was SB 271 in 2023

passed both houses in 2023 but Vetoed by Governor

What the bill does: This bill would increase accessibility and affordability for wheelchair users, making it easier for consumers to maintain their devices and keep them in good working condition, by requiring manufacturers to provide information, tools, and replacement parts to an owner or repair provider

## 2023 Bills Returning in 2024 - Continued

SB 1443 (Jones) CA Interagency Council on Homelessness ICH

Was SB 246 (Ochoa-Bogh) in 2023

What the bill does: adds SCDD to ICH

## 2023 Bill Seeking Budget in 2024

AB 447 (Arambula) Public postsecondary education: students with disabilities: inclusive college programs

Passed in 2023

 Governor Newsom has included \$ 2 million in funding in his Proposed K-12 Budget Summary for technical assistance centers to assist student with developmental and intellectual disabilities transition to college.

# 2024 Bill Recommendations Civil Rights #1

Bill: ACR 150 (Stephanie Nguyen) Developmental Disabilities Month - March

# 2024 Bill Recommendations Civil Rights #3

Bill: SB 1001 (Skinner) Death penalty: intellectually disabled persons

What does bill do: This bill would protect individuals with an intellectual disability from the death penalty. The bill takes legal cases and puts them in statute (also known as "codifies" by specifying that individuals with an intellectual disability cannot receive the death penalty.

# 2024 Bill Recommendations Health #1

Bill: AB 1977 (Ta) Health care coverage: behavioral diagnoses

What will bill do: does not allow a healthcare plan to require a person who is already diagnosed with developmental disorder or autism to be re-evaluated o to maintain healthcare coverage for their condition.

Why this is important: these conditions are for life, they do not change or go away, getting re-tested just creates a risk of losing this important healthcare insurance.

# 2024 Bill Recommendations Health #2

Bill: AB 2510 (Arambula) Dental care for people with developmental disabilities

What the bill will do: requires DDS to create a new program in the regional centers to improve dental care services to people with developmental and intellectual disabilities. These new programs also must reduce the need for regional center consumers to receive dental treatment using sedation and general anesthesia.

# 2024 Bill Recommendations Education #1

Bill: AB 1885 (Addis) Student Success Completion Grant program

What does bill do: require community colleges to award \$1,298 per semester to students who enroll in 9 units, who are considered full-time (at 9 units instead of 12 units) as part of a disabled student programs Academic Accommodation Plan.

# 2024 Bill Recommendations Education #2

Bill: AB 1938 (Gallagher) Special education: inclusive practices and strategies

**What does bill do**: requires inclusive practices and strategies for children who are deaf, hard of hearing, blind, visually impaired, or deaf-blind.

## 2024 Bill Recommendations Education #3

**Bill:** AB 1914 (Grayson) Community colleges: providers of care for individuals with developmental disabilities: model curriculum

What does bill do: Develop a school plan for providers of care to persons with I/DD. This will help improve skill and knowledge for individuals who provide care for individuals with developmental disabilities.

Position Recommended: LPPC Discussion - "Watch" for now

# 2024 Bill Recommendations Education #4

Bill: AB 2821 (Grayson) Postsecondary education: students with disabilities

What does bill do: a) will add/require the gathering of program costs and budget breakdowns to the systems (already in place) for evaluating state funded programs for students with disabilities b) makes a change to instead require the governing boards of community colleges districts to carry out the evaluation c) Also creates a Disability Access and Compliance Training Program for personnel

**Position Recommended**: Support

# 2024 Bill Recommendations Human Services #1

**Bill**: AB 2753 (Ortega) Rehabilitative and habilitative services: durable medical equipment and services

What will it do: requires health plans to include coverage of durable medical equipment, services and repair.

**Position Recommended**: Support

## 2024 Bill Recommendations-Human Services #2 (Transportation)

Bill: AB 2423 (Mathis) Developmental services: regional centers: rates

What the bill will do: would review annual review of rates to assess whether the rates are sufficient to adequately provide transportation services to regional center consumers.

Position Recommended: Support

\*This was a recommendation in the 2023 SB 639 Multi-year Phase Out Plan

# 2024 Bill Recommendations Human Services #3

**Bill:** AB 1876 (Jackson) Developmental services: individual program plans and individual family service plans: remote meetings

**What will it do**: indefinitely extends the requirements that, if requested, individual program plan (IPP) and individualized family service plan (IFSP) meetings be held remotely.

Position Recommended: Support

\*DRC Sponsored

# 2024 Bill Recommendations Human Services #4

**Bill**: AB 1281 (Menjivar) Advancing Equity and Access in the Self-Determination Program Act

What the bill will do: requires a statewide standardized processes and procedures for the Self-Determination Program by January 2026.

Position Recommended: Watch for now-Subject Matter Experts are in process of reviewing

# 2024 Bill Recommendations Transportation (Health)

**Bill**: AB 2043 (Boerner) Medi-Cal: nonmedical and nonemergency medical transportation

What the bill will do: requires the Department of Health Care Services to require Medi-Cal managed care plans to contract with public paratransit service operators who are enrolled Medi-Cal providers, for the purpose of establishing reimbursement rates for transportation trips provided by a public paratransit service operator

Position Recommended: Support

# 2024 Bill Recommendations Public Safety (DMV) #1

Bill: AB 2002 (Sanchez) Vehicles: public safety: Blue Envelope Program

What the bill will do: if persons chooses, may add information in the "envelope" pertaining to the individual's needs or requested accommodations. Purpose of bill is to help promote communication and accommodation between law enforcement and community members.

Position Recommended: LPPC Discussion

# 2024 Bill Recommendations Public Safety (DMV) #2

**Bill**: AB 2289 (Low) Vehicles: parking placards for disabled veterans and persons with disabilities

What the bill will do: would add "licensed physical therapist" to list of people that can certify a disability - for DMV to issue disabled parking placards.

Position Recommended: LPPC Discussion



# 2024 Bill Recommendations Public Safety (DMV) #3

Bill: SB 1285 (Laird) Driver's licenses: disability identifier

What the bill will do: allows a person to voluntarily disclose they have a disability on application forms for a driver's license or identification card.

Position Recommended: LPPC Discussion

### Federal Bill H.R. 6404

House of Representatives: H.R.6405 (Rep. Panetta D-CA- 20) Marriage Equality for Disabled Adults Act - addresses a long-standing issue faced by persons with disabilities concerning marriage equality

**Currently:** The SSI program penalizes individuals with disabilities enrolled in the program if they exceed having just \$2,000 in a bank account. That is the maximum amount a person can have in the bank before the federal government rules that they are no longer eligible for SSI. **People have to chose between getting married or keeping benefits.** 

**Act will:** increases the federal asset limit for persons with disabilities from \$2,000 to \$10,000. For couples, the limit would be raised to \$20,000.

**Status:** Introduced - 12/08/2023.

01/14/2022 - Referred to the Subcommittee on Health.

## **Employment First Office Update**

- The Health and Human Services Agency is focusing on doing the internal work to create the new office. They expect to begin hiring for the staff when the Office is due to be officially established, which is July 2024.
- In the meantime, SCDD has offered to provide resources and recommendations on how best to create the office.
- Also, DDS and HHS have established a Master Plan, we hope to ensure that the details and priorities of the Master Plan include the new Office

### Next Steps – Vote



Entertain a motion to recommend that the Council adopt LPPC's recommendation to watch 2 bills and support 16 bills (plus 1-2 DMV bills) and 1 Federal Act. The legislative package would include supporting: ACR 150, SB 37, SB 483, AB 447, SB 1384, SB 1443, SB 1001, AB 1977, AB 2510, AB 1885, AB 1938, AB 2821, AB 2753, AB 2423, AB 1876, AB 2043.

### THANK YOU!





### CALIFORNIA STATE COUNCIL ON DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES



#### **Policy Priorities 2023-24**

#### PROTECTING AND ENHANCING CIVIL RIGHTS

Every person with intellectual and developmental disabilities (I/DD) has the right to self-determination, equality of opportunity, full participation, independent living and economic self-sufficiency no matter their disability.

The Council will work to ensure civil rights, including identification and reduction of racial and ethnic inequalities and disparities, are protected and enhanced and full implementation of state/federal policies including but not limited to the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act, Home and Community-Based Services Settings Rule, Every Student Succeeds Act and Achieving Better Life Experience Act.

#### **GUARANTEEING ACCESS TO EDUCATION AND EMPLOYMENT**

Every student with I/DD has the right to a quality inclusive education with their peers that prepares them for post-secondary education and/or competitive integrated employment (CIE). Students with disabilities must be provided the same opportunities for learning, in the classroom and online, as students without disabilities.

Every person with I/DD should have the opportunity to be employed in CIE. Individuals must have access to information, benefits counseling, transition planning, job training, career exploration and information and support for inclusive post-secondary education. New or expanded pathways to CIE must be developed and supported, including apprenticeships and internships.

The Council will work to ensure the implementation of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act, Every Student Succeeds Act and other federal and state policies to ensure that students with disabilities are provided the services and supports needed to receive quality inclusive education.

The Council will work to ensure the full and robust implementation of the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act and California's Employment First Law, that policies and practices improve opportunities for and incentivize CIE, to create hiring incentives and supports for all employers and contractors and make the state a model employer.

#### **IDENTIFYING & PRIORITIZING EMERGING ISSUES IN THE I/DD COMMUNITY**

Every person with a developmental disability should not have to deal with problems of that arise due to the emergence of inequality issues in the community. Events in our every day lives, both due to policy changes and unforeseen events, have the ability to cause unintended consequences for the I/DD community. These issues must be identified and acted upon swiftly to ensure as little harm as possible is inflicted.

The Council will work to ensure any and all emerging issues including but not limited to dealing with disparity across all I/DD issues, barriers to participating in a community setting, and roadblocks to access for people with I/DD are dealt with through policy changes. The Council will work to ensure the Self Determination Ombudsperson program at the Department of Developmental Services uses its authority to ensure people with I/DD become successful participants in the Self Determination Program.

#### PROMOTING ACCESS TO QUALITY SUPPORTS IN THE COMMUNITY

Every person with I/DD should have the ability to fully participate in their communities. Receiving quality, individualized services is the cornerstone for people with I/DD to be safe, healthy and to promote self-determination, interdependence and inclusion. Community-based services/supports require adequate wages for providers; therefore, the state must restore rates. Disparities in access, outcomes and quality for services and supports must be addressed. Complexities in the service delivery systems must be reduced.

The Council will work to continue to restore the Department of Developmental Services programs cut in 2009, to make meaningful improvements to the service delivery system to reduce disparities, increase transparency and accountability and increase quality outcomes, support efforts to provide adequate wages to providers for inclusive and quality supports, and work to ensure successful implementation of the Self-Determination Program.

#### **ENSURING SAFETY IN THE COMMUNITY**

Every person with I/DD has a right to be safe and must be provided emergency preparedness training and training in personal safety. Law enforcement personnel, first responders, emergency medical professionals and the judicial system must be trained in how to work with people with I/DD (including those who are suspects, victims or witnesses of crimes) during the course of their duties.

The Council will work to ensure people with I/DD are safe, free from abuse and neglect and have access to services and supports in their communities during all types of disasters or emergencies and an adequate safety net for people in crisis and access to adequate crisis intervention services.

#### IMPROVING HOUSING AND COMMUNITY LIVING

Every person with I/DD should have the opportunity to live in the community. Permanent, affordable, accessible, safe and sustained housing options must be continually developed. Statewide inclusive living options for individuals with I/DD must be increased and enhanced through access to housing and subsidies that are paired in a timely manner with needed services and supports.

The Council will work to implement the policy recommendations in the Statewide Strategic Framework for Housing and create a dedicated housing fund to support integrated community housing for people with I/DD.

#### **Revised 2022-26 State Plan**

#### **Goal 1: Self-Advocacy**

By 2026, the Council will maintain and/or increase the number of people with intellectual/developmental disabilities to become strong self-advocates, peer trainers and community leaders.

#### **Objectives**

The Council will provide information and resources through 250 regional/statewide self-advocacy chats, 40 regional/statewide projects/events and 125 trainings to strengthen 12,000 self-advocates in:

- 1) Achieving self-governance with supports, as requested;
- 2) Identifying and asking for the supports and services that they need;
- **3)** Becoming and serving as peer trainers;
- **4)** Developing skills and opportunities to engage as strong activists for issues that are important to them and their families; and,
- **5)** Participating in culturally diverse, cross-disability coalitions.
- The Council will collaborate with and/or support self-advocates in peer networks, including culturally diverse, cross-disability coalitions, by providing facilitation, tangible supports and peer advocacy/leadership opportunities through at least 1 statewide and 12 regional self-advocacy entities, reaching 6,000 self-advocates.
- In the event of unforeseen project opportunities, emerging needs, and/or community, cross-regional or statewide requests, the Council may engage in additional activities with and/or on behalf of self-advocates and those who support and serve them.

#### **Goal 2: Systems Change/Advocacy**

By 2026, the Council will lead in partnership with family/self-advocates and others to protect and enhance civil rights to improve community-based systems and be more fully inclusive and supportive of people with intellectual/developmental disabilities and their families.

Objectives	
2.1	The Council will monitor and collaborate with local, regional and/or statewide entities to develop, improve and/or change 75 practices, 60 policies, and 15 regulations (or guidance), statutes and/or laws in the systems of regional centers, community-based services, and governmental entities. This work will include the areas of employment, education, housing, health/safety and/or emerging issues in ways that will benefit people with intellectual/developmental disabilities and protect their civil rights, promote full inclusion, and/or provide additional supports and services, improving their lives in tangible ways.
2.2	<ul> <li>The Council will engage in 40 regional and 5 statewide innovative/special projects and/or events in the areas of employment, education, housing, health/safety and/or self-determination to:</li> <li>1) Support 30,000 people (family/self-advocates and others) in systems change efforts and give them information, skills and/or supports to increase their abilities to become effective advocates;</li> <li>2) Engage in professional training and/or other efforts to implement systems, demonstrate or support systems change; and/or,</li> <li>3) Increase services and/or improve supports for people with intellectual/developmental disabilities and their families.</li> </ul>
2.3	The Council, in collaboration with California's four (4) partners (one Protection and Advocacy agency and three University Centers for Excellence in Developmental Disabilities), will seek to improve the generic service system that impacts people with intellectual/developmental disabilities by choosing one or more areas of emphasis in the State Plan, such as education, employment, housing, and/or health/safety, and report on how that system is serving people with I/DD, gaps in that service delivery system, recommendations on how to improve the systems to meet the goals of the DD Act, and/or pursue policy and practice changes in those areas. The collaboration will result in the review or development of 2 reports, 6 recommendations for policy or practice changes, and 2 Legislative or Administrative changes to policy or practice.

#### **Goal 3: Capacity-Building/Advocacy**

By 2026, the Council will increase partnerships with and support of more people with intellectual/developmental disabilities and their families, so they know their rights and can advocate for and receive supports and services.

Objectives	
3.1	The Council will increase the capacity of 70,000 people with assistance and resources to identify and obtain the supports and services to help people with intellectual/developmental disabilities live a safer and healthier life, by:
	1. Establishing and/or collaborating with and supporting 10 family-advocate groups/networks,
	2. Providing (staff-led, peer-led and/or collaborative) training to 45,000 people (family/self-advocates/others) throughout the state – virtually, online and/or in person, and
	3. Providing technical assistance (TA)/advocacy clinics, reaching 25,000 people.
3.2	The Council will engage in 100 projects and events in the areas of employment, education, housing, health/safety, and/or emerging issues, reaching 25,000 people (family/self-advocates/others) with information and resources to enhance their knowledge and increase their capacity to obtain supports and services that are important to them.
3.3	In order to reduce the disparities in obtaining a free, appropriate public education, the Council will work with 5,000 Spanish-speaking family/self-advocates throughout the state to advocate for and increase the number and type/quality of special education services they receive through their own local education agencies.

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#### March 14, 2024

#### AGENDA ITEM 8. Informational Item

#### STATE COUNCIL ON DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES - LPPC

#### **Updates and Standing Agenda Items**

The goal of this agenda item is for Committee members to provide updates on the following items and be updated on the actions of the Council.

Official agency updates on the DDS Taskforce and Workgroup, Self-Determination Program, CalABLE and the Master Plan on Developmental Services can be found by clicking the hyperlinks below.

- a. Council Meeting Summary
- b. DDS Taskforce and Workgroup (<u>Updates</u>)
- c. Self-Determination Program (Implementation Updates)
- d. CalABLE (Updates)
- e. Master Plan on Developmental Services (Information and Updates)

#### Attachment(s)

None.

#### Handout(s)

Could be additional handout(s) day of meeting.

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#### March 14, 2024

#### AGENDA ITEM 9. INFORMATIONAL ITEM

#### STATE COUNCIL ON DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES - LPPC

#### **Member Updates**

The goal of this agenda item is to allow Committee members time to provide local updates from their community on policy related issues not included in the agenda.

#### Attachment(s)

None.

#### Handout(s)

Could be additional handout(s) day of meeting.