



Note: This document contains acronyms. DD = developmental disability.

VALUES OF THE DD ACT

The DD Act is a federal law in the United States. It aims to improve service systems for people with DD and their families.

People with DD are supported to access:

- 1) community services
- 2) tailored supports
- 3) other forms of assistance.

Core values and principles in the DD Act include:

Independence:

People with DD have control and choice over their own lives. This means deciding where they live, who they live with, and how they spend their time.

Productivity:

People with DD add to society through:

- 1) income producing jobs
- 2) volunteer jobs
- 3) other actions which add to a household or community.

Integration:

People with DD have equal rights, access and use the same community resources used by other people.

[This information is intended for everyone. Reading ease level: 6.8.](#)

The information in this document was developed as part of a Training and Technical Assistance contract from the Administration on Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities, Contract #75P00121C00067

**Inclusion:**

People with DD participate in all aspects of community life (school, work, and social activities).

Self-determination:

People with DD make decisions and choices about their own lives and have supports and services to do so.

Protection:

People with DD are safe from abuse, neglect, and being taken advantage of.

Advocacy:

People with DD have support to speak up to access needed supports and services.

Quality of Life: People with DD have access to healthcare, education, housing, and other basic services.

These core values guide the programs funded by the DD Act.

DD Act funded programs include:

- 1) DD Councils
- 2) Disability Rights
- 3) University Centers

These programs promote the rights and well-being of people with DD.

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