



Massachusetts Developmental Disabilities Council (MDDC)

FY2024 Impact Report

Our Mission

At the MDDC, our mission is to provide opportunities for people with developmental disabilities (PWDD) and families to enhance independence, productivity and inclusion.

Goal Oriented Approach

Goal 1: Advocacy and Leadership

Activities were conducted by the MDDC and subgrantees of the organization in line with this goal. Individuals with developmental disabilities and family members were trained to engage in decision-making processes affecting their lives. Participation in activities increased in FY2024 compared to previous years of the 5-year state plan.

Goal 2: Systems Change

The MDDC expanded its efforts to educate policymakers and inform them on the impacts of proposed legislation. Council Members and staff increased visibility across the disability community and the State House. The MDDC further strengthened its role as a trusted source on topics related to developmental disabilities through strategic coalition work and targeted campaigns.

Goal 3: Information, Education, and Awareness

The MDDC's peer-led Self-Advocacy & Training Team delivered sessions to transition-age students and continued work on a supported decision-making and guardianship alternatives training for a wide range of audiences including families and self-advocates. The MDDC effectively used its newly implemented communications plan and tools (social media, email, etc.) to reach more people. The plan's long-range communications strategy launched several successful campaigns on social media to expand our reach and audience.

Each of these goals will continue to be a focus as the MDDC moves through its 2022-2026 state plan.

FY2024 by Numbers

1,186 PWDD educated about self-direction[†] and leadership.

5,087 family members educated about advocacy and leadership.

183 other community members participated in activities to increase their knowledge.

366 PWDD increased advocacy.*

77 family members increased advocacy.*

Trained **199** PWDD across **4** series: Employment, Legislative Advocacy, Self Esteem: The Positive ME! and Supported Decision-Making.

19 new emerging leaders trained at the 2024 Paul W. Spooner Generational Leadership Summit.

Supported **10** Council Members and community members to present testimony on policies that would impact PWDD.

380 attendees and **56** cosponsors at the 46th Annual Legislative Reception.

At least **2,896** individuals reached through strategic messaging.

Partnered with **18** stakeholder groups promoting policies that make it easier for PWDD to live in the community.

\$125,000 awarded to community organizations, including Massachusetts Advocates Standing Strong (MASS), our statewide self-advocacy network.

\$50,000 leveraged towards community organizations.

[†] Self-Direction: the ability of an individual to make their own decisions and organize their own life, activities, or work.

*Of those who responded to follow-up messaging.

To learn more, visit: mass.gov/mddc

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