**Massachusetts Developmental Disabilities Council**

**2022-2026 State Plan Work Plan**



**Goal One: Self-Direction and Leadership**

**More people with developmental disabilities will lead and sustain self-directed lives. They will do this by developing leadership skills. This will also happen by educating their families about leadership.**

**Objective 1.1 The Council will educate at least 500 people with developmental disabilities about self-direction and leadership. The Council will work to reach people who have been left out. This education will happen by September 30, 2026.**

**Major Activities**

1. Implement strategy for intentional equity for and inclusion of underserved and underrepresented community members\*
2. Support statewide self-advocacy organization in providing advocacy and leadership trainings
3. Support Charting the LifeCourse Ambassador initiative for self-advocates
4. Support youth leadership trainings: Youth Leadership Forum & Youth Leaders Rising
5. Support the Gopen Fellowship
6. Recruit Council Members from underserved or underrepresented communities.\*

**Objective 1.2 The Council will educate at least 400 family members about advocacy and leadership. The Council will work to reach people who have been left out. This will happen by September 30, 2026.**

**Major Activities**

1. Implement strategy for intentional equity for and inclusion of underserved and underrepresented community members\*
2. Support leadership and advocacy opportunities for family members.
3. Support the Allen C. Crocker Family Fellowship

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**Goal Two: Policy Change**

**More policies will support people with developmental disabilities to lead full lives in the community.**

**Objective 2.1 The Council will promote at least 10 policies and practices that support community inclusion for people with developmental disabilities. The Council will work to reach people who have been left out.**

**Major Activities**

1. Implement strategy for intentional equity for and inclusion of underserved and underrepresented community members\*
2. Engage policymakers and conduct legislative education activities about Council policy priority areas
3. Support Council members to engage in disability and systems advocacy activities.
4. Plan and host events building relationships between State House and intellectual/developmental disabilities community.
5. Organize Bill Sharing event and develop biannual policy priorities.

**Objective 2.2 The Council will actively participate on at least 12 stakeholder groups. These groups will be working to make it easier for people with developmental disabilities to live in the community. This means they are working to get people the support and services they need. The Council will join groups working with people who have been left out.**

**Major Activities**

1. Implement strategy for intentional equity for and inclusion of underserved and underrepresented community members\*
2. Collaborate with disability stakeholder groups, coalitions, and interagency committees to impact policy and practices related to Council policy priorities
3. Build relationships with leaders of community-based organizations and advocacy networks.

**Objective 2.3** Each year, implement strategies to address emerging issues as they arise.

**Major Activities**

1. To be determined based on emerging needs.

**Goal Three: Community Inclusion, Choice, and Civic Engagement**

More people with developmental disabilities will make their own choices about their lives. More people with developmental disabilities will live and work in the community. People with developmental disabilities and their families will get the education and resources to do these things.

**Objective 3.1 The Council will educate people with developmental disabilities and their families about how to make their own choices. The Council will also educate these groups about community living. The Council will do this for at least 200 people. The Council will work to reach people who have been left out. This will happen by September 30, 2026.**

**Major Activities**

1. Implement strategy for intentional equity for and inclusion of underserved and underrepresented community members\*
2. Support accessible voting and training about voting rights
3. Conduct Legislative Advocacy Training for self-advocates
4. Conduct Employment Training
5. Develop and conduct Healthy Relationships Training
6. Develop skills training for youth and adults in response to emerging issues
7. Support Transition Conference
8. Promote and provide training and technical assistance on Supported Decision-Making (SDM) and guardianship alternatives
9. Support special education training
10. Support community training opportunities for self-advocates and families, including increasing underserved community members' access to these opportunities (for example: translation, interpretation).

**Objective 3.2 The Council will share information about community access, social inclusion, and choice. The Council will communicate with at least 5,000 people about these issues. The Council will work to reach people who have been left out. These will be people with developmental disabilities and family members.**

**Major Activities**

1. Implement strategy for intentional equity for and inclusion of underserved and underrepresented community members\*
2. Develop and implement communications plan to effectively reach people with developmental disabilities and families
3. Provide training and offer technical assistance to Council members and staff on systemic racism, cultural diversity, racial equity, and inclusion.