

Results from 20 ADDPC Council Member Interviews (January-February, 2017)

Strengths	Areas for Improvement
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Plan for DD network -Decision-making process on grant-making, Current process: From goal committees to Executive Committee to Full Council consent agenda -Technical assistance with grant and advocacy work -Follow up with grantees -Staff are open and non-judgmental, very positive, willing to listen, and help -Our funded projects: PBIS, Picture of a Life, Employment First -Project LEAP and funding Council members to attend conferences -Getting out info on issues, including how to be a self-advocate -Good mixture of parents, providers, and self-advocates on Council -Everyone has a voice; the open discussions -Legislative tracking, informing about policy issues -Grantees reporting on progress and outcomes of projects -The consent agenda -Executive committee is representative -The meetings stay on track with not a lot of digression. - Grant training with the community 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Lack clear, strong voice and directive regarding policy in the community -Role of self-advocates need to be heard in a structured manner at meetings – get input from them and prepare them for meeting. Give them enough time to speak. Incorporate their voices into the agenda. -More frequent and detailed updates of funded projects. - Need more periodic updates on goal progress -Our call for proposals are too prescriptive and rigid on what is expected. Offer more flexibility and more time. For example, could there be something field-initiated? -Simplify the grant making process; make it easier to understand. Create a short video presentation of the request for proposals. -We need new ideas and energy. New information brought in to educate members on best practices and latest trends, even outside the state. -We need to focus on energy to tackle specific issues. Our goals are overly broad. -New member recruitment needs to be improved. Council members need to create a better new member orientation and develop a mentoring program between Council members. -Committees could meet more frequently and have more input. Grant-making should be consolidated on one committee. An evaluation committee can monitor progress of funded projects and ADDPC's progress towards its goals. -The Executive Committee needs more time to make decisions. -Meetings (both full Council and committee) should be regularly scheduled: more often, shorter, more efficient, and focused. Action items in the beginning. The agenda shouldn't be too packed. Allow more time for questions and more interaction with the grantees. We need more input and more open discussion. - Improved process to contribute agenda items before meetings - More details on how staff creates budgets -More communication with the director (maybe bi-weekly emails if there is a reason?)

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Opportunities	Challenges
<ul style="list-style-type: none">-Work with state legislature; systemic change through legislation; form more personal relationships with legislators. They should come to us as experts.- Have networking opportunities 2-3 times throughout the year to bring in new faces and have Council members talk to them.- More active voice in the community. Need to learn about small groups of people with disabilities and their families in the community and what they are doing. Learn about innovative programs and practices. Tell their stories and build more relationships with the community. Send staff out more to have a more visible presence.-We need to collaborate with other state councils. Have a joint meeting to explore collaborations-Our primary strategies should be facilitating relationships and sharing best practices.-Let Council members know when funded projects are having events, trainings, etc... so Council members may attend- The Council agenda and committees should be responsive to current issues. What's on the horizon that Council/Arizona should be looking at?-We need time on the agenda to share information, potential grant ideas, and opportunities to collaborate (maybe at committee meetings?)-Grantees should bring a participant directly impacted by outcomes so Council understands the personal impact of the program.-Video-conferencing of Council committee participation to overcome transportation and location barriers. Some members may need help with access to technology/internet.- We should offer a checklist for potential grantees to ensure they are addressing everything needed in their applications. Improve pre-approval process- Create more short video clips (You Tube) of information the public needs. Perhaps 8-min video training on IEPs/employment.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">-Continue to be aware of state regulations regarding advocacy and how we conduct our business. Continue to ensure that what we provide offers balanced info on policies and that we are educating, not advocating for a side.-Sustainability of projects we can no longer fund-Not provided with adequate enough info by the applicants to make good decisions on funding grant apps. Make sure there is more info about the applicants and their ability to do the work.-We need to improve support of smaller, local grants-New applicants needed; Council members need to know when grant notices are posted, how the info is disseminated, and where to find it to bring in more applicants.-Expected outcomes from the applicants need to be tightened up so the Council can show more significant outcomes

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<p>-Meet with other funders and introduce them to disability providers. Create resource page of AZ and national funders who pay for disability projects.</p>	
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