



2022 - 2023

# KENTUCKY PARTNERS IN POLICYMAKING

For people with developmental disabilities  
and their family members



## PARTNERS IN POLICYMAKING

The Partners in Policymaking  
program is about achieving greater:

**INDEPENDENCE**

**PRODUCTIVITY**

**SELF-DETERMINATION**

**INTEGRATION**

**INCLUSION**



COMMONWEALTH COUNCIL ON  
**DEVELOPMENTAL**  
**DISABILITIES**

2022-2023

SEPTEMBER 2022 — MAY 2023



**PARTNERS IN POLICYMAKING is a leadership training program designed for parents of young children with disabilities and adults with disabilities.**

The Partner’s program was created by the Minnesota Governor’s Council on Developmental Disabilities more than 30 years ago and has been offered nationally and internationally. Partners teaches leadership skills and the process of developing positive partnerships with elected officials and other policymakers who make decisions about the services that you and/or your family use. Partners are accessible, informative, and empowering.

Since the first Partners class in Minnesota in 1987, a total of **over 1,000** self-advocates and parents have graduated.

**Partners is about systems change** - creating working towards and achieving a vision of shared values about people with disabilities. It is based on the belief that the most effective and enduring public policy decisions are made by the people who need and use services in partnership with elected officials and other policymakers. It is about becoming confident in oneself, competent in the knowledge and information received and comfortable in sharing the life experiences and expertise one brings to the program.

**Participation in PARTNERS requires:**



For more information about applying for KPIP’s inaugural class visit: [www.ccdd.ky.gov](http://www.ccdd.ky.gov) or call 502-564-7841.



**Topics to be addressed through informative and interactive sessions include:**

**September 16-17, 2022 Friday & Saturday, In Person**

- History of Disabilities and Services
- History of the Parent, Self-Advocacy, and Independent Living Movements
- Person Centered Thinking and Person Centered Planning

**October 7-8, 2022 Friday & Saturday, Via Zoom**

- Inclusive Education Roundtables
- Civil Discourse

**November 4-5, 2022 Friday & Saturday, In Person**

- County Role in Developmental Disabilities
- Creating a Future Vision
- Meetings with County Commissioners

**January 6-7, 2023 Friday & Saturday, In Person**

- Supported Living and Customized Employment

**February 3-4, 2023 Friday & Saturday, Via Zoom**

- Community Organizing
- Data Practices and Parliamentary Procedure
- The Role of the Media

**March 2-3, 2023 Thursday & Friday, In Person**

- Kentucky’s Legislative Process
- Mock Legislative Hearings
- Governor’s Open Appointment Process
- Legislative Update
- Visit to the State Capitol - Meeting with Legislators

**April 7-8, 2023 Friday & Saturday, Via Zoom**

- Introduction to & the Role of the Federal Government
- Federal Issues Update
- Meetings with Congressional Delegation Staff

**May 19-20, 2023 Friday & Saturday, In Person**

- Beyond Partners – Moving Forward
- Personal Growth
- Graduation



## FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS ABOUT PARTNERS IN POLICYMAKING

### **Who is eligible to participate in this program?**

This program is designed for parents of young children with developmental disabilities and for adults with disabilities.

### **What is the time commitment required for those who are chosen to participate in this program?**

Participants are required to attend all eight sessions (September through May with no session in December). The sessions run from 9:00 AM to 5:00 PM on Day One and from 9:00 AM to 3:00 PM on Day Two. (NOTE: Sessions are held on Friday and Saturday except in March when the session is held on Thursday and Friday.) The sessions will be held via zoom and in person. See the calendar on page 2 for details.

### **Where are the weekend sessions held?**

Our in-person classes will be held at the Hampton Inn in Frankfort. Virtual sessions will use zoom.

### **Is there a fee to attend this eight-month training?**

No, there is no fee to attend. Program costs are covered in part by a Congressional appropriation from the Administration on Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities to the Commonwealth Council on Developmental Disabilities (CCDD). These funds are used to carry out the Partners program for those chosen for the class.

### **Do I have to pay for my overnight accommodations and travel expenses?**

No, overnight accommodations are provided. All participants are required to stay in the hotel with the class. Mileage reimbursement is also available for class members. Breakfast is provided by the hotel. Lunch and dinner will be provided on day one and lunch on day two.

**Continue to next page.**



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### **What other expenses does the Partners program cover?**

- Speaker handouts, resource materials, and publications
- Interpreter or language translation services
- Personal Care Attendants
- Other accommodations as requested and deemed necessary for participation

*PLEASE NOTE: The Partners program does not provide onsite childcare services. Family members are not permitted to stay at the hotel during the weekend training sessions unless a family member is serving as a personal assistant to a class member.*

### **Is there work to be done between monthly sessions?**

After each session, a homework assignment that builds on and supports the topics addressed, must be completed by each class member, and turned in at the following session.

### **Who does the training?**

Speakers are national and state subject matter experts or practitioners.

### **How are class participants selected?**

A Review Committee comprised of CCDD members and staff will select participants based on several criteria. Class size is limited to 30 participants.

### **When will I know if I have been selected to participate in Kentucky's Partners in Policymaking Leadership Institute?**

Participants will be notified by July 15, 2022.



**We invite you to invest your time and energy over an eight-month period to become a community leader and an agent of long-term change.**

**Definition of “Developmental Disability”**

According to the Developmental Disabilities Assistance and Bill of Rights Act, the term “developmental disability” means a severe, chronic disability of an individual that:

- is attributable to a mental or physical impairment or combination of mental and physical impairments;
- is manifested before the individual attains age 22;
- is likely to continue indefinitely;
- results in substantial functional limitations in 3 or more of the following areas of major life activity:
  - o Self-care.
  - o Receptive and expressive language.
  - o Learning.
  - o Mobility.
  - o Self-direction.
  - o Capacity for independent living.
  - o Economic self-sufficiency; and
- reflects the individual’s need for a combination and sequence of special, interdisciplinary, or generic services, individualized supports, or other forms of assistance that are of lifelong or extended duration and are individually planned and coordinated;
- Infants and Young Children - An individual from birth to age 9, inclusive, who has a substantial developmental delay or specific congenital or acquired condition, may be considered to have a developmental disability without meeting 3 or more of the criteria described in clauses (i) through (v) of subparagraph (A) if the individual, without services and supports, has a high probability of meeting those criteria later in life.



**Testimonials:**

**"I was already an advocate, but Partners increased my knowledge about the legislative process, the ADA, and other issues. My credibility has improved among government and business leaders. I'm consulted on disability issues."**



*Photo of Kentucky Partners In Policymaking • Class 1*



**"This is making us warriors for ability. I'm ready to take on the world after coming out of the classes. It's been a great refresher on fundamentals."**

*Photos of Kentucky Partners In Policymaking • Class 1*

**"I cannot say enough good things about Partners. I have learned more in eight weekends than I have in eight years of in-service workshops."**



*Photos of Kentucky Partners In Policymaking • Class 1*

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CCDD



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*is brought to you by*



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