

Vision

“All Idahoans participate as equal members of society, empowered to reach their full potential as responsible and contributing citizens of their communities.”

Mission

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 choices.



Idaho Council on Developmental Disabilities

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The Idaho Council on Developmental Disabilities



Living, Learning, and Working Together

What is the Council on Developmental Disabilities?

The Council is authorized under state and federal law to:

- Provide public education and awareness about developmental disabilities;
- Promote quality in services and supports for individuals with developmental disabilities and their families;
- Monitor and evaluate state and federal policies, plans, and services and advocate to elected officials and public agencies;
- Encourage citizen participation in policy making; and
- Promote innovative programs and projects through grants and contracts.

Who Serves on the Council?

The Council is comprised of 23 Governor-appointed volunteer members, including people with developmental disabilities, family members, and representatives of public agencies and private organizations that serve people with developmental disabilities.

Council Goals

Every five years, the Council develops a plan to guide its work. The plan is based on public input and reflects the primary concerns and issues that have been identified. 2017-2021 goals of the Council include:

- 1 Adults with intellectual/developmental disabilities experience improved quality in Home and Community Based Services
- 2 Youth and young adults with intellectual/developmental disabilities transition from school to an adult life that includes competitive integrated employment, community engagement, and full citizenship.
- 3 Leaders with intellectual/developmental disabilities are engaged with other people with disabilities and families in a statewide coalition that has a strong, collective voice on policy issues and systems change.

Advocacy * Capacity Building * Systems Change



Council Activities and Accomplishments

- Partner with IDHW and other stakeholders to coordinate the **Community NOW!** initiative, with groups working to improve developmental disability services and policies.
- Promote the use of **person-centered, strength-based planning** in all systems and help teachers identify their students' gifts through training in **Core Gift Facilitation**.
- Provide leadership and advocacy training through the **Partners in Policymaking** program.
- Educate professionals in best practice for trauma-informed care so that people who experience a **Dual Diagnosis** of both developmental disability and mental illness have access to quality supports and services.
- Increase **cultural competency** in Council activities and state services with outreach to Spanish-speaking families and individuals.
- Engage adults with I/DD and family members statewide to create a strong statewide **Advocacy Coalition**.