

New Jersey Council on Developmental Disabilities 2007-11 Five Year Plan

PURPOSE

To apply its unique resources for culturally competent advocacy, capacity building, and systemic change activity to assure that individuals with developmental disabilities and their families are full participants in the design of and have access to needed community services, individual supports, and other forms of assistance that support self-determination, independence, productivity, integration and inclusion in all facets of community life.

VISION

All individuals with developmental disabilities are contributing members of their neighborhoods and communities; make real choices and have control over their own lives; have the freedom to strive, excel, and make mistakes; are in a position to achieve personal goals, are in a position to affect policy and process decisions that affect their lives; and have the same rights, privileges, responsibilities, and opportunities of citizenship as does any other New Jersey resident.

New Jersey Developmental Disabilities Council

**P.O. Box 700,
20 West State Street
Trenton, NJ 08625-0700**

**TEL (609) 292-3745
TDD (609) 777-3238
FAX (609) 292-7114**

**Chairperson : Maureen Babula
Vice-Chair: Lorraine D'Sylva Lee
Executive Director: Alison Lozano, Ph.D.**

What are Developmental Disabilities ?

Developmental Disability means a significant, chronic disability of an individual that...

(A) is attributable to a mental or physical impairment or combination of mental and physical impairments;

(B) is manifested before the individual attains age 22;

(C) is likely to continue indefinitely;

(D) results in substantial functional limitations in three or more of the following areas of major life activity

(i) self-care;

(ii) receptive and expressive language;

(iii) learning;

(iv) mobility;

(v) self-direction;

(vi) capacity for independent living; and

(vii) economic self-sufficiency; and

(E) reflects the individual's need for a combination and sequence of special, interdisciplinary, or generic services, individualized supports, or other forms of assistance that is of lifelong or extended duration and is individually planned and coordinated, except that such term, when applied to infants and young children means individuals from birth to age 9, inclusive, who have substantial developmental delay or specific congenital or acquired conditions with a high probability of resulting in developmental disabilities if services are not provided.

Overall Premise:

Services and needed supports which are generally available to all Individuals must be available to Individuals with developmental disabilities as well. Services and supports for Individuals with developmental disabilities must be developed and delivered in a manner which shows a sensitivity to the cultural beliefs and practices of the person receiving them. The relationship between education, work, housing and transportation on the overall independence, productivity and integration of Individuals with developmental disabilities cannot be underplayed, and must be reflected in the overall design of services and supports. Finally, the role of Individuals with developmental disabilities as self-advocates within the political process is a critical element of any overall approach to attaining integration, independence and productivity.

To reach its vision, the Council has selected the following outcomes and objectives for the five-year period from October, 2007 through September 2011.

EMPLOYMENT

Individuals with developmental disabilities are employed, have access to career-building activities and advancement, and participate in conventional networking groups and associations.

5 YEAR OBJECTIVES
1. Positive parental and professional expectations are supported and sustained within the employment, school and service systems such that Individuals with developmental disabilities receive up-to-date education and training for in-demand work skills, appropriate work-related social skills and active preparation for the world of work.
2. Non-traditional work options for Individuals with developmental disabilities are explored, tested and readily available
3. Individuals with developmental disabilities who are employed serve as mentors to others, possibly through paid internships with industry.
4. Individuals with developmental disabilities and their families have asset-building options throughout NJ.

EDUCATION

Children and youth with developmental disabilities access educational supports, programs and services that promote inclusion and independence throughout the life span.

5 YEAR OBJECTIVES
5. Children and students with developmental disabilities receive a free and appropriate public education in the least restrictive environment.
6. Individual planning for students with developmental disabilities is person-centered
7. Positive parental and professional expectations are supported and sustained within the school and service systems such that students with developmental disabilities receive up-to-date education and training for in-demand work skills, appropriate social skills and active preparation for integration and independence.

HOUSING

A. In New Jersey Individuals with developmental disabilities are active participants in choosing from and arranging for adequate affordable, appropriate and accessible housing.

5 YEAR OBJECTIVES
8. public housing funds and development credits are of sufficient quantity and directed such that Individuals with developmental disabilities can live independently or in supportive housing
9. the housing industry collaborates with individuals with developmental disabilities and their families in developing a long-range housing strategy
10. existing construction codes and regulations regarding accessible construction are enforced
11. new construction in NJ meets universal design features, insuring accessibility
12. innovative work arrangements and benefits that reduce turnover of Direct Support Professionals are in place

B. Individuals with developmental disabilities and/or their families can make decisions and exercise choice about services and supports that are person-centered.

5 YEAR OBJECTIVES
13. individuals and families are aware of a variety of strategies to ensure appropriate housing is in place for the individual
14. Individuals with developmental disabilities and their families have asset-building options throughout NJ.

HEALTH

A. Individuals with developmental disabilities receive appropriate and accessible health care services.

5 YEAR OBJECTIVES
15. Individuals with developmental disabilities have access to health care coverage
16. Individuals with developmental disabilities are knowledgeable about their disability and health care needs..
17. The health care community is aware of and responsive to the primary care and specialized needs of Individuals with developmental disabilities.
18. P/w/dd have opportunities to receive medical and dental care in accessible settings from a broad spectrum of providers and specialists.
19. Individuals with dual diagnosis of developmental disability and mental illness have access to behavioral health services
20. Children with developmental disabilities have access to comprehensive health care and services.
21. Individuals with disabilities have access to health promotion and wellness programs and are active participants in them.

TRANSPORTATION

A. Transportation in NJ is fully accessible and adequate.

5 YEAR OBJECTIVES
22. Individuals with developmental disabilities and their families collaborate with NJ CAM and other existing transportation work groups throughout NJ on the United We Ride agenda
23. Where transportation is unavailable or inadequate for Individuals with developmental disabilities, feeder and local transportation businesses are initiated, tested and supported.
24. Collaboration exists between DDD, DDS, CDD, P&A and others in data collection on transportation need, availability, and advocacy efforts
25. Individuals with developmental disabilities are appointed to the NJ-CCAM and United We Ride County Advisory Groups

QUALITY ASSURANCE

A. Individuals with developmental disabilities and/or their families can make decisions and exercise choice about services and supports.

5 YEAR OBJECTIVES
26. Individuals with developmental disabilities, their families and/or their natural supports have the authority to direct and control their services and supports.
27. Individual planning for Individuals with developmental disabilities is person-centered

B. Individuals with developmental disabilities are self-advocates and engage in leadership and civic activities.

5 YEAR OBJECTIVES
36. Individuals with developmental disabilities are part of policy-making and citizenship activities, and participate in community groups and associations
40. PIP projects incorporate leadership experiences and practice
41. Individuals with developmental disabilities are provided the opportunity to attend leadership training workshops.
42. A self advocacy leadership training and preparation effort is in place.
43. Individuals with developmental disabilities and their families are active and informed participants in the electoral process.

COMMUNITY SUPPORTS

A. Individuals with developmental disabilities and/or their families can make decisions and exercise choice about services and supports that are person-centered.

5 YEAR OBJECTIVES	
28.	Individuals with developmental disabilities in New Jersey who receive services exercise self-direction and personal choice with resources following the individual
29.	the NJ state budget reflects commitment to self-direction, supports and resources following the individual
30.	delivery systems provide supports and services consistent with self-direction and personal choice
31.	tools, strategies and opportunities for services and supports based on self-direction and personal choice are in place
32.	future planning for system and consumer needs is based on analysis of data
33.	Individual planning for Individuals with developmental disabilities is person-centered
34.	Individuals with developmental disabilities, their families and/or their natural supports have the authority to direct and control their services and supports.
35.	innovative work arrangements and benefits that reduce turnover of Direct Support Professionals are in place
44.	Individuals with developmental disabilities are active members of civic and public organizations.
45.	Youth with developmental disabilities join and participate in clubs, associations, and recreational activities
46.	Individuals with developmental disabilities have the opportunity to participate in council-sponsored organizing and coalition-building activities

<u>changes per ADD</u>	
36.	<i>moved to Quality Assurance</i>
37.	<i>discontinued – covered in QA</i>
38.	<i>discontinued – covered in 44</i>
39.	<i>discontinued – covered in 45</i>
40.	<i>moved to Quality Assurance</i>
41.	<i>moved to Quality Assurance</i>
42.	<i>moved to Quality Assurance</i>
43.	<i>moved to Quality Assurance</i>

B. Individuals with developmental disabilities and their families receive supports and services as needed throughout their life span.

5 YEAR OBJECTIVES
47. People with developmental disabilities access educational supports, programs and services that promote inclusion and independence throughout the life span.
48. Throughout NJ, a collaborative method for delivering services and supports for aging care givers and aging family members with developmental disabilities, is in place.
49. Individuals with developmental disabilities who have retired from the world of work receive appropriate assistance for post-employment living.

CROSS-CUTTING

A. There is heightened public awareness that Individuals with developmental disabilities are living as integral and contributing members of our communities.

5 YEAR OBJECTIVES
50. the general public is aware of and educated about the value of and increasing demand for accessible housing
51. Having and making choice is modeled for Individuals with developmental disabilities and their families in the mainstream and specialized media.
52. Mainstream media regularly present realistic yet positive images and stories about Individuals with developmental disabilities who are full members of the community.

B. Individuals are supported in effectively participating as Council Members

5 YEAR OBJECTIVES
53. Orientation, training, accommodations and support for Council members is provided as needed