



## Idaho DD Council

## RETURN ON INVESTMENT IMPACTS

# Impacting Lives Through Leadership

### The Council Achieves Outcomes through Collaborative Projects:

The Council supports innovative projects and facilitates collaboration between a variety of stakeholders to achieve improved outcomes for children, youth, and adults with developmental disabilities. Below are examples of initiatives and collaboration that would not have happened without Council leadership, support and coordination.



- My Voice My Choice, the participant-directed Medicaid DD services option, became a reality in Idaho through the **Self-Determination Task Force** that was convened and supported by the Council.
- **Idaho Employment First Consortium** was established by the Council. In addition to increasing awareness about the capabilities of people with disabilities, over the last 5 years this group developed two reports with recommendations for **Medicaid employment support services** and related provider qualifications, including training components for staff who will help individuals build work-related skills, secure employment, and be successful in the workplace.
- The Council established and supported the **Collaborative Workgroup on Adult Developmental Disability Services** that researched effective service delivery systems, identified priorities for Idaho, and presented each year to the legislature.
- The Council brought higher education stakeholders together to be part of the state-level **Inclusive Education Task Force**. The group developed a plan for teacher preparation in Idaho that would lead to increased access for students with disabilities to a fully inclusive education.
- The Council proposed the structure of **Community NOW!** a statewide stakeholder collaborative to fully include individuals with developmental disabilities and their family members in developing recommendations for the K.W. vs. Armstrong settlement. The group completed a report to Medicaid with recommendations for important improvements to supports that would enable individuals to be valued members of their community.
- The Council built a basis for improving quality assurance through a **statewide face-to-face study** of 112 adults on the Medicaid Home and Community Based Services Developmental Disability waiver program.

### It Shows in the Numbers

- Over 950 people are directing their Medicaid DD services through the My Voice My Choice self-direction 450 employment support professionals received training in Employment First principles and best practice for customized employment and discovery that led to a state Vocational Rehabilitation pilot program to new ways to deliver services to individuals with the most significant disabilities.
- 117 education professionals received training in Universal Design for Learning to increase access for students with disabilities to classroom instruction.
- 237 adults with DD statewide were surveyed about the quality of their services.
- More ..... (other side)

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.

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# Leadership in Collaboration and Action

*“The Idaho Council on Developmental Disabilities (ICDD) is the most passionate and vital disability organization in our state. During the most polarizing political climate I can remember in my 60 years, ICDD successfully brought together self-advocates, family members, providers, and Medicaid to truly listen to self-advocates and their families, and to collaborate on the settlement of a class action lawsuit. Through this respectful Community Now process, a slow and methodical transformation happened and a realization that we all want the same things, inclusive communities, work, choice, and support. Without the ICDD and their amazing staff, I don’t believe the outcome would have been the same.” ~ Nora Jehn, parent*

## Measuring Impact – More Than Numbers

*The Council hears from past project participants about how their involvement in a leadership training or similar project changed their life. Many parents report that the leadership, advocacy skills and mind shift they achieved through a Council project will have a significant and lasting positive impact on the lives of their children.*

- Since, 1997, the Council has provided leadership development training to over 200 adults with developmental disabilities and parents of children with DD through its **Partners in Policymaking** program. Graduates of the program have gone on to hold leadership positions in state and local boards and committees. Some have been appointed to decision making bodies at the state level and/or been elected to office.
- In the last five years nearly 700 transition-age youth and young adults with disabilities received training and mentoring with over 520 local community businesses through Council supported **Disability Mentoring Day** events in local communities around the state. Some students were offered jobs or internships from this activity and others gained lasting a mentor in their career of interest.
- The Council led discussions with adults with developmental disabilities and family members through **Community NOW! Listening Sessions** around the state in spring 2017. Over 265 individuals attended the sessions and provided input about ways to improve their services.
- The Council participated on the **ABLE Statewide Stakeholder Committee** developed the Idaho solution for ABLE technical assistance and financial literacy for people with disabilities that successfully passed the 2017 legislature.



## Making a Difference One Person at a Time

*“After 26 years of post-traumatic brain injury living, I thought I had learned a lot about advocating for persons with disabilities. Then I became a participant in the Partners in Policymaking session and my heart and eyes were opened much wider....*

*I am so thankful for the existence of the ICDD and those involved in advocacy.”*

*~ Shane Facer, advocate,  
2016 PIP Graduate*

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