# Arizona Achieve

Self-Advocacy and Leadership









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#### Meet the Team



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Project Assistant



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# WhatIs

## Arizona Achieve?



### Project Purpose

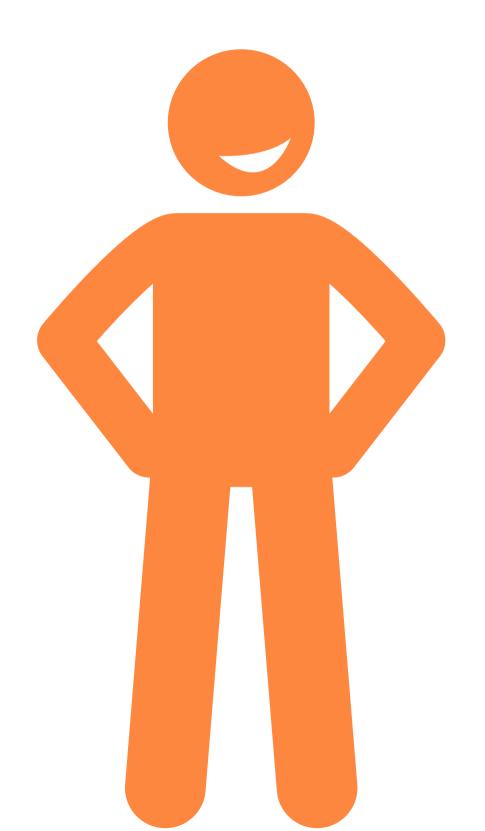
To establish and grow a statewide coalition of self-advocates who work together and learn leadership development, speaking skills, peer-to-peer mentoring, partnership with local self-advocacy groups around the state, and participation with community groups.

#### What is Arizona Achieve?

Systems-Advocacy Group-Advocacy Peer-Advocacy Self-Advocacy

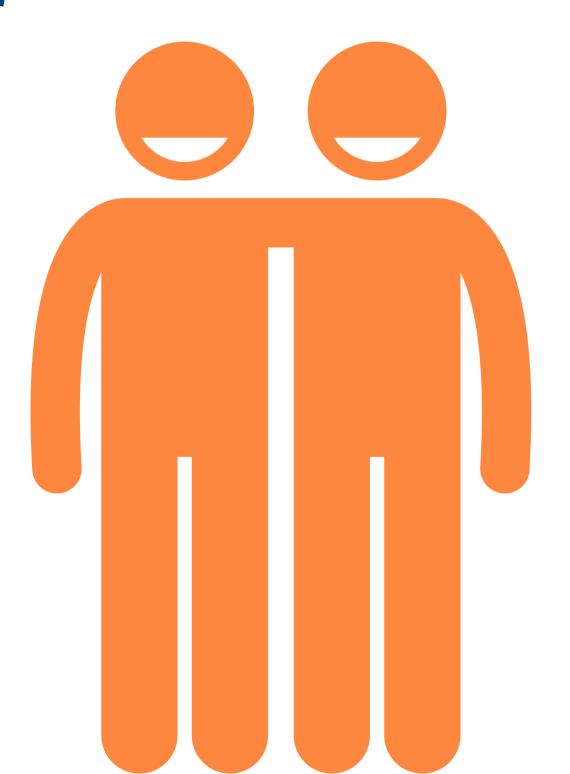
## Self-Advocacy

- Speaking up for one's needs, preferences, and rights
- Restores individual agency



## Peer-Advocacy

- Supporting others in advocating for their needs and rights
- Encourages individuals to share their stories and grow confidence



### Group-Advocacy

- Taking collective action as a group to advocate for shared needs and rights
- Forms a sense of belonging and familiarity

## Systems-Advocacy

 Advocating for changes to policies, laws, or systems to benefit the disability population

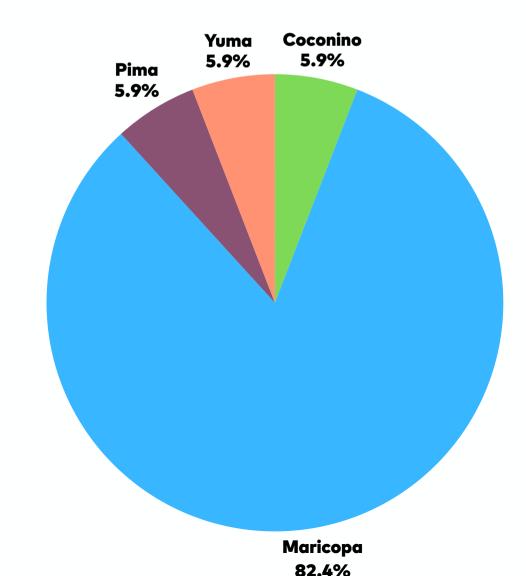
Spreads disability awareness

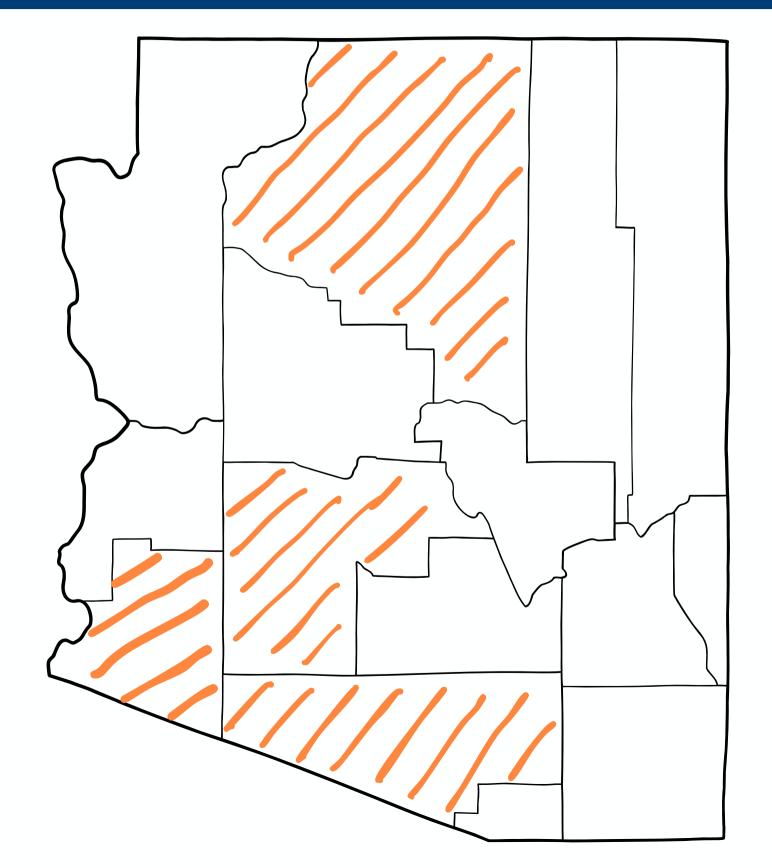
Creates long-term change



#### Where We Were

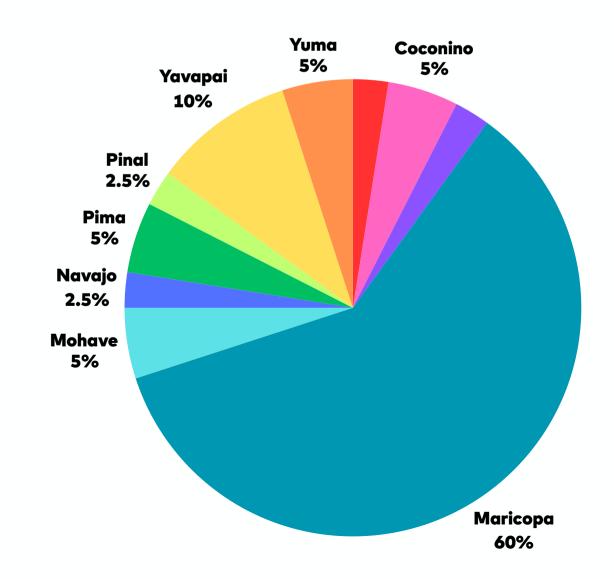
- 20 Arizonans with disabilities
  - 4 counties

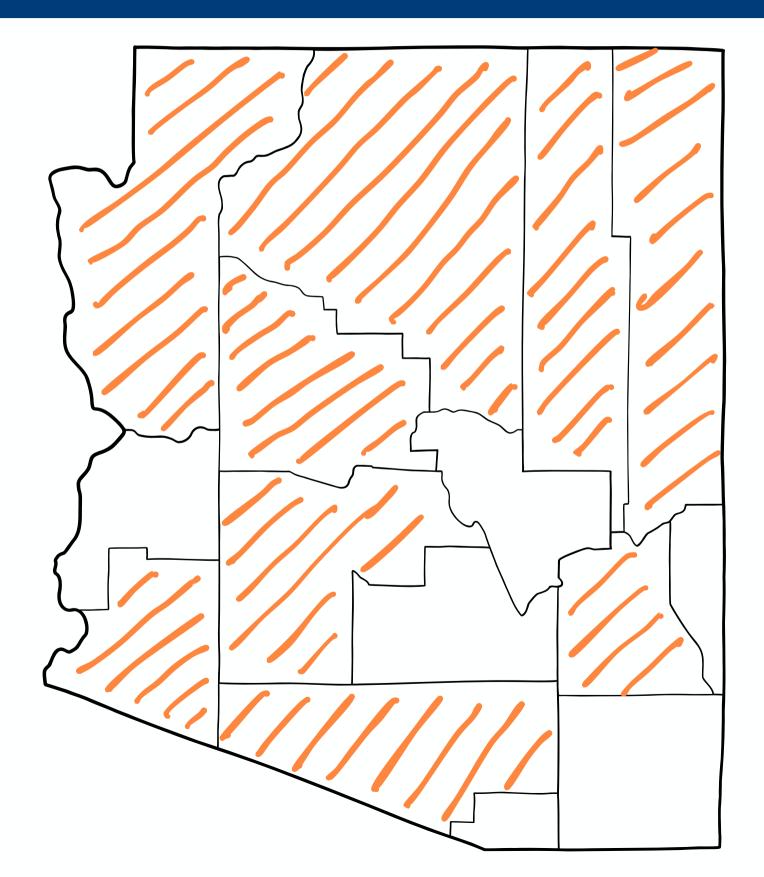




#### Where We Are Now

47 Arizonans with disabilities9 counties

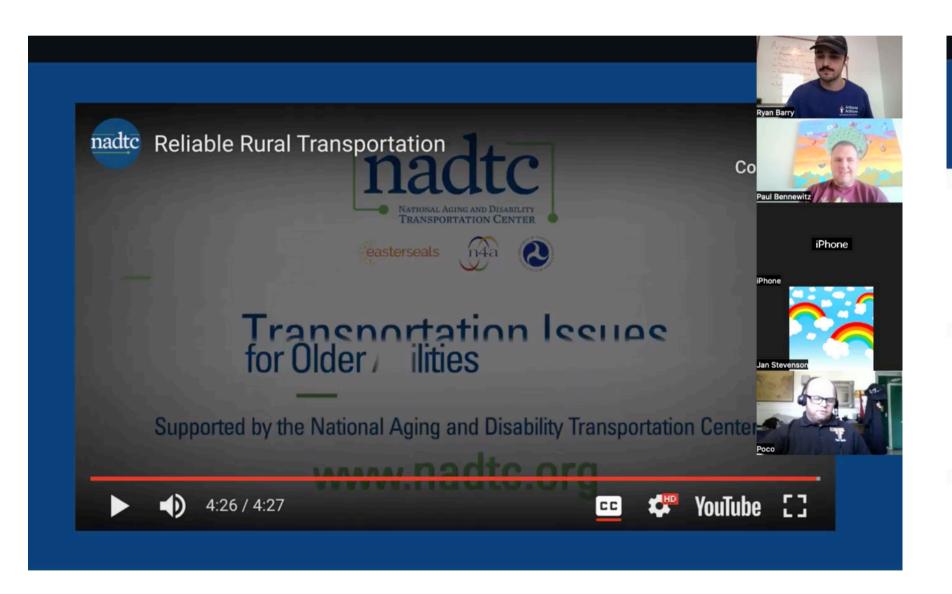


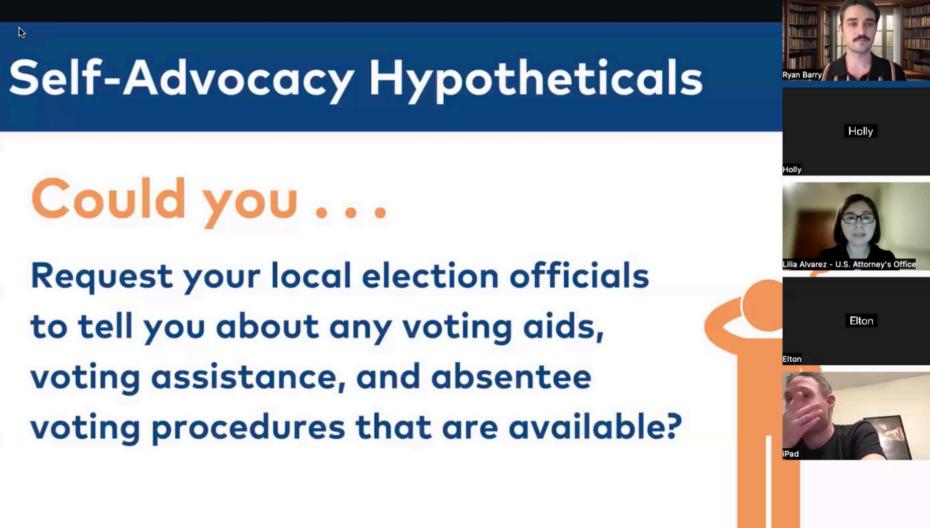


#### What Have We Done

- Hosted 15 coalition meetings
- Formed a peer-mentorship program
- Designed a website w/ 6 thousand visits
- Published multiple videos to our YouTube channel
- Conducted eight in-person workshops
- Met with national and state lawmakers
- Partnered with P&A agencies and U.S. Attorneys
- Created a 248 page leadership curriculum

## Coalition Meetings





## Self-Advocacy Workshops





## Self-Advocacy Curriculum



Self-Advocacy and Leadership

## Self-Advocacy Leadership Training

Write an introduction that summarizes the expected outcomes of this course.

Continue Course

50%

Progress

## Peer-Mentorship Program





## Legislative and Policy Change







#### Goals for the Future

- Adapt the written curriculum into videos
- Empower members to advocate for and introduce public transit legislation
- Build a multi-issue, cross-community coalition
- Improving minority representation
- Streamline legislative and policy change



## Challenges We Face

- Balancing advocacy across multiple issues
- Engaging rural communities continually
- Addressing minority underrepresentation
- Navigating inter-organizational dynamics
- Maintaining membership participation
- Operating without a community presence



## Key Takeaways

- Prioritize individual members' needs and goals
- Focus on cross-disability coalition-building
- Bridge the urban-rural divide
- Uphold coalition non-partisanship
- Demystify the policy-making process
- Align local challenges with broader issues
- Ensure coalition materials, as well as spoken communication, are plain language



## Questions?



## Thank You!







This contract is supported by the Administration for Community Living (ACL) of the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) as part of an award totaling \$1,500,930, with 0% from non-governmental sources. Services provided under this contract, including the views expressed in written materials or publications and by any speakers do not necessarily reflect the official policies of the ADDPC, ACL or HHS.