

Arizona Developmental Disabilities Planning Council – Government Relations 2016

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Project Recap Overview – 4th Year

Launch: October 2015

Service Timeline: Continuous through May 2016.

Deliverables: Establishment/sustained relationships, education on developmental disability issues, updates on initiatives/concerns.

Advocacy Philosophy

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

FOCUS: Communication about needs of citizens with developmental disabilities in all Arizona communities. Individual citizen needs reviewed.

FOCUS: Availability for resource and education support.

FOCUS: Provision of contact data for families who seek help from elected officials.

How It Shaped Up FOR 2016

- **117 Total Days in session**
- **1247 Bills posted**
- **388 Bills passed**
- **14 Bills vetoed**
- **374 Bills signed**

Meeting Outcomes

1. **Delivery/review** of Az. Planning Council packets with 90 state elected officials; additional research copies as needed.
2. **Discussion focus:** ABLE Act details; *Untapped Arizona*; service on the Planning Council.
3. **Discussion:** commitment/interest/family impact of developmental disabilities.
4. Invitation to remain in close contact on key ideas.

Completed Legislative Meetings/TRACKING

Format: Face to face in office meetings; staff follow-up; phone meetings with newly confirmed individuals.

Tracking: 94 Bills tracked throughout the Session

Topics: *ABLE ACT; Service Animals, Empower Scholarships; Vision Screening; DCS (all forms of services and budget support); KIDSCare Reinstatement; Child Trafficking; etc.*

2016 Session Activities

Weekly Legislative Reporting – On-line.

Attendance at Hearings and Meetings on proposed Legislation.

On-going and follow-up meetings with elected officials to respond to inquiries.

LOLA monitoring and notification of changes in introduced bills.

Provision of information to constituents in various Arizona locations.

Additional Federal Partnerships

Az. Office of Representative – R. Grijalva

Az. Office of Representative– K. Sinema

Az. Office of Representative – D. Schweikert

Az. Office of Representative – M. Salmon

Az. Office of Representative – T. Franks

Az. Office of Representative - M. McCsally

Az. Office of Senator – J. McCain

Az. Office of Senator – J. Flake

Trends In Feedback

- **Openness, very marked interest in the needs of citizens with developmental disabilities.**
- **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.**
- **Request for direct receipt of Planning Council weekly on-line reporting.**

Contact Data

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