



## **STATE WORK PLAN (Oct. 1, 2019 - Sept. 30, 2021)**

**Goal 1. People with developmental disabilities (PWDD) and their families will increase self-advocacy and leadership skills to enhance citizen participation, self-direction, family life, and systems.**

Objective 1.1. Each year, strengthen at least one self-advocacy organization or program led by PWDD.

- Activity 1.1.1. Provide information/training to self-advocacy organizations or programs through multiple channels, including website, social media, paper or electronic materials, webinars, conferences, etc.
- Activity 1.1.2. Support and/or provide technical assistance through the Council or consultants to address needs of self-advocacy organizations or programs.
- Activity 1.1.3. Support self-advocate organizations or programs to provide information or training on current trends and needs of the disability community across the state.

Objective 1.2. Each year, increase and support opportunities for 10 or more PWDD who are considered leaders to receive leadership training and to provide leadership training to PWDD who may become leaders.

- Activity 1.2.1. Gather and share information about leadership training available for people with developmental disabilities.
- Activity 1.2.2. Support family members and others assisting people with developmental disabilities who are attending training opportunities and key events, such as Disability Day at the Capitol.
- Activity 1.2.3. Enhance the Mississippi Council on Developmental Disabilities website and social media with materials and training opportunities relating to leadership and training.

Objective 1.3. Each year, increase participation by supporting five or more PWDD in cross-disability and culturally diverse leadership coalitions.

- Activity 1.3.1. Meet with a minimum of four agencies that provide services statewide to people with developmental disabilities to discuss alliances and options for participation in these coalitions.
- Activity 1.3.2. Encourage people with developmental disabilities to attend community meetings and advocate to serve in leadership position on coalitions.

**Goal 2. PWDD, families, and others in the community (including professionals, paraprofessionals, students, volunteers, and other community members) will have access to short-term demonstration projects to meet their needs and increase the independence, productivity, integration and inclusion of PWDD.**

Objective 2.1. By September 30, 2021, provide funding for at least two projects to demonstrate new approaches to direct services, enhance systems, or eliminate barriers to access and use of community services

(such as employment, transportation, housing, health, education and early intervention) to increase choice and flexibility of services.

- Activity 2.1.1. Continue support of systems change activities related to increasing employment of youth, young adults, and others to sustain efforts through “Employment First” initiatives.
- Activity 2.1.2. Support at least one program to increase the capacity to deliver services.

Objective 2.2. By September 30, 2021, provide funding for 10 or more area of emphasis demonstration projects for activities, including but not limited to outreach, training, technical assistance, supporting and educating communities, coordination/collaboration with other organizations or groups, citizen participation, and informing policymakers, to increase the independence, productivity, and integration and inclusion of PWDD and meet the needs of families of PWDD.

- Activity 2.2.1. Provide opportunities for development of new activities and innovative programs, in addition to technical assistance, to organizations to meet the needs of PWDD and families.
- Activity 2.2.2. Improve reading skills for at least 10 PWDD.
- Activity 2.2.3. Develop a post-secondary program for students with IDD to participate in college.

**Goal 3. PWDD, their families, policymakers and others will receive training and resources to enable all PWDD and families access to, or to be provided, community services, individualized supports, and other forms of assistance.**

Objective 3.1. Each year, support or conduct at least 10 activities to assist neighborhoods and communities to respond positively to PWDD and their families, as well as create awareness of current events, services, supports, and opportunities.

- Activity 3.1.1. Use multiple channels (website, social media, printed materials, etc.) to promote activities in communities across the state.
- Activity 3.1.2. Continue to coordinate and plan the Mississippi disAbility MegaConference annually while supporting at least 15 people with developmental and other disabilities and their families to attend.
- Activity 3.1.3. Participate in community events and conferences by setting up exhibits through sponsorships to share available resources and materials.
- Activity 3.1.4. Disseminate information through multiple channels regarding community calls-to-action or events relating to critical needs such as transportation, housing, and employment.

Objective 3.2. Each year, increase the knowledge of at least 10 policymakers to enhance generic services to meet the needs of, or provide specialized services to PWDD and their families.

- Activity 3.2.1. Provide information through multiple methods regarding needs of PWDD and their families.
- Activity 3.2.2. Promote new initiatives, best practices, or ideas to meet the service needs of PWDD and their families.

Objective 3.3. By September 30, 2021, increase opportunities or other guidance for 25 families or supporters of PWDD 50 years of age or older to plan for future quality of life needs. This is a targeted disparity group.

- Activity 3.3.1. Recruit participants and/or promote activities through at least 10 agencies or programs currently involved or providing services to this targeted disparity group.
- Activity 3.3.2. Provide training and information sessions for the targeted disparity group of families of PWDD 50 years of age or older to learn about critical issues (such as supported decision making, estate planning, caregiving, etc.) for this targeted disparity group.

**Goal 4. Entities or communities assisting or providing services to PWDD and their families will increase their coordination of activities to meet the needs of PWDD.**

Objective 4.1. Each year, coordinate with the Developmental Disabilities Network partners (Disability Rights Mississippi and The University of Southern Mississippi Institute for Disability Studies) on specific activities to address at least three critical needs of PWDD, including educating communities, coalition development, and outreach.

- Activity 4.1.1. Continue to collaborate with The University of Southern Mississippi Institute for Disability Studies (UCEDD) for technical assistance to maintain the Mississippi Community Resource Directory to provide information on services or resources to at least 5,000 people with developmental and other disabilities, family members, and the general public.
- Activity 4.1.2. Continue to participate on the The University of Southern Mississippi Institute for Disability Studies (UCEDD) Community Partnership Advisory Council.
- Activity 4.1.3. Continue to collaborate with Disability Rights Mississippi (Protection and Advocacy) to participate in community roundtables or surveys each year in targeted communities across the state to determine critical issues affecting people with developmental disabilities and their families.
- Activity 4.1.4. In collaboration with both Developmental Disabilities Network partners, provide resources and information to at least 30 participants attending the community roundtables or forums
- Activity 4.1.5. Collaborate with both Developmental Disabilities Network partners to develop at least two newsletters yearly with each issue focusing on critical issues relevant to people with developmental disabilities.

Objective 4.2. Each year, partner with service agencies, disability groups, and others on at least five coalitions or networks to engage in advocacy, capacity building, or systems change activities to improve the quality of life of PWDD.

- Activity 4.2.1. Council staff and members will continue to participate on coalitions, such as the Mississippi Department of Mental Health Bureau of IDD Advisory Council, Mississippi Autism Advisory Committee, Hudspeth Regional Center Human Rights and Advocacy Committee, Mississippi Hearing-Vision Project, Sibshops, the Mississippi Sibling Leadership Network, and others.
- Activity 4.2.2. Explore opportunities for additional networking across the state.