



# Impacting the Lives of Idahoans with Disabilities

*Our federal charge in the Developmental Disability Act is identifying the most pressing needs of people with developmental disabilities and developing innovative and cost effective ways to meet these needs in a manner that upholds human and civil value. Councils must include, at a minimum, 60% people with developmental disabilities and family members.*

An estimated 26,000 Idahoans have developmental disabilities; disabilities that are life-long and often complex.

Tens of thousands of Idaho families are impacted by having a family member that experiences a developmental disability; often providing care and support.

Idahoans with developmental disabilities and their families must navigate a complex system; the Council is their connection to resources, support, peers, leadership development and advocacy.

### The Council connects citizens to state government:

- Support private citizens appointed by the Governor as Council members to guide the Council's work.
- Educate individuals how to advocate for themselves in their own lives, local communities, and in having a voice in making positive systems change.
- Educate individuals how to communicate with their legislators and other policymakers.
- Explain regulations and policies to individuals and families.
- Ensuring the voice of individuals with developmental disabilities and families in policy discussions and in comment on regulations and policies.
- Provide opportunities for public forums on disability issues.

***"Thank you for your hard work and commitment to improving outcomes for individuals with developmental disabilities. It has been my privilege to support your efforts."***

*~ from ICDD annual stakeholder survey 2016*

The Idaho Council on Developmental Disabilities (ICDD) mission is to promote the capacity of people with developmental disabilities and their families to determine, access, and direct the services and supports they need to live the lives they choose and to build the community's ability to support their choice.

## The Council has Far Reaching Systems Impact

- Create statewide collaborations between diverse groups of stakeholders.
- Bring together state agencies to work on disability topics that otherwise do not fall into any one agency's purview.
- Advise state agencies in the development of new programs.
- Lead and fund innovative projects in collaboration with partners that can sustain them.
- Provide information to legislators and other policymakers – the Council is a valued and reliable resource of data and a connection to people with developmental disabilities in Idaho.



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