

Arizona Developmental Disabilities Planning Council

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Advocacy Framework

FOCUS: Alignment with three primary State Plan Goal areas: *Self-Advocacy; Integrated Employment; and Empowerment Through Information.*

FOCUS: Communication about needs of citizens in the developmentally disabled community.

FOCUS: Availability for resource and education support.

Project Recap Overview

Launch: November 2014

Service Timeline: Continuous through 2014 Session and the Special Session.

Deliverables: Sustained relationships, education, updates on initiatives.

Ongoing Outcomes

1. Delivery of Az. Planning Council packets; additional research copies as needed to all legislative offices. Individual meetings with 86/90 elected officials/team members.
2. Discussion of the three target foci areas with each elected official.
3. Receipt of commitment/interest/family impact of developmental disabilities.
4. Invitation to remain in close contact on key ideas.

Legislative Highlights

- Intense House interest in all DD issues.
- All child welfare including CPS/Foster Care realities are now continuing conversation.
- Great inclusivity of language that expresses ‘citizens/people’ with a disability/developmental disability.
- House Bill 2105 – Mental Health Issues; Intervention RE: Witness Statements.

Service Highlights & Activities

- Continuous legislative visits.
- Outreach and partnership with other advocates.
- Attendance at committee meetings and hearings.
- Production of Fact Sheet with real time updates – LOLA and other tools.

Budget Highlights

- ▶ Child Welfare Reform – \$80 M Requested; \$57.2M allocated.
- ▶ Adult Protective Services – \$5.2M Requested; \$3M allocated.
- ▶ Performance Based Education Funding – \$40M Requested; \$21.5 M allocated.
- ▶ School Assessment – \$ 13.5 M Requested; \$ 8M allocated.

Additional Partnership Connections

Az. Office of Congressman – E. Pastor

Az. Office of Congresswoman – K. Sinema

Az. Office of Congressman – D. Schweikert

Az. Office of Senator – J. McCain

Az. Office of Senator – J. Flake

Az. Office of Congressman – R. Barber

Az. Office of Congressman – T. Franks

Az. Congresswoman – A. Kirkpatrick

Additional Partner Meetings

Ms. Laura Bistrow – Director of Special Education, Paradise Valley Unified School District # 69.

Dr. Janice Pratt – Assistant Dean – Workforce Development; Central Arizona College – Pinal County Community College District.

Beacon Group – Tucson, Arizona

Trends

- Openness, acute interest in the needs of the Developmentally Disabled.
- Open to learning about the continuous work of the Planning Council.
- Willingness to partner on all types of issues.
- Inquiry on interests about introducing and/or amending legislation; appreciation for commitment to future activities.

Report Format – Updates

Weekly Legislative Updates – online access

Hearings/Caucus Schedules for Critical Issues – online access

Suggestions for Self-Advocate to Engage the Process – reminders each week online.

Suggestions from the Planning Council?

Demographic Data

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