



Federal Fiscal Year 2023 Annual Report



Our Mission

To create systemic change in Kentucky that empowers individuals to achieve full citizenship and inclusion in the community through education, capacity building and advocacy.

Our Purpose

The Commonwealth Council on Developmental Disabilities (CCDD) was established in October 1971 to assist in fulfilling the Developmental Disabilities and Bill of Rights Act. Appointed by Governors in every state and U.S. territory, members consist of people with developmental disabilities, their family members, disability advocates and state agency representatives.

Councils are mandated to engage in advocacy, capacity building, and systemic change activities that support people with DD to live in homes and communities in which they can exercise their full rights and responsibilities as citizens while pursuing meaningful and productive lives.

The CCDD represents the interests of all Kentuckians who have developmental disabilities (DD) and their families. CCDD funds projects and engages in outreach activities of advocacy and leadership development. Through a Five Year Plan with goals and objectives, CCDD operates to improve service delivery and supports and help with innovative programs to emerge. To implement the state plan, CCDD works with organizations to provide outreach, training, technical assistance, educate communities, build coalitions and partnerships, engage in interagency collaborations, eliminate barriers, develop coalitions and citizen partnership and inform lawmakers.

Our Network

CCDD is a component of the Kentucky Developmental Disabilities Network (DD Network). The DD Network initiate projects and initiatives to improve the lives of people with developmental disabilities and their families. Each state has a DD Network comprised of a DD Council, a Protection and Advocacy agency, and a University Center for Excellence in Developmental Disabilities (UCEDD). In Kentucky, the network includes Kentucky Protection & Advocacy and The Human Development Institute at the University of Kentucky



CCDD Council Members 2023

Our Council Members

The CCDD is composed of 26 members. Thirteen members are self-advocates with developmental disabilities or family members of self-advocates. Three governor appointed seats are currently empty. The other 10 are representatives of principal state agencies who fund or provide services to people with developmental disabilities.

Governor Appointed

Casey Allen	Family Member
Meagan Brannon	Family Member
Jacob Cruz	Self-Advocate
Donna Fox	Self-Advocate
Kelly Jones	Family Member
Mark Leach	Family member
Darrell Mattingly Jr.	Self-Advocate
Sharon Raymond	Family Member
Mark Rothel	Self-Advocate
Danny Slaton	Family Member
Amy Smith	Family Member
Leigh Van Hooser	Family Member
Regina Watts	Family Member

Agency Representatives

David Allgood	Non-Profit Representative
Andrea Bartholomew	Department of Education
Kristen Beach	Office of Vocational Rehabilitation
Laura Butler	Human Development Institute, University Of Kentucky
Camille Collins	Protection and Advocacy
Scott Collins	Department Of Aging and Independent Living
Blaire Handshoe	Medicaid
Chad Hunt	Blind Services
Tammie Isenberg	Public Health
Barb Locker	Behavioral Health, Developmental and Intellectual Disabilities



Quarterly Council Meeting

Our Work

The DD Act requires a state Council to focus on:

Advocacy - active support of policies & practices that promote systems change efforts & other activities that further advance self-determination & inclusion in all aspects of community living.

Capacity Building - activities that expand and/or improve the ability of individuals with DD, families, supports, services and/or systems to promote, support & enhance self-determination, independence, productivity and inclusion in community life.

Systemic Change - a sustainable, transferable and replicable change in some aspect of service or support availability, design or delivery that promotes positive or meaningful outcomes for individuals with DD & their families.

State Plan Goals

Goal 1: Self-Advocacy

By 2026, people with developmental disabilities and family members will increase their knowledge of disability issues and develop stronger advocacy skills.

Goal 2: Building Capacity

By 2026, the capacity of communities and systems to include people with DD will be increased so that people will have opportunities for greater independence and integration.

Goal 3: Systems Change

By the end of 2026, systems that provide services and supports for individuals with DD will be improved so that people with DD and their families can live and thrive in their communities.

Areas of Emphasis

Employment

Housing

Self-Advocacy

Formal/ Informal Community Supports

Transportation

Strategies Used

Outreach

Training

Supporting/Educating Communities

Technical Assistance

Barrier Elimination

Systems Design and Redesign

Coalition Development and Citizen

Participation

Informing Policymakers

Our In House Projects

Kentucky Partners in Policymaking



The goal of Kentucky Partners in Policymaking (KPIP) is to accomplish productive partnerships between the people needing and utilizing services and those who form public policy. PIP was founded on the belief that the most significant and lasting public policy decisions came from the efforts of those most affected by them, working together with public officials and policy experts. KPIP educates participants about present issues and best practices and teaches them about local, state and federal levels of legislative processes. The council has one session per year.

Exceptional Family Magazine



Exceptional Family Kentucky is the only magazine dedicated to disability issues in Kentucky. It is published twice per year and distributed statewide. 20,000 copies are printed in English and 2,000 in Spanish. The resource guide boasts over 450 listings. The magazine is offered online in English and Spanish as well. Over 95% of survey participants agree that this magazine helps them increase their advocacy efforts.

Disability Policy Seminar



The Disability Policy Seminar is an annual federal legislative conference co-sponsored by leading national disability advocate organizations. The Disability Policy Seminar strengthens our federal advocacy efforts by providing training, learning opportunities, and updates, as well as opportunities to visit members of Congress. The Disability Policy Seminar promotes unity and movement building and amplifies the concerns of people with IDD before Congress.

CCDD provides this opportunity to governor appointed council members each year.

Statewide Advocacy Trainings



The Council offers a one-hour training course on public policy designed for people with intellectual disabilities. These trainings are offered to any group comprised of this population. Since staff began this program over 500 people at 24 facilities have been reached. 401 were individuals with a disability. 60% were female. 25% were non-white. 30% were from rural areas.

Our Policy Work

Over the past 12 months, the Council has provided education to legislators and the community on key issues.

Organ transplant discrimination - In Kentucky, an individual's disability could be used as justification for denying an organ transplant. A law passed early last year to fix that. However, an individual's 'quality of life' can still be used as reason for denial. The Federal Health and Human Services proposed changes to Section 504 of the Rehab Act should remedy that. To support that effort, the Council submitted public comments stating that these changes would benefit people with disabilities.

Custody Rights discrimination - In Kentucky, and many other states, a person's disability status can be used as justification for terminating someone's custodial rights, in adoptions, divorces, and in social services cases. The Council has partnered with several influential organizations and news outlets to spread information on this topic. Again, Section 504 of the Rehab Act may fix this issue.

Subminimum wage through the 14(c) program - The Council is also partnering with several advocacy groups to educate on the use of subminimum wages by 14(c) programs, and on the need to be careful when making changes. While people would be better off over the long run, eliminating it quickly could cause a shock to the system. The Council has provided input on various strategies to change this system in Kentucky.

HCBS Funding - Many other states share this issue. Waivers are chronically underfunded throughout the US, and Kentucky is no exception. More than 12,000 people are waiting for services across all waivers. The Council is participating in a broad coalition of parents, self-advocates, and providers who are invested in seeing waiver funding increase. The Council has aided this effort by creating and distributing unique research based on information obtained through an open records request from our state's Cabinet for Health and Family Services.

Legislative Engagement - Council staff worked with the Public Policy Committee and other members of the Council to help foster a relationship between themselves and their legislators. Meetings were scheduled with every member of each committee that affects individuals with I/DD. Those committees were: Health and Welfare, Education, Judiciary, Transportation, and Economic Development. Staff also reached out to each Council member's legislators to ensure council is known to be available for consultation on disability issues. The Council's Policy Coordinator tracks pertinent legislative issues and hosts biweekly policy calls during legislative sessions.

Our Grantees

Edge Employment



Edge Employment seeks to engage employers in an innovative hiring approach that matches the contributions of job candidates with disabilities to the operational needs of businesses to create opportunities for competitive, integrated employment.

<https://edgeemployment.org/about-us/>

KARRN



Kentucky Appalachian Rural Rehabilitation Network is part of the statewide CARAT (Coordinating and Assisting the Reuse of Assistive Technology) program. A Council-funded program that educates stakeholders and removes barriers in rural Eastern Kentucky by utilizing teams of students to adapt local parks and also pairing those students with elderly people to refurbish AT equipment, teaching new skills and creating relationships in the community.

<https://medicine.uky.edu/centers/ruralhealth/kentucky-appalachian-rural-rehabilitation-network>

Transportation Initiative



The Transportation Initiative is a project of UK's Human Development Institute and is funded through the support of the Commonwealth Council on Developmental Disabilities. The Transportation Initiative seeks to provide comprehensive information and education on transportation options.

<https://transportation.hdiuky.org/>

Our Grantees (continued)

Housing Solutions Project



The Housing Solutions Project is embarking on a groundbreaking initiative in Kentucky, aiming to establish a non-profit entity singularly dedicated to addressing the housing needs of individuals with developmental and intellectual disabilities (IDD). Currently, there is a glaring gap in the traditional non-profit housing sector, where the needs of people with disabilities are often included in organizational missions but never become the central focus. <https://www.mattinglyedge.org/housing>

DiscoverU Kentucky



DiscoverU Kentucky's purpose is to empower, educate and advocate collectively; the efforts are multifaceted, but in its simplest form, DiscoverU Kentucky shall support and encourage community stakeholders to come together, provide links to readily available resources and remove siloed information and assist individuals, families/guardians navigate their disability journey. https://p2p.onecause.com/discoveru_kentucky

My Choice Kentucky: Supported Decision-Making



Supported decision-making is the use of trusted friends, family members, and professionals to get the help we need to make our own decisions. This help can come in many forms including but not limited to evaluating a situation, weighing pros and cons, exploring options, offering advice based on experience, and/or explaining complicated documents or concepts. <https://www.mychoiceky.org/>

Our Partners

KY Special Parent Involvement Network
Kentucky Works
HB 144 Commission
Kentucky Advisory Council on Autism
IDD Technical Assistance Committee
Kentucky Assistive Technology Network
Kentucky Protection and Advocacy
Human Development Institute at the University of
Kentucky
State Independent Living Councils
Mattingly Edge
Zoom Group
Kentucky Appalachian Rural Rehabilitation
Network
Department of Education
Blind Services
Office of Vocational Rehabilitation
Department for Aging & Independent Living
Department of Public Health
Department for Medicaid Services



CCDD members at the NACDD national conference.



CCDD and KPIP members at the capitol rotunda with Governor Beshear as he signs DD Awareness Day proclamation.

Our Financials

The CCDD receives a federal formula grant from the Administration on Community Living under Title I, Subtitle B of Developmental Disabilities Assistance and Bill of Rights Act of 2000. All funds are subject to the requirements of the Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principle and Audit Requirements for HHS Awards under 45 CFR Part 75.

CCDD funds are used primarily for two purposes: (1) planning and (2) implementation of innovative strategies to address the needs of Kentuckians with developmental disabilities. and objectives of the plan.

The chart below identifies the amount of funding spent in the program year toward each goal in the plan and funds utilized for Council member engagement and support. Funds invested in Council meetings are part of the planning process, which is one of the Council’s primary purposes. Federal law expressly prohibits the use of these funds for direct services to individuals with developmental disabilities.



The Commonwealth Council on Developmental Disabilities is supported by the Administration for Community Living (ACL), U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) as part of a financial assistance award totaling \$1,195,270 with 84 percent funded by ACL/HHS and \$192,300 and 16 percent funded by non-federal-government source(s). The contents are those of the author(s) and do not necessarily represent the official views of, nor an endorsement, by ACL/HHS, or the U.S. Government.

Our Council Staff

Johnny Callebs
Carol Ann Tudor
Justin Jeter
Jen Hicks
Nicole Maher
Vicki Goins
Tim Moore

Executive Director
Office Administration
Public Policy Coordinator
Program Manager
Advocacy & Communications Manager
Fiscal Manager
Reception

Our Social Media

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/kyccdd>

Instagram: <https://www.instagram.com/kyccdd/>

X: <https://twitter.com/KYCCDD>

Linkedin: <https://www.linkedin.com/company/commonwealth-council-on-developmental-disabilities>



The Commonwealth Council on Developmental Disabilities complies with applicable Federal civil rights laws and does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, age, disability, or sex. CCDD does not exclude people or treat them differently because of race, color, national origin, age, disability, or sex.