



# Federal Fiscal Year 2021-2022 Annual Report



## Our Mission

To create systematic 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 fulfill the Developmental Disabilities and Bill of Rights Act (DD 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



## Our Members

The CCDD is composed of 26 members. Sixteen members are self-advocates with developmental disabilities or the parents/guardians of self-advocates. The other 10 are representatives of principal state agencies who fund or provide services to people with developmental disabilities.

### Governor Appointed

Casey Allen  
 Jacob Cruz  
 Morgan Elliston  
 Grant Gupton  
 Paul Hitchcock  
 Mark Leach  
 Aisha Omar  
 Micah Peace  
 Sherry Pickett  
 Sharon Raymond  
 Norb Ryan  
 Laureen Vassil  
 Regina Watts

Family Member  
 Self-Advocate  
 Family Member  
 Self-Advocate  
 Family Member  
 Family member  
 Family Member  
 Self-Advocate  
 Family Member  
 Family Member  
 Self-Advocate  
 Family Member  
 Family Member

## CCDD State Agency Representatives

David Allgood	Non-Profit Representative
Andrea Bartholomew	Department of Education
Laura Butler	Human Development Institute
Camille Collins	Protection and Advocacy
Scott Collins	Department of Aging and Independent Living
Blaire Handshoe	Medicaid
Tammie Isenberg	Public Health
Barb Locker	Behavioral Health, Developmental and Intellectual Disabilities
Ron O'Hair	Vocational Rehabilitation

## Our Alliances

- KY Special Parent Involvement Network
- Kentucky Works
- HB 144 Commission
- Medicaid Oversight Advisory Committee
- Kentucky Advisory Council on Autism
- IDD Technical Assistance Committee
- Kentucky Assistive Technology Network
- State Independent Living Councils
- Mattingly Edge
- Zoom Group
- Kentucky Appalachian Rural Rehabilitation Network
- Kentucky Center for Economic Policy



## 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

Education

Health

Employment

Housing

Self-Advocacy

Formal and Informal Community

Supports

Transportation

### Strategies Used

Outreach

Training

Supporting and Educating

Communities

Technical Assistance

Barrier Elimination

Systems Design and Redesign

Coalition Development and Citizen

Participation

Informing Policymakers

## Our Projects & Advocacy

The Council receives a federal formula grant from the Department of Health and Human Services annually. The monies are used to fund and initiate programs and projects that fulfill the mission of the DD Act for individuals with developmental disabilities to achieve full citizenship and inclusion in the community through advocacy, capacity building, and systemic change.



### 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. KPIP 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 legislative processes of policymaking. The program sessions cover and are dedicated to specific topics presented by nationally known experts in their fields. Topics include History of Disabilities & Services, Inclusive Education, Kentucky's Legislative Process, Social Engagement, Community Organizing, and Systems Change Advocacy.



### Transportation Initiative

The Transportation Initiative is a project of the University of Kentucky's Human Development Institute funded by the Commonwealth Council on Developmental Disabilities. The Transportation Initiative seeks to provide comprehensive information and education on transportation options. Training material including video, audio, and print material may be found at the Transportation Initiative website. Topics include ADA Paratransit, NEMT, Hart-Supported Living, Ride Share, Blind Work Expense, K-TAP Kentucky Works Program and etc.





## My Choice Kentucky: Supported Decision-Making

Supported decision-making is the use of trusted friends, family member, 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, weighting pros and cons, exploring options, offering advice based on experience, and/or explaining complicated documents or concepts.

Think for a moment about the decisions you make, every day. Simple and hard choices. Important choices and silly ones. What you want to do, who to see, where to live, work, and go. These choices make us who we are and show us who we want to be. They are the building blocks of the rights every American holds dear: the rights to Life, Liberty, and the Pursuit of Happiness.



## Housing Solutions Project

Mattingly Edge is taking on the challenge of identifying current housing issues in Kentucky for people with disabilities and providing a road map for addressing those challenges.

“Through the Housing Solutions Project we will examine the obstacles people with disabilities face in Kentucky when it comes to finding housing that is both affordable and accessible,” said Hope Leet Dittmeier, Executive Director, Mattingly Edge. “During this intensive process we will be figuring out what it will take to incentivize the housing industry to create more affordable and accessible housing. We will also create a working committee of volunteers that includes developers, architects, landlords, realtors, and others within the housing arena.”



### DiscoverU Kentucky

Zoom Group holds the grant for CCDD's self-advocacy initiative. Zoom Group, Inc, 501(c)3, a comprehensive disability services organization headquartered in Louisville, KY, announced the inaugural launch of DiscoverU Kentucky in October 2022.

DiscoverU Kentucky aims to create systemic change in the Commonwealth that empowers people with disabilities to achieve a sense of belonging, full citizenship, and inclusion in the community. DiscoverU Kentucky maintains an online 24/7 presence regardless of an advocate's location, removing geographical location as a barrier to participation. Interested advocates are highly encouraged to register online at DiscoverU Kentucky and to register to attend a regional hybrid meeting.



### Kentucky Appalachian Rural Rehabilitation Network

Kentucky Appalachian Rural Rehabilitation Network (KARRN) is a collaborative team that advocates to empower communities impacted by disability. CCDD provided funding to KARRN to improve access to community areas. The first supported cohort was a group of students from Perry County High School. The students worked together to make a local park more accessible. Future projects are planned in rural areas.



### Policy Training for Adult Day Centers

Council staff will visit Adult Day Centers to provide policy and leadership training for participants. In 2022 over 100 self-advocates attended these cost-free training sessions.





### Exceptional Family Magazine

Exceptional Family Magazine is a disability specific publication published twice a year by CCDD. It is published in English and Spanish. The magazine is printed as well as published online. The magazine has over 400 disability resources in it's resource guide published in each edition.



Edge Employment seeks to increase Competitive Integrated Employment for students who have a disability transitioning out of high school by sharing information that demystifies the fear of losing disability benefits. They strive to do this through JCPs high school presentations that show the financial and social benefits of working, the real (limited) impact on disability benefits, and that inspire allies to bring these issues to their own personal and professional spaces. Allies will have the opportunity to serve as Disability Employment Ambassadors alongside Edge Employment, creating new opportunities for inclusive employment.

## Our Partners

STABLE Kentucky Office of The Treasury

KY Special Parent Involvement Network

Department of Medicaid

Kentucky Works

HB 144 Commission

Medicaid Oversight Advisory Committee

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

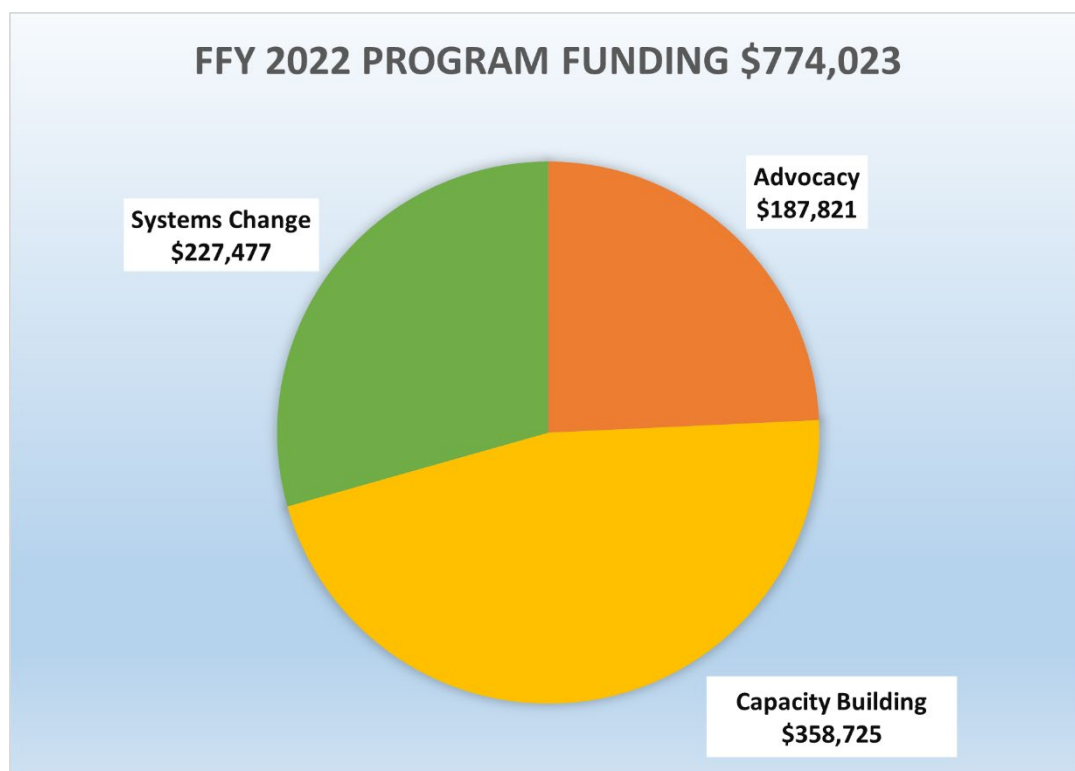


## Our Financials

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.





## 2021-2022 Council Staff

Pat Seybold	Interim Executive Director
Carol Ann Tudor	Office Administration
Justin Jeter	Public Policy Coordinator
Jen Hicks	Program Manager
Nicole Maher	Self-Advocacy Coordinator
Vicki Goins	Fiscal Manager
Tim Moore	Reception

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.