

ARIZONA STATE SENATE  
RESEARCH STAFF



TO: JOINT LEGISLATIVE AUDIT COMMITTEE  
Senator Robert Blendu, Chairman  
Representative John Nelson, Vice Chairman

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SERVICES COMMITTEE  
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DATE: January 8, 2009

SUBJECT: Sunset Review of the Governor's Council on Developmental Disabilities

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Attached is the final report of the sunset review of the Governor's Council on Developmental Disabilities, which was conducted by the Senate Public Safety and Human Services and the House of Representatives Human Services Committee of Reference.

This report has been distributed to the following individuals and agencies:

Governor of the State of Arizona  
The Honorable Janet Napolitano

President of the Senate  
Senator Timothy S. Bee

Speaker of the House of Representatives  
Representative James P. Weiers

Senate Members  
Senator Linda Gray, Cochair  
Senator Chuck Gray  
Senator Jack W. Harper  
Senator Leah Landrum Taylor  
Senator Victor Soltero

House Members  
Representative Pete Hershberger, Cochair  
Representative Nancy K. Barto  
Representative David Bradley  
Representative Chad Campbell  
Representative Andrew M. Tobin

Governor's Council on Developmental Disabilities  
Arizona State Library, Archives & Public Records

Senate Majority Staff  
Senate Research Staff  
Senate Minority Staff  
Senate Resource Center

House Majority Staff  
House Research Staff  
House Minority Staff  
Chief Clerk

AO/jas  
Attachments

**Senate Public Safety and Human Services and  
House of Representatives Human Services  
Committee of Reference Report**

**GOVERNOR'S COUNCIL ON DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES**

***Background***

Pursuant to A.R.S. § 41-2953, the Joint Legislative Audit Committee (JLAC) assigned the sunset review of the Governor's Council on Developmental Disabilities (Council) to the Committee of Reference comprised of members of the Senate Public Safety and Human Services and House of Representatives Human Services Committees.

Statute defines "developmental disability" as a severe, chronic disability of a person that: 1) is attributable to mental or physical impairment such as mental retardation, cerebral palsy, epilepsy or autism; 2) is manifest before age 18 and is likely to continue indefinitely; 3) results in substantial functional limitations in three or more areas of major life activity; and 4) reflects the need for a combination and sequence of individually planned or coordinated special, interdisciplinary or generic care, treatment or other services that are of lifelong or extended duration (A.R.S. § 41-2451).

The Council was created in 1978 under executive order as the Arizona Developmental Disabilities Planning and Advocacy Council and statutorily established in 1983. Section 41-2452, A.R.S., establishes the Council as Arizona's coordination and planning body for the field of developmental disabilities. The Council is comprised of up to 25 members who are appointed by the Governor and who must represent people with developmental disabilities; parents, guardians and immediate relatives of people with developmental disabilities; and representatives from training and university-affiliated facilities, nonprofit groups and governmental agencies concerned with services to persons with developmental disabilities. Statute specifies that the Council is responsible to the office of the Governor. The Council is statutorily required to serve as a forum and submit periodic reports regarding services and programs for persons with developmental disabilities; advise the private sector, the executive and, if requested, the legislative branches of state government on programs and policies pertaining to current and potential services; monitor services; facilitate the coordination of the district advisory councils in the six planning districts to serve as a community information network; and review, comment and make recommendations on state service plans that affect persons with developmental disabilities. To address federal goals and objectives, the Council develops a five-year State Plan by seeking public input, including email and conventional mail dispatches, public forums and special meetings. The current plan goals for 2007 to 2011 are in the areas of education, employment, housing, health care, transportation, community supports and quality assurance.

The Council is entirely federally funded under the Developmental Disabilities Assistance and Bill of Rights Act; however, the Department of Economic Security may provide administrative and technical assistance to the Council, subject to legislative appropriation. According to the Council, Arizona's share of federal funds is \$1,342,099 in Federal Fiscal Year (FFY) 2007-2008. The Council terminates on July 1, 2009, unless continued by the Legislature (A.R.S. § 41-3009.04).

## ***Committee of Reference Sunset Review Procedures***

The Committee of Reference held public meetings on November 6, 2008, and December 15, 2008, to review the statutory sunset factors and required agency factors prepared by the Council and to receive public testimony.

## ***Committee Recommendations***

The Committee of Reference recommended that the Legislature do the following:

1. Continue the Council for one year.
2. Clarify the Council membership appointment and removal process.
3. Clarify the lobbying guidelines of the Council.
4. Consider adding members to the Council representing the cognitive disabled community so that they have equal representation to the physically disabled community.
5. Clarify the Council's mission statement and align it with federal guidelines.
6. Designate an accountability entity for proper fiduciary and legal oversight of the Council, such as the Attorney General.
7. Consider renaming the Council the Arizona Council on Developmental Disabilities.

The Committee of Reference recommended that the Council do the following:

1. Find ways to increase interaction with the developmentally disabled community on a regular basis, including the following:
  - a. Structure Council meetings so members directly interact with the Community Liaisons and the public.
  - b. Communicate proactively with local and statewide developmental disability advocacy and service organizations to encourage more public testimony at the Council meetings.
  - c. Discuss all legislative actions and ballot proposals impacting the developmentally disabled community.
2. Have rules outlining a competitive bidding process for expenditures.
3. Adhere to meeting agendas and give members adequate notice of agenda items.
4. Receive training on the open meeting law.

## ***Attachments***

1. Meeting Notices
2. Minutes of Committee of Reference Meetings
3. Statutory Sunset Factors and Required Agency Factors
4. Organizational Chart and Statements of Revenue and Expenditures
5. Five Year State Plan: 2007-2011
6. Governor's Council on Developmental Disabilities Annual Report: FFY 2006-2007

***ATTACHMENT 1***

# ARIZONA STATE LEGISLATURE

## INTERIM MEETING NOTICE OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

### SENATE PUBLIC SAFETY AND HUMAN SERVICES AND HOUSE HUMAN SERVICES COMMITTEE OF REFERENCE

**Date:** Thursday, November 6, 2008

**Time:** 11:00 A.M.

**Place:** SHR 1

#### AGENDA

1. Call to Order
2. Opening Remarks
3. Sunset Audit of the Governor's Council on Developmental Disabilities
  - Presentation by the Council
  - Public Testimony
  - Discussion
  - Recommendations by the Committee of Reference
4. Presentation on Question and Answer documents and Information Briefs related to Child Protective Services prepared by the Office of the Auditor General
  - Child Removal Process
  - Child and Family Advocacy Centers
  - Processes for Evaluating and Addressing CPS Employee Performance and Behavior
5. Presentation on the performance audit of the CPS Complaint Management Process by the Office of the Auditor General
  - Response by the Department of Economic Security
  - Public Testimony
  - Discussion
6. Adjourn

#### Members:

Senator Linda Gray, Co-Chair  
Senator Chuck Gray  
Senator Jack Harper  
Senator Leah Landrum Taylor  
Senator Victor Soltero

Representative Pete Hershberger, Co-Chair  
Representative Nancy Barto  
Representative David Bradley  
Representative Chad Campbell  
Representative Andrew Tobin

11/4/08

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Persons with a disability may request a reasonable accommodation such as a sign language interpreter, by contacting the Senate Secretary's Office: (602)926-4231 (voice). Requests should be made as early as possible to allow time to arrange the accommodation.

# ARIZONA STATE LEGISLATURE

## INTERIM MEETING NOTICE OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

### SENATE PUBLIC SAFETY AND HUMAN SERVICES AND HOUSE HUMAN SERVICES COMMITTEE OF REFERENCE

**Date:** Monday, December 15, 2008

**Time:** 1:30 P.M.

**Place:** SHR 1

#### AGENDA

1. Call to Order
2. Opening Remarks  
Sunset Audit of the Governor's Council on Developmental Disabilities
3.
  - Discussion
  - Recommendations by the Committee of Reference
4. Auditor General Question and Answer documents and Information Brief related to Child Protective Services
  - Child Removal Process
  - Child and Family Advocacy Centers
  - Processes for Evaluating and Addressing CPS Employee Performance and Behavior
5. Presentation on the performance audit of the CPS Complaint Management Process by the Office of the Auditor General
  - Response by the Department of Economic Security
  - Public Testimony
  - Discussion
6. Adjourn

#### Members:

Senator Linda Gray, Co-Chair  
Senator Chuck Gray  
Senator Jack Harper  
Senator Leah Landrum Taylor  
Senator Victor Soltero

Representative Pete Hershberger, Co-Chair  
Representative Nancy Barto  
Representative David Bradley  
Representative Chad Campbell  
Representative Andrew Tobin

11/13/08

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Persons with a disability may request a reasonable accommodation such as a sign language interpreter, by contacting the Senate Secretary's Office: (602)926-4231 (voice). Requests should be made as early as possible to allow time to arrange the accommodation.

***ATTACHMENT 2***

# ARIZONA STATE LEGISLATURE

Forty-eighth Legislature – Second Regular Session

## SENATE PUBLIC SAFETY AND HUMAN SERVICES AND HOUSE HUMAN SERVICES COMMITTEE OF REFERENCE

Minutes of Meeting  
Thursday, November 6, 2008  
SHR 1 -- 11:00 a.m.

CoChair Linda Gray called the meeting to order at 11:05 a.m. and attendance was noted by the secretary.

### Members Present

Senator Linda Gray, CoChair  
Senator Chuck Gray  
Senator Jack Harper  
Senator Victor Soltero

Representative Nancy Barto  
Representative David Bradley  
Representative Andrew Tobin

### Members Absent

Senator Leah Landrum Taylor (excused)

Representative Pete Hershberger, CoChair  
Representative Chad Campbell

### **Speakers Present**

Xochitl Calderon, interpreter for Matthew Wangemann, Chairman of the Governor's Council on Developmental Disabilities  
Mr. Delgado, representing self  
Monica Cooper, representing self  
Katie Griffith, Member, Governor's Council on Developmental Disabilities  
David Carey, representing self  
George Garcia, representing self  
Franc Kahn, Executive Director, Governor's Council on Developmental Disabilities  
Catherine Dahlquist, Performance Audit Manager, Office of the Auditor General  
Gary Arnold, Child Protective Services, Division of Children, Youth and Families  
David Longo, Financial Business Operations Administrator, Division of Children, Youth and Families

## **PRESENTATIONS:**

### **Sunset Audit of the Governor's Council on Development Disabilities:**

Xochitl Calderon, interpreter for Matthew Wangemann, Chairman of the Governor's Council on Developmental Disabilities (DD), spoke on behalf of Mr. Wangemann. She reviewed the slide presentation included in the packet prepared by the Council (Attachment 1). She advised that Mr. Wangemann has been the Chair of the Council for approximately four years. Mr. Art Gode is the Council Vice Chair, and Mr. Franc Kahn is the Executive Director of the Council. She related that the Council operates under the federal definition of developmental disability: a severe, chronic disability of an individual that is attributable to a physical or mental impairment that is manifested before the individual attains age 22, is likely to continue indefinitely, results in substantial functional limitations in three or more of the major life activities and reflects the individual's need for lifelong or extended duration assistance. The Council implements new ideas for enhancing the lives of people with disabilities and advocates for its constituency. The mission of the Council is to work in partnership with individuals with developmental disabilities and their families, to assist in change, advocacy and capacity-building activities that promote independence, choice and the ability of all individuals to pursue their own dreams.

Ms. Calderon advised that the Council is authorized by the Federal Developmental Disabilities Assistance and Bill of Rights Act. The Council is funded by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services Administration on Developmental Disabilities. The Arizona Department of Economic Security is the Council's designated state agency. She reviewed information on membership of the Council, history, quality control, public involvement and achievements. The consequences of terminating the agency will create a noticeable void in advocacy for those with developmental disabilities and loss of federal grants, resulting in loss of funds and services. Consolidating the Council with another agency will likely result in forfeiture in the ability to effectively perform its critical functions for the disabled community and would jeopardize the continuation of federal funding.

Mr. Delgado, representing self, testified that he became involved with this issue because of a family member who is disabled. He spoke in support of continuing the Council.

Monica Cooper, representing self, advised that she is a self advocate and belongs to a self-advocacy group, "People First for Arizona." She related that the Governor's Council on Developmental Disabilities has been a valuable asset to the State of Arizona. The Council has provided grants to members of her group to go to various Arizona junior and senior high schools to teach students about self-advocacy. In addition, the Council is helping the Self-Advocacy Coalition to get funded while it is attempting to get its nonprofit status. Without the Council, she said it would have been very difficult to form groups that could join together for a common cause.

Katie Griffith, Member, Governor's Council on Developmental Disabilities, testified in support of the continuation of the Council. She urged Members to continue to fund the Council.

David Carey, representing self, advised that he works for the Arizona Bridge for Independent Living and has been involved with the Council for eight years. He said the Council is important because it provides funding and programs which have been beneficial in improving the quality of life for the disabled. He urged that the Council be fully funded.

George Garcia, representing self, said that he is speaking on behalf of other people who have disabilities. If the program is terminated and its funding stopped, it will silence the voice of many people who have disabilities. The Council is an organization that allows people to come together and speak as one. He stated that the program is needed and it is important that its funding be continued.

Representative Tobin queried how the disabled community is reacting to the minimum wage issue.

Franc Kahn, Executive Director, Governor's Council on Developmental Disabilities, replied that there are a number of diverse opinions on what course to pursue on this issue. The Council functions under a federal mandate of equal rights and access for people with developmental disabilities. When the State adopted an increase in the minimum wage that trumped the federal minimum wage, the Council tried to develop an approach of what its constituents were looking for, and it petitioned the Arizona Industrial Commission to work out a compromise to address concerns. The Industrial Commission listened to the various viewpoints and adopted a protocol that seems to be working well. He said he has not heard discussions about making changes.

Representative Barto questioned whether the issue was discussed by Council members. Mr. Kahn answered in the affirmative. He said there were heated discussions because of the various viewpoints and concerns were addressed. Representative Barto said her concern is that constituents have been informed of discussions on this issue. Mr. Kahn advised that members of the public were given the opportunity to testify and members of the Council were afforded the opportunity to address concerns raised.

In reply to Representative Barto, Mr. Kahn stated that the Council has six staff members, all State employees, who work in the communities to address constituents' problems. They act as a pipeline of information, reporting back to him and, in turn, he reports to the full Council.

Representative Barto noted that the letter from the Director in the annual report differs from the Council's mission statement in that it omits mention of the family's role (Attachment 1). Mr. Kahn replied that families play an important role in the Council's efforts in assisting its constituents.

Senator Chuck Gray asked about the overall budget for the Council. Mr. Kahn advised that this year's allocation to the Council is \$1.3 million. All monies received by the Council come from the Department of Health and Human Services; the Council receives no funds from the State. There are no matching State funds; however, states are responsible for making in-kind support contributions to help the various councils carry out their mandates.

Senator Chuck Gray queried the amount of State monies that are allocated towards advocacy. Mr. Kahn replied that the Council allocated \$10,000 to \$12,000 last year.

CoChair Linda Gray noted that she had seen a figure of \$20,000. Mr. Kahn said it is possible that as much as \$18,000 was sent; however, a lot of those monies are recouped from booth fees charged to participants at the event. CoChair Linda Gray asked about the participants of the booths and what they are charged. Mr. Kahn said the cost is about \$200; however, he noted that the cost is waived for any entity that cannot pay.

In response to CoChair Linda Gray about lobbyists, Mr. Kahn advised that the Council does not lobby; but there is a Legislative Liaison whose duty is to educate policymakers at a cost of approximately \$70,000 to \$75,000. CoChair Linda Gray asked Mr. Kahn to provide the Rule which prohibits the Council from using the funding for lobbyists.

CoChair Linda Gray announced that the Committee will not make recommendations today on the continuation of the Council because of the absence of some Members who are attending leadership meetings and because of the quantity of material that was presented to Members.

Persons in support of continuing the Governor's Council on Development Disabilities who did not speak:

Art Gode, Vice Chairman, Governor's Council on Developmental Disabilities  
Cynthia Gafford, Executive Assistant, Governor's Council on Developmental Disabilities  
Jon Hinz, Member, Governor's Council on Developmental Disabilities, representing self

**Presentation on Question and Answer documents and Information Briefs related to Child Protective Services prepared by the Office of the Auditor General:**

Catherine Dahlquist, Performance Audit Manager, Office of the Auditor General (AG), presented information on an information brief and two questions-and-answers documents related to Child Protective Services (CPS) that were issued by the AG's Office in 2008 (Attachment 2). The information was developed at the request of legislators and other key stakeholders who wanted information but did not want a full audit. The documents do not contain recommendations.

Ms. Dahlquist reviewed the process that CPS must follow when temporarily removing a child from the home. She also reviewed information on child and family advocacy centers.

Senator Harper asked Ms. Dahlquist to give an example of removal due to the physical or mental condition of the caregiver. Ms. Dahlquist replied that it is anything that prevents the caregiver from providing adequate care to the child. Senator Harper queried whether there is a standard in statute or whether it is left up to CPS or a judge. Ms. Dahlquist answered that the standard is probable cause of imminent danger.

Discussion ensued on the time frame from the time the child is removed from the home until the time of the hearing in court.

Discussion ensued on the issue of CPS employees who were promoted without being evaluated. Ms. Dahlquist noted that this is not an area that the AG's Office was requested to evaluate.

Representative Tobin asked whether there have been evaluations to determine the number of CPS employees who are also caregivers for the State. Ms. Dahlquist replied in the negative. Representative Tobin said he would like to see if there is some statistical data on this issue.

CoChair Linda Gray questioned the percentage of cases that go beyond the 21-day deadline in trying to resolve the issue and to get the child either back with the parent or placed in foster care. Ms. Dahlquist replied that is not an area that was looked at by the AG's Office because that falls under the purview of the Juvenile Court.

Gary Arnold, Division of Children, Youth and Families, responded to questions.

CoChair Linda Gray asked about deadlines. Mr. Arnold explained that there are a number of different time frames and other factors that might lengthen the court process.

Senator Chuck Gray asked for an update on the problem of background investigations of CPS employees. Mr. Arnold responded that employees go through extensive criminal history background and fingerprint checks. He revealed that there was a period of time when employees did not have fingerprint checks. Senator Chuck Gray noted that some employees had gone through that process and had slipped through. He said he would like to have information on those employees who did not meet the standards as well as the disposition, in addition to the charges or allegations, and what happened to them as far as their employment is concerned.

Senator Chuck Gray queried CPS's annual budget.

David Longo, Financial Business Operations Administrator, Division of Children, Youth and Families, stated that the annual budget for CPS is approximately \$400 million. The Division receives General Fund monies, federal funds, other grants and other funds.

Senator Chuck Gray raised questions relating to federal funds. Mr. Longo advised that Title 4E monies comprise approximately 35-40 percent of the federal funds. He stated there is a review process and safeguards in place to ensure that the child is placed legitimately.

CoChair Gray asked what has been done to correct probationary employees being promoted without evaluations. Mr. Arnold said the Division has instituted an extensive effort to train supervisors on the evaluation process.

In response to Representative Bradley relating to other safeguards in place, Mr. Longo advised that supervisors meet with staff on a regular basis.

Representative Bradley asked whether there are frequent meetings related to the removal of children so that the decision does not rest solely on the caseworker. Mr. Arnold advised that there is ongoing review of cases. Representative Bradley queried whether there is any financial incentive for the caseworker relative to removal. Mr. Arnold replied in the negative. He said there is a stipend to investigative staff for completing a specific number of investigations during a monthly period.

Representative Bradley asked whether there is any incentive from the federal government for adoption of children or for kinship cases. Mr. Longo said there is no incentive for the child removal process. The only incentive from the federal government is for children achieving permanency through adoption. There is no additional incentive for kinship placements.

CoChair Linda Gray asked CPS to provide information on the amount and percent increase in the CPS budget over the last ten years.

**Presentation on the performance audit of the CPS Complaint Management Process by the Office of the Auditor General:**

CoChair Linda Gray announced that item #5 on the agenda will be discussed at the next meeting (Attachment 3).

Without objection, the meeting adjourned at 1:00 p.m.

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Joanne Bell, Committee Secretary

November 19, 2008

(Original minutes, attachments and audio on file in the Chief Clerk's Office; video archives available at <http://www.azleg.gov>)

# ARIZONA STATE LEGISLATURE

Forty-eighth Legislature – Second Regular Session

## SENATE PUBLIC SAFETY AND HUMAN SERVICES AND HOUSE HUMAN SERVICES COMMITTEE OF REFERENCE

Minutes of Meeting  
Monday, December 15, 2008  
SHR 1 -- 1:30 p.m.

Cochair Linda Gray called the meeting to order at 1:40 p.m. and attendance was noted by the secretary.

### Members Present

Senator Jack Harper  
Senator Victor Soltero  
Senator Linda Gray, CoChair

Representative Nancy Barto  
Representative David Bradley  
Representative Chad Campbell

### Members Absent

Senator Chuck Gray  
Senator Leah Landrum Taylor

Representative Andrew Tobin  
Representative Pete Hershberger, CoChair

### PRESENTATIONS:

#### Sunset Audit of the Governor's Council on Developmental Disabilities:

A handout prepared by Senate Research staff was distributed (Attachment 1).

Katie Griffith, representing self, testified in support of the Governor's Council on Developmental Disabilities (DD). She related that the Council has helped her in many ways and has given her many opportunities to better herself. Since becoming President of the Advocacy Coalition of Arizona, the Council has helped her with self-esteem. She spoke of the importance of the advocacy movement and asked Members to continue to support the Council so that other disabled individuals can realize their potential.

Patricia Jones, representing self, advised that she has a developmental disability and was told by her doctor that she would never be a leader of anyone. She said she is currently a student at Arizona State University and has served on national and statewide self-advocacy boards. She feels that the Governor's Council should be continued. She reminded Members that the Council is federally funded and that no monies come from the State. The Council is mandated by the Developmental Disabilities Assistance and Bill of Rights Act to protect and advocate for the disabled population. She stated that this Council has stood up for the rights of individuals even

when there have been obstacles and she believes the Council has been very true to its mission and mandate.

Senator Harper asked Ms. Jones whether the Council has ever encouraged her to contact Congress about funding. Ms. Jones replied that the Council has helped individuals to learn and become part of the process.

Debora Henretta, representing self, stated that she is very disappointed with the Governor's Council. When she heard of a vacancy on the Council, she filled out an application with the hope of being appointed to the Board, but to date has not heard a word back from anyone. Her dissatisfaction with the Council relates to the closure of the Coolidge facility where her brother was receiving care. She said the closure showed her that the Council was not representing all of the DD population. She maintained that this vulnerable small population needs representation.

CoChair Gray asked whether the position has been filled on the Board.

Franc Kahn, Executive Director, Governor's Council on Developmental Disabilities, replied that the Governor has been petitioned to appoint someone to fill two active positions on the Council but to date the Governor has not done so.

Senator Soltero wondered whether the Governor removes individuals as well as appoints them. Mr. Kahn answered that the Governor appoints members to the Council and they serve at her pleasure.

Art Gode, representing self, testified that he is the parent of a developmentally disabled son and the Vice Chair of the Council. He said the Council provided training relative to the systems which has been invaluable to him and others in the community. Because of that, his son has made tremendous progress beyond what anyone expected. He offered his support of the Council.

CoChair Gray asked whether the Council recommended that a certain person not sit on the Board. Mr. Gode replied in the affirmative. He said the position was as a parent advocate. CoChair Gray asked for a copy of the minutes of that meeting. Mr. Gode advised that he will get a copy of the minutes and noted that it was a public meeting.

Matthew Wangerman, Chairman of the Governor's Council on Developmental Disabilities, through his interpreter Xochitl Calderon, was clearly upset at allegations made. He stated that Council members voted to remove the aforementioned Council member because he violated the code of conduct.

CoChair Gray questioned which code of conduct was violated.

Mr. Wangerman replied that the individual spoke, not representing the Council, in several public meetings against the Council. In addition, this person threatened his life last year. He said he, as well as others, are afraid to come to meetings and that is why the Council voted to recommend to the Governor the removal of this member.

Randy Gray, representing self, stated that he is a parent of a child with autism who has achieved numerous honors in school. He related that he has traveled nationally so he has gotten a keen perspective on what has been the mission of the councils; however, there is a lot of confusion in this Council. He believes this Council has stifled creativity and adversarial positions. The role and position of the Council should be to bring issues to the public. Currently, he does not know what the position is because there is no transparency. He said the Council should be continued because it is needed but said he believes it needs total overhaul, strict oversight and a one-year continuation probation.

Sherry Howard Wilhelmi, representing self, testified that she was a member of the Council. When she expressed opposing opinions about how the Council should be run, she was removed as a member. She advised that she is not alone in this; the Council has a history of removing members when they offer differing opinions. She said her concern is that not all issues are being addressed by the Council and she also stated she has concerns about the lobbying issue.

In response to CoChair Gray, Ms. Wilhelmi said she received a phone call advising her of her removal. She did not receive a letter from the Governor.

Bradley Newman, representing self, testified that he is the Executive Director of Yavapai Exceptional Industries. Even if Members vote to sunset the Council, the needs of the people and strategies will still exist.

CoChair Gray announced that sunset hearings are mandated by law. Members of this Committee must conduct a review of the Council and come up with recommendations to make improvements.

In answer to Representative Campbell, Mr. Newman stated that Yavapai Exceptional Industries is a nonprofit organization supporting adults in the community. Employment is the main focus.

Jill Ryan, representing self, said she is a member of the Governor's Council on Developmental Disabilities and a parent advocate. She expressed concern with some of the issues facing the Council, such as not allowing family advocacy. She maintained that groups should be fully heard, e.g., the closing of the Coolidge facility. She is also concerned with the lack of direct community input at meetings because public input is valuable. Everything is funneled to the Executive Director and he in turn brings issues to the Council. She related that members are often asked to vote at the last minute on issues that are not in writing without an explanation of what they are voting on. She revealed that some of the issues involve big money. She said her greatest concern is about the vote at the last meeting to remove a member. She stated that the Governor's job is to appoint and remove members, and this function should not be something Council members should vote on.

Karen Van Epps, representing self, stated that she has served as Chair and Vice Chair of the Council in the past. In the past the Council was open to all views; however, that is sorely

missing now. She believes that the Council is disconnected. People who cannot speak for themselves are not being represented and this is an opportunity to fix that.

Lionel Delgado, representing self, advised that he is a member of the Council. The Council is part of a national network and keeps in contact with other states. His position is that the Council is doing its job. He asked Members to read the Council's Annual Report on its struggles and achievements, give consideration to what everyone has said and continue the Council.

Pam Allen, representing self, related that she is not a member but has worked with the Council. She said her experience with Franc Kahn is that he tries to follow the letter of the law. She believes that the Council has moved forward in trying to make a better world, a more functional world, for people with developmental disabilities. The Council has taken an active role, not as lobbyists, but as advocates in asking for legislation to try to find a cost-effective way for the State to move forward with issues facing the developmentally challenged population. She said she wants the Council to continue.

Jon Hinz, representing self, stated that he is a former Executive Director of the Council and has a 30-year history with developmental disabilities. He divulged that he is the parent representative who was removed from the Council. He received no advance notice or written documentation of his violations. He also questioned the legal advice of his removal and many times has questioned what the Council has done. He said the Council has many agendas; but unfortunately, those agendas do not represent the entire DD community and those individuals are totally disenfranchised. He disclosed that he did receive a call from the Governor's Office asking for his opinion but to date has heard nothing further, and does not know whether he is still a member of the Council. He said everyone should have their voice heard but that is not happening now. He feels there definitely should be a Council; however, he questions the role of this Council and its current leadership. He believes the Council needs major corrections if it is to continue. He recommended extending the Council for one year, looking at its leadership and mandating legal oversight.

Representative Campbell said it sounds like a structure problem. Mr. Hinz contended that the rules have changed and that there is no structure in place. In addition, there are conflicts of interest.

Persons in support of the Governor's Council on Developmental Disabilities who did not speak:

David Carey, representing self

Joe Bonanno, Executive Director, The Arc of Arizona

Cynthia Gafford, Executive Assistant, Governor's Council on Developmental Disabilities

Lacy Cansler, Legislative Liaison, Governor's Council on Developmental Disabilities

### **Recommendations by the Committee of Reference:**

Representative Barto made the following draft recommendations:

1. The Council should find ways to increase interaction with the Developmentally Disabled public on a regular basis including the following:
  - a. Structure Council meetings so members directly interact with the community liaisons and the public.
  - b. Communicate proactively with local and statewide DD advocacy and service organizations to encourage more public testimony at the Council meetings.
  - c. Discuss all legislative actions and ballot proposals impacting the DD community.
2. The council should have rules outlining a competitive bidding process for expenditures.
3. The Legislature should clarify the Council membership appointment and removal process.
4. The Legislature should clarify the lobbying guidelines of the Council.
5. The Council should adhere to meeting agendas and give members adequate notice of the agenda.
6. The Legislature should consider adding members to the Council membership representing the cognitive disabled community – equal representation as physically disabled.
7. The Legislature should clarify the Council's mission statement and align it with federal guidelines.
8. The Legislature should designate an accountability entity for proper fiduciary and legal oversight of the Council, such as the Attorney General.
9. The Council should receive open meeting laws training.
10. The Legislature should consider renaming the Council to the Arizona Council on Developmental Disabilities.

**Representative Barto moved that the Committee of Reference recommend that the Legislature extend the Council's operations for one year with the draft recommendations listed above.**

Senator Soltero suggested that the Attorney General's Office assign a legal person to monitor the Council's procedures, rules and regulations so that things are done legally. Representative Campbell agreed. Senator Harper disagreed with assigning more staff from the AG's Office. He believes the Council should sunset in 2009 and be reestablished in the next fiscal year.

CoChair Gray restated that the motion today is for a one-year continuance of the Council with the recommendations made by Representative Barto and Senator Soltero. She reiterated that the recommendation has to go before the full Legislature.

Representative Barto said she does not support Senator Harper's recommendation. She stated that the Council has done a lot of good work and that their accomplishments should be recognized.

Representative Bradley pointed out that some of the testimony given today was hearsay and he would like the Director to comment.

Senator Soltero commented that this has a long way to go and there is ample time for rebuttal of allegations.

**Question was called on Representative Barto's motion. The motion carried by voice vote.**

**Presentation on the performance audit of the CPS Complaint Management Process by the Office of the Auditor General:**

Dan Hunt, Senior Auditor, Auditor General's Office (AG), reviewed a slide presentation on the AG's performance audit of the CPS Complaint Management Process (Attachment 2). Mr. Hunt read from prepared text explaining each slide (Attachment 3).

Senator Harper queried whether sunset audits are required by the Constitution or by statute. Mr. Hunt said he was not sure.

Melanie Chesney, Director of the Performance Audit Division, Auditor General's Office, stated that sunset reviews are statutorily required.

In response to Senator Harper, Ms. Chesney affirmed that sunset audits are sometimes requested by the Joint Legislative Audit Committee

CoChair Gray asked where the complaint forms can be found on-line. Mr. Hunt advised that they are on the Department's general website. He said he will get that information.

**Response by the Department of Economic Security:**

Gary Arnold, Department of Economic Security, Division of Children, Youth and Families (CYF), responded to the complaint management performance audit. He said the Department has agreed to implement all of the recommendations made in the audit. He updated Members on what CYF has done to implement the recommendations:

- Clarify the complaint of policies and procedures.
- Prepare and develop comprehensive and detailed guidance for staff.
- Ensure that staff is informed of and following Division complaint-handling policies and procedures.
- Complete implementation of an automated complaint tracking system to capture key information.
- Review management reports from the tracking system to identify systemic problems and take corrective action.
- Establish timeframes and procedures for reviewing the complaint process and correct any deficiencies.

**Public Testimony:**

Representative Rick Murphy, representing self, advised that he and his wife have been foster parents for about three and a half years. They currently have four foster children in their home plus two adopted children. He said he is completely in favor of a tracking system for complaints because he does not believe complaints are being well handled at this time. He related that he

has had major concerns on policy, infringements, etc., and said he could not come to an agreement when he spoke to the case worker or the supervisor. He said he was completely dissatisfied with their plans which he felt were detrimental to the children. He was never referred to a formal grievance process or given any notice or documentation. CPS policy regarding resolving conflicts refers to a conflict resolution conference. He was made aware of this process just last week and he wondered how the average foster parent would know about this unless told by the caseworker. In his opinion, there are many problems that are not being addressed. He maintained that CPS is not informing foster parents what their rights are and what processes might be in place to resolve concerns. In addition, he said he does not think the periodic reviews should be limited to internal review by CPS staff. He said he does not feel there is adequate accountability and thinks individuals outside of the agency should be privy to these reviews.

Mr. Arnold concurred with Representative Murphy that parents should be more fully informed by staff.

Without objection, the meeting adjourned at 3:45 p.m.

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Joanne Bell, Committee Secretary

January 6, 2009

(Original minutes, attachments and audio on file in the Chief Clerk's Office; video archives available at <http://www.azleg.gov>)

***ATTACHMENT 3***



**Governor's Council  
on Developmental Disabilities**

*Working Toward One Community for All Arizonans*

3839 N. Third Street, Ste. 306  
Phoenix, AZ 85012

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Toll Free 1-866-771-9378

September 12, 2008

Honorable Linda Gray  
Arizona State Legislature  
Capitol Complex, Senate Building  
Phoenix, AZ 85007

Dear Senator Gray:

In complying with the request from your Committee regarding the sunset review for the Governor's Council on Developmental Disabilities (Council/GCDD), I am providing responses to the questions we were requested to answer. Attached are copies of our organizational chart, most recent annual report, Council minutes and agendas for the past five years, results of our recent Federal 2008 Audit-MTARS Report (fiscal & programmatic), FY08 Federal Award letter, FY08 Statement of Revenue & Expenditures, GCDD 2007-2011 five-year plan, GCDD Master 5-Year Planning Document, Developmental Disabilities Council Annual Public Performance Report and a recommendation letter from Arizona Department of Economic Security- Director Tracy Wareing, for your review.

**1. The objective and purpose in establishing the agency.**

The Council is the State's designated body for planning and advocacy on behalf of Arizonans with developmental disabilities. The Council consists of up to 25 members who are appointed by the Governor for no more than two 3-year terms. According to A.R.S. 41-2452, the Council "is established to provide coordination and planning in the field of developmental disabilities". Additionally, A.R.S. 41-2454 outlines the duties of the Council, including serving as a forum for discussing issues, advising private sector and state government officials on programs and policies, reviewing and making recommendations on Arizona service plans, developing a Council plan, monitoring programs and services, and coordinating the district advisory councils in the six planning districts.

These district advisory councils are comprised of community volunteers, most of whom are individuals with disabilities and their families. Other members include local officials, service agency representatives and interested citizens. Previously the Council contracted with entities statewide to staff the district advisory councils. Since the last sunset review, the Council has phased out the contract approach and has instead hired staff to help organize, coordinate and facilitate the activities of the district advisory councils. The principal duties of the district advisory councils are to assist the Council in carrying out objectives in its Five Year Plan, support individuals with developmental disabilities in their efforts in advocacy and increased quality of life, and assist the Council in identifying and addressing systemic change activities regionally and statewide.

The federal law (P.L. 103-230) states: “the purpose of this part is to provide for allotments to support State Developmental Disabilities Councils in each State to promote, through systemic change, capacity building, and advocacy activities that are consistent with the policy under section 101 (c) (2), the development of a consumer and family-centered, comprehensive system and a coordinated array of culturally competent services, supports, and other assistance designed to achieve independence, productivity, integration, and inclusion into the community for individuals with developmental disabilities.”

The Federal government began offering assistance to states that had State Planning Councils to serve as advocates for persons with developmental disabilities under the Developmental Disabilities Services and Facilities Construction Act of 1970 (PL 91-517), which was later amended to become the Developmentally Disabled Assistance and Bill of Rights Act of 1975 (PL 94-103).

Governor Bruce Babbitt established the Arizona Developmental Disabilities Planning and Advocacy Council by Executive Order in 1978 in response to the Federal legislation.

The Council was later statutorily established in 1983 and renamed as the Governor’s Council on Developmental Disabilities. The Council identifies unmet needs for persons with developmental disabilities, develops a five-year State plan that establishes and prioritizes goals, and funds projects to meet goals outlined in the State plan.

**2. The effectiveness with which the agency has met its objective and purpose and the efficiency with which it has operated.**

The Council has been quite successful in meeting its objectives in the areas of advocacy, systems change, and capacity building over the years.

The Council measures its effectiveness through various methods, including public input, staff and committee evaluations. Prior to the development of the current

Five Year Plan, the Council coordinated twenty six community forums, statewide, to gain public input on priority concerns for individuals with developmental disabilities and their families. The crafting of the Five Year Plan was driven principally by public input. The review of the Five Year Plan is facilitated on a yearly basis with an Annual Report published and dispatched to constituents and stakeholders statewide, as well as to the Federal Administration on Developmental Disabilities. These Annual Reports are available in alternative formats upon request. The Five Year Plan goals and objectives are monitored by the Council's staff on an ongoing basis and also by the Council's goal committees (comprised of Governor-appointed members) every eight weeks, when committee meetings are held.

Contracts associated with the Council's Five Year Plan are also monitored similarly. Consumer satisfaction surveys and Five Year Plan feedback solicitations occur a minimum of two times annually and provide a forum for constituents to help guide the Council's efforts.

Contractors are paid upon receipt and review of monthly status reports, which indicate the work they have completed. Contractors are also required to submit a quarterly report and other pertinent documentation reflecting progress/outcomes of performance related the general and selected objectives of the Scope of Work.

Site visits are conducted as often as is deemed necessary by the Council. During such site visits, a Council member and the Contracts Manager review the progress/outcomes related to the general and selected objectives as well as fiscal records. The site visits may also include interviews with board members, consumers, families and community agencies. Forms to measure specifics on each site review are maintained by staff as well as documentation on timelines of reports, audits, etc.

Contractors are required to submit quarterly reports to ensure that project outcomes are occurring as stipulated. Payments to contractors are typically disbursed once milestones for that time period have been demonstrably achieved.

Efficiency is measured by keeping close tabs on outcomes of priorities, Council member involvement, staff productivity, input from our grassroots network and total expenditures.

Systems change, advocacy and capacity building are sometimes difficult to measure. The efficiency of getting the job done with a voluntary Council and a small staff is seen in results of system change and benefits in the lives of individuals with developmental disabilities and their families.

Systems change is usually a slow process and needs to be done as a collaborative effort. Barriers, which slow up the process, include an unfavorable economic

climate and forecast, as well as the multi-faceted and complex needs of constituents.

That having been said, the Council has worked rather effectively to develop an increasingly influential advocacy network statewide and has helped to influence systems change and public policy on the local and state level.

These efforts have yielded increases to special education funding, full funding for vocational rehabilitation, expanded oral health coverage, as well as opportunities for improvement in employment, housing and transportation for individuals with developmental disabilities.

**3. The extent to which the agency has operated within the public interest.**

The “public” in terms of the Council are individuals with developmental disabilities in the State of Arizona and their family members. The Council’s five-year plan goals, objectives and activities are derived from public interest input. The current plan (2007-2011) goals are in the areas of education, employment, housing, health care, transportation, community supports and quality assurance. The intent of the implementation of these goals is to facilitate quality of life improvements for individuals with developmental disabilities, including but not limited to maximal self-determination, integration and inclusion in all aspects of society, as well as increasing coordination and efficacy of the service delivery systems that individuals with developmental disabilities depend on.

The Council has instituted processes in order to obtain public/community interest input. The Council adheres to open meeting laws and members of the public are encouraged to attend and provide comments. The Council has also devised a Community Input Form that is compiled by staff and summarized and presented for discussion at meetings. Outreach efforts to inform the public of the input processes are conducted through conference attendance, publications (quarterly newsletters and annual reports), website accessibility and networking activities.

A brief listing of legislative bills the Council has successfully advocated on and achieved include: increased funding for special education, full funding for vocational rehabilitation programs, establishment of a preventative dental coverage program for individuals with developmental disabilities and seniors, successfully advocating against cuts to critical services during the legislative budget negotiation process.

A brief listing of some of the Council’s recent projects include:

The Council is partnering with the Northern Arizona University/Institute for Human Development, Arizona Center for Disability Law and Native American Disability Law Center, to support self-advocate leaders, statewide to establish and lead the Self Advocacy Coalition of Arizona, a group principally comprised of

and administered by individuals with developmental disabilities. Four regional coordinators, one representing each of the partner organizations provide support to self-advocates in targeted areas of the state. Regional Coordinators work with self advocates to support existing groups, establish new self advocacy groups in unserved/underserved communities, and identify individuals with or without disabilities interested in providing supports to self advocates.

Arizona State University, University College/Academic Community Engagement Services is supporting the Council to implement the Youth in Transition mentoring program. This program matches young women from the Arizona Department of Juvenile Corrections Black Canyon School for Girls with mentors from Arizona State University. This program provides young women with developmental disabilities currently incarcerated in a juvenile correctional facility, support and advocacy as they prepare for and transition back into their home communities. During the facility phase, mentees and mentors meet on a weekly basis to engage in relationship building, reentry planning, and portfolio development. In the community phase, once the mentees are released, the mentors and mentees continue to meet on a weekly basis to implement the goals the young women have set in their reentry plans.

The University of Arizona- Sonoran University Center of Excellence on Developmental Disabilities is assisting the Council to implement strategies to support competitive employment of individuals with developmental disabilities. These efforts include educating employers about best practice models developed and currently used by national employers to recruit, hire and support the employment of individuals with developmental disabilities in the workplace.

The University of Arizona- Sonoran University Center of Excellence on Developmental Disabilities is assisting the Council's efforts to enhance the capacity of the health care service system to provide competent, caring services to individuals with developmental disabilities through the education and training of 120 medical students, 20 residents and 280 other health care professionals. The education and training is carried out through the addition of a "Teaching Day for Residents" focused on serving individuals with developmental disabilities; the Inter-Professional Student Conference on Disability focused on developing skills and identification of information needed by professionals to work in an interdisciplinary team to address the service and support needs of individuals with developmental disabilities; and the revision of the medical school "Life Cycle" curriculum to incorporate information and education pertaining to and aimed at creating a best practice model for serving individuals with developmental disabilities.

Tri-City Partnership for Children and Families is supporting the Council to train first responders on general disability awareness and provide information on how to better support individuals with disabilities in emergency situations.

Tri-City Partnership for Children and Families in cooperation with local first responders (law enforcement, fire and paramedic) has developed the First Responder Smart Card Program (FRSCP). This program offers a registration process, alerting first responders that there is a Smart Card on site and an individual with a disability may be at the registered address. The information pertaining to the registered address and provided by either the individual with a disability, family member and/or provider notifies first responders ahead of time that there is an individual with a disability at the address and that a Smart Card is on site. A Smart Card is a 4X6 card printed in blue on one side and red on the other side. The blue side was developed by law enforcement first responders and contains information law enforcement officers require on the scene of a call for service. Respectfully, the red side was developed by fire/paramedic first responders and contains essential medical information critical when responding to a call for service. In addition to the "Smart Card" itself, the FRSCP includes training for first responders on general disability awareness and how to better recognize and respond to an individual with a disability in an emergency situation. Furthermore, the program provides training for community members (i.e. individuals with disabilities, family members of individuals with disabilities and providers) on appropriate instances to call first responders and the procedures that occur once the call is initiated.

Pilot Parents of Southern Arizona is supporting the Council to train individuals with disabilities and family members of individuals to be community leaders and to affect systems and policy change at the local, state and national levels. The Partners in Policymaking program ("Partners") is an innovative leadership training program that teaches people to be community leaders, and to affect systems and policy change at the local, state and national levels. The nationally based model program, coordinated and facilitated by Pilot Parents of Southern Arizona, is targeted for individuals with disabilities and parents raising young or school-aged children with a disability. Partners provides the most current information and education about disability policy, the legislative process, and local, state and national issues that affect individuals with disabilities. Pilot Parents of Southern Arizona will support graduates of the Partners in Policymaking program to attain membership on public and private bodies or leadership coalitions.

The Department of Economic Security/Division of Aging and Adult Services is supporting the Council to implement a standardized direct support professional curriculum and corresponding developmental disabilities training module to further professionalize the field of direct support. In addition, the Department of Economic Security/Division of Aging and Adult Services will support the Council to ensure that a minimum of twenty direct support professionals have completed the core curriculum and developmental disabilities module and the creation of a state adopted standardized training and curriculum.

The Department of Economic Security/Division of Aging and Adult Services is supporting the Council to support the participation of individuals with developmental disabilities in the planning and implementation of the Arizona Aging and Disability Resource Center – Az Links. Az Links is Arizona's Aging and Disability Resource Center (ADRC), which is a web-based clearinghouse created to help Arizona seniors, people with disabilities, caregivers and family members locate resources and services that meet their needs.

**4. The extent to which rules adopted by the agency are consistent with the legislative mandate.**

This factor is not applicable to the Council due to the fact that the Council does not promulgate rules and does not have rule-making authority.

**5. The extent to which the agency has encouraged input from the public before adopting its rules and the extent to which it has informed the public as to its actions and their expected impact on the public.**

This factor is not applicable to the Council due to the fact that the Council does not have rule-making authority.

The Council does not promulgate rules, but is required to seek public input on its Five Year plan. Accordingly, the Council utilizes various methods to solicit input, including email and conventional mail dispatches, public forums and special meetings.

**6. The extent to which the agency has been able to investigate and resolve complaints that are within its jurisdiction.**

The enabling statute does not establish a formal complaint investigation and resolution process. However, the Council has enacted two formal processes to receive and address community concerns and complaints. A “Community Input Form” was developed to obtain input from persons with disabilities, their family members or other members of the public, regarding issues impacting the lives of Arizonans with developmental disabilities. The respondent has an opportunity to indicate areas of concern and suggestions for activities the Council can implement to address the concerns. The Council staff contacts all respondents to allow for more dialogue on the areas of concern. The forms are compiled for record keeping and analysis. As necessary, reports are derived from these forms and provided to the Council for information and action. Furthermore, the Council mails out a “Consumer Satisfaction Survey” on an annual basis to gain feedback from the community on the projects/programs the Council has implemented within the last year.

With some measure of frequency, constituents do call our offices in search of assistance in ameliorating their concerns. Council staff typically provides

information and referral services in such instances. Whereas patterns are identified that imply potential systemic issues exist, staff and council members work to craft strategies for redress.

Cases which require more intense involvement or legal services are referred to the Arizona Center for Disability Law which is the designated Protection and Advocacy agency of P.L. 103-230. The Protection and Advocacy Agency is part of the same federal law which establishes Governor's Councils and University Affiliated programs. The three systems above are designed to provide planning and advocacy, legal protections, and education and training for states. We have a good working relationship with these agencies and believe it is an effective system for Arizona. Quarterly meetings now occur between the administrative heads of these agencies.

**7. The extent to which the Attorney General or any other applicable agency of state government has the authority to prosecute actions under the enabling legislation.**

This factor does not apply to the Council.

Violations, penalties and prosecution of actions are not provided for in the Council statutes. Rather, the Council is a planning and advocacy body with an autonomous role which functions within government and makes recommendations to government agencies, the Governor and the Legislature on issues affecting people with disabilities.

**8. The extent to which the agency has addressed deficiencies in its enabling statutes which prevent it from fulfilling its statutory mandate.**

In the 2003 regular legislative session, the Council sought statutory changes to bring A.R.S. 41-2451, 41-2452, and 41-2454 into compliance with the Developmental Disabilities Assistance and Bill of Rights Act of 2000 (PL 106-402). These changes included increasing membership from 23 to 25 people; increasing percentage of members who are persons with developmental disabilities or their relatives from 50% to 60%; correcting references to Federal law; and adding a representative from the Social Security Administration to the membership of the Council. The Council also recommended and received statutory clarification that District Advisory Councils should not engage in any activity that may compromise the Council's or a District Advisory Council's ability to monitor compliance with quality assurance standards.

**9. The extent to which changes are necessary in the laws of the agency to adequately comply with the factors listed in this subsection.**

Arizona Revised Statutes pertaining to the Council have not been amended to concur with changes to federal statutes associated with the Council.

Specifically:

Subtitle B- Federal Assistance to State Developmental Disabilities Councils, clearly states the intended activities Councils are expected to engage in with regard to the federal monies they receive.

Arizona's state statutes must be brought into compliance by assimilating similar language into A.R.S. 41-2451, 41-2452, and 41-2454.

Such change must incorporate language, for instance, that makes clear that the Council is intended *'to engage in advocacy, capacity building, and systemic change activities and contribute to a coordinated, consumer- and family-centered, consumer- and family-directed, comprehensive system of community services, individualized supports, and other forms of assistance that enable individuals with developmental disabilities to exercise self-determination, be independent, be productive, and be integrated and included in all facets of community life'* (42 USC 15021 SEC. 121).

**10. The extent to which the termination of the agency would significantly harm the public health, safety or welfare.**

The Governor's Council performs a critical function of planning, advocacy and monitoring to protect the public health, safety and welfare of people with developmental disabilities. Further, the Council is an unbiased advocate for consumers and families in the field of developmental disabilities.

Without the Council in its advocacy and watchdog role, we believe there would likely be fewer services and protections for people with developmental disabilities. The federal grant of approximately \$1,342,099 provides for tracking and monitoring of all state policy and legislation affecting people with disabilities.

The Council's Legislative Update informs over 3,500 individuals, family members and professionals of positive and/or negative effects of legislation for grass roots awareness and education. The network of six district councils provides for local grass roots linkages and a place for people to call with issues, concerns and needs. An Annual Report of all Intermediate Care Facilities for the Mentally Retarded is received by the Council to ensure all violations are followed adequately.

Without monitoring and advocacy, the loss of this watchdog role would remove necessary safeguards for people with disabilities and their families. The Councils' autonomous role in advocating for funds for services is also very important. The Council collaborates and builds awareness on policy issues, facilitates the

implementation of policy and plays a pivotal role in mediating differences and building consensus among the many agencies.

The community provider agencies are the only other strong entities advocating for funding. The Arizona Association of Providers for People with Disabilities (AAPPD) lobby on specific concerns affecting their provider group. Another entity representing specific disabilities provides monitoring and advocacy (The ARC). However, the Governor's Council is the only entity utilizing the broad federal definition on developmental disabilities in their advocacy role, other than the Center for Disability Law whose emphasis is on legal protection.

Termination of the Council would have several significant and problematic consequences for Arizonans with developmental disabilities and their families. The Council has developed a resource network for thousands of individuals with disabilities. The Council is a recognized leader in the provision of advocacy, information, and referral on a wide variety of issues. Terminating the Council would create a noticeable void in this type of leadership. Second, through the implementation of its five-year plan, the Council provides seed money to initiate innovative demonstration projects to address the needs of persons with developmental disabilities. Third, termination would mean that the State would not draw down its allotted share in Federal funds for the Council, which is \$1,342,099 for Federal Fiscal Year 2009. Finally, if the State did not participate in the Council program, it would be ineligible for funding under the Protection and Advocacy and University Centers for Excellence in Developmental Disabilities programs. The Arizona Center for Disability Law, the Institute for Human Development at Northern Arizona University and the Sonoran University Center of Excellence on Developmental Disabilities at the University of Arizona, administer these programs respectively and bring into the state additional funding. A primary requirement of the Developmental Disabilities Act is collaboration among these entities. In order for the required collaboration to occur there must be participants in all of these programs in the state.

- 11. The extent to which the level of regulation exercised by the agency is appropriate and whether less or more stringent levels of regulation would be appropriate.**

The factor does not apply because the Council is not a regulatory body.

- 12. The extent to which the agency has used private contractors in the performance of its duties and how effective use of private contractors could be accomplished.**

The Council is charged with implementing projects that will improve the lives of individuals with developmental disabilities and their family members. With respect to the use of private contractors, one of the primary responsibilities of the Council is to solicit vendors qualified to assist with the implementation of

strategies leveraged to achieve the goals and objectives outlined in the five-year plan.

More specifically, the Council's federal funding agency - US Department of Health and Human Services, Administration for Children and Families, Administration on Developmental Disabilities states that Councils may support and conduct activities to promote interagency collaboration and coordination to better serve, support, assist, or advocate for individuals with developmental disabilities. In addition, Councils must identify intermediaries and collaborators to assist with the implementation of the objectives identified in their five-year plan.

In the past five years, the Council has contracted with several private entities, and has awarded grants to minority, women-owned, and small businesses to achieve its goals and objectives. Previous contractors who provided services to the Council were not only successful in achieving the outcomes required, but were also successful in providing the Council with a sustainability plan for the project beyond the Councils funding.

The Council follows an orderly means for soliciting, reviewing and awarding grant applications consistent with pertaining law and regulations, as well as the targeted objectives in the State Plan.

#### **Additional Questions:**

- 1. Describe the role and function of the agency, including major activities/projects, accomplishments and obstacles to success.**

The Arizona Governor's Council on Developmental Disabilities is authorized by the federal Developmental Disabilities Assistance Bill of Rights Act, originally passed in 1970 and most recently reauthorized in 2000. The Council was established originally by Executive Order in 1978 by then Governor, Bruce Babbitt. Subsequent to the establishment of the Council by Executive Order, the Council has been authorized under the Arizona Revised Statutes 41-2451 through 41-2454.

The purpose of the Council is to fulfill its organizational mission in accordance with federal mandates. The Council represents no single arm of government but rather advocates for the interest of people with developmental disabilities. The Council plans, develops, advocates for and fosters responsive public policy, practices, and opportunities in the State to support people with developmental disabilities and their families.

The Council utilizes a committee structure that reports to and is comprised of members of the full Council. The Council's six committees include the Leadership Development, Multicultural/Outreach Committee, Community Supports, Education/Employment, Quality Assurance, and Administrative

Committees. The committee structure allows the Council members to address emerging issues and develop outreach strategies to further improve the lives of individuals with developmental disabilities. The Committees report back their findings to the full Council for additional recommendations and response.

The Council has worked rather effectively to develop an increasingly influential advocacy network statewide and has helped to influence systems change and public policy on the local and state level.

These efforts have yielded increases to special education funding, full funding for vocational rehabilitation, expanded oral health coverage, as well as opportunities for improvement in employment, housing and transportation for individuals with developmental disabilities.

Barriers, which slow up the process, include an unfavorable economic climate and forecast, as well as societal attitudes about people with disabilities, which are often mired in stereotypes that do not focus on an individual's ability and their right to equal regard and consideration in all aspects of community living. Through the Council's outreach, advocacy and education efforts, this troubling dynamic appears to be improving.

A brief listing (see below and attached Annual Report) of some of the Council's recent and/or ongoing projects include:

Annually, the Governor's Council on Developmental Disabilities hosts a Legislative Awareness Day at the State Capitol Complex. In 2008, the event boasted the Council's largest attendance to date. Over 800 self advocates, family members and advocacy organizations turned out from all corners of the state to meet with legislators and to support the Council's public policy efforts.

The Council's Legislative Consortium, which includes individuals with disabilities, meets year round and serves as a multi-stakeholder think tank to support the Council's public policy initiatives. In addition to supporting the Council in the areas of education & employment, the Consortium was instrumental in assisting the Council to establish a preventative dental care program for Arizona's long term care population.

The Council helped to establish the Arizona Disability Advocacy Coalition (AzDAC), which is designed to coordinate advocacy efforts relative to public policy and to promote systems change. AzDAC works in partnership with individuals with disabilities, their families and community organizations in these efforts. AzDAC membership includes: The Governor's Council on Developmental Disabilities, The Arc of Arizona, Arizona Bridge to Independent Living, Arizona Center for Disability Law, Arizona Chapter of the Paralyzed Veterans of America, Arizona Commission for the Deaf and the Hard of Hearing, DIRECT Center for Independence, Inc., The Mental Health Association of

Arizona, People First of Arizona, SMILE, Statewide Independent Living Council, Arizona Council of the Blind, Inc., Arizona Technology Access Program IHD/NAU, Behavioral Health/Consumers in Action, Epilepsy Foundation of Arizona, Mental Health Advocates Coalition of AZ, Pilot Parents of Southern Arizona, NAU Institute for Human Development Coalition for Family Support, Self-Determination and Disability, Raising Special Kids and State Rehabilitation Council.

The Council annually supports the AzDAC Legislative Training event. The training is designed to help familiarize self advocates with the legislative process by providing instruction on how a bill becomes a law, meeting with legislators, principles of self advocacy, and current legislation impacting individuals with disabilities.

The Council is partnering with the Northern Arizona University/Institute for Human Development, Arizona Center for Disability Law and Native American Disability Law Center, to support self-advocate leaders statewide to establish and lead the Self Advocacy Coalition of Arizona, a group principally comprised of and administered by individuals with developmental disabilities. Four regional coordinators, one representing each of the partner organizations provide support to self-advocates in targeted areas of the state. Regional Coordinators work with self advocates to support existing groups, establish new self advocacy groups in unserved/underserved communities, and identify individuals with or without disabilities interested in providing supports to self advocates.

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Pilot Parents of Southern Arizona is supporting the Council to train individuals with disabilities and family members of individuals to be community leaders and to affect systems and policy change at the local, state and national levels. The Partners in Policymaking program ("Partners") is an innovative leadership training program that teaches people to be community leaders, and to affect systems and policy change at the local, state and national levels. The nationally based model program, coordinated and facilitated by Pilot Parents of Southern

Arizona, is targeted for individuals with disabilities and parents raising young or school-aged children with a disability. Partners provides the most current information and education about disability policy, the legislative process, and local, state and national issues that affect individuals with disabilities. Pilot Parents of Southern Arizona will support graduates of the Partners in Policymaking program to attain membership on public and private bodies or leadership coalitions.

The Department of Economic Security/Division of Aging and Adult Services is supporting the Council to implement a standardized direct support professional curriculum and corresponding developmental disabilities training module to further professionalize the field of direct support. In addition, the Department of Economic Security/Division of Aging and Adult Services will support the Council to ensure that a minimum of twenty direct support professionals have completed the core curriculum and developmental disabilities module and the creation of a state adopted standardized training and curriculum.

The Department of Economic Security/Division of Aging and Adult Services is supporting the Council to support the participation of individuals with developmental disabilities in the planning and implementation of the Arizona Aging and Disability Resource Center – Az Links. Az Links is Arizona's Aging and Disability Resource Center (ADRC), which is a web-based clearinghouse created to help Arizona seniors, people with disabilities, caregivers and family members locate resources and services that meet their needs.

**2. Provide financial data, such as number of full-time employees, expenditures and revenues and fee structure, if applicable.**

Please reference the following attached documents to cull information regarding the Council's financial information:

- FY08 Federal Award letter
- FY08 Statement of Revenue & Expenditures

With regard to staffing, the Council's employee data is presented below (please also reference attached organizational chart:

Total Number of Positions:	13
Number of Full-time (1.0) Positions:	6
Number of Three Quarter (.75) time Positions:	2
Number of Half-time (.50) Positions:	4
Number of Vacant Half-time (.50) Positions:	1

The Council does not charge a fee for services and hence has no fee structure.

**3. Identify the problem or the needs that the agency is intended to address.**

In the 1970 reauthorization of the DD Act, the U.S. Congress recognized the need for strengthening State efforts to coordinate and integrate services for individuals with developmental disabilities. As a result, Congress established and authorized funding for Developmental Disabilities Councils in each State and Territory. State and Territorial Councils on Developmental Disabilities work to improve the quality of supports and services for individuals with developmental disabilities and their families.

Each state and territory has a Developmental Disabilities Council that functions to increase the independence, productivity, inclusion, and community integration of people with developmental disabilities. Council activities demonstrate new ideas for enhancing people's lives through training activities, through community education and support, by making information available to policy-makers, and by eliminating barriers.

A key mission of Councils is to advise Governors and State agencies on issues impacting the lives of individuals with developmental disabilities and the use of available and potential resources to meet the needs of this constituency. Councils engage in advocacy, build capacity and work to affect change and enhance systems to contribute to a coordinated, consumer-directed and family-centered array of community services, individualized supports and other forms of assistance. Their work allows individuals with developmental disabilities to exercise self-determination and live in their communities.

**4. State, to the extent practicable, in quantitative and qualitative terms, the objectives of the agency and its anticipated accomplishments.**

The five-year plan is submitted to the governing Federal agency prior to its implementation. The plan goals are general with corresponding objectives that are measurable through time and performance targets. Projected performance targets (a breakdown of the outcome numbers related to the measurable component of each objective) for each year per each goal is noted. Plan amendments are submitted to the Federal funding agency in August prior to the upcoming Federal fiscal year.

Upon completion of each Federal fiscal year, the Council submits an Annual Public Performance Report that identifies the activities implemented to achieve the performance targets of the corresponding objectives. The accomplishment of each goal is derived from the total performance targets from each objective within the goal area (Refer to attached Five Year Plan for progress of the performance targets per each objective).

For example, the education goal states, "All individuals with developmental disabilities, from birth up to the age of 22, will have full access to a free and appropriate public education which includes all of the supports necessary to allow

for equal participation in their community.” One corresponding objective states, “By 2011, 500 students with developmental disabilities, parents and/or family members representing three unserved and underserved populations of the state will utilize information they receive about their rights, responsibilities and protections under federal and state special education laws and regulations to advocate for special education services and supports.” The performance targets (categories established by the Federal governing agency are underlined below) that correspond with the intended outcomes of the implementation objective were projected as follows:

-Students have the education and support they need to reach their educational goals through Council efforts

**Projected outcomes:** 150 students by year five of the five-year plan

-Students trained regarding their educational rights

**Projected outcomes:** 200 students by year five of the five-year plan

-Parents or guardians trained regarding their child’s educational rights

**Projected outcomes:** 300 family members of students by year five of the five-year plan

-Education programs/policies created/improved regarding inclusive education

**Projected outcomes:** 5 education programs/policies by year five of the five-year plan

The activity implemented to accomplish this objective will be through a contract to provide special education advocacy training. The activity will be reported on the Annual Public Performance Report and the performance targets will be noted in the education performance targets section.

**5. Identify any other agencies having similar, conflicting or duplicative objectives, and an explanation of the manner in which the agency avoids duplication or conflict with other such agencies.**

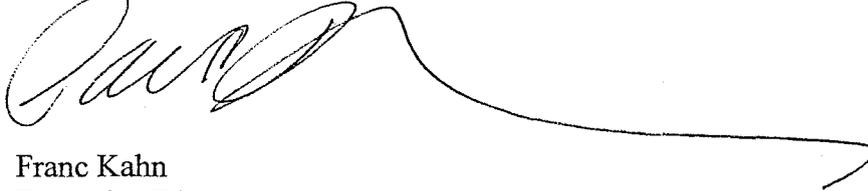
Other State programs serving persons with developmental disabilities and their families (ADE/Exceptional Student Services, DES/Division of Developmental Disabilities, etc.) may have their own advisory councils. However, the Governor’s Council on Developmental Disabilities is the only such entity in State statute with representation from every State program (along with the Social Security Administration) that serves these target populations. Accordingly, the Council is uniquely positioned to operate across these agencies to perform such functions as comprehensive systems planning and oversight, multi-agency coordination and program implementation. In that representatives of these agencies are active members, they are able to inform the Council if proposed activities to achieve stated objectives are similar, conflicting or duplicative of objectives of other agencies. This is invaluable in assisting the Council in crafting and implementing goals and objectives. Finally, unlike other agencies in this vein, the Council is an autonomous, impartial agency and as such, is uniquely able to advocate on behalf of Arizonans with disabilities without the appearance of conflict of interest.

**6. Assess the consequences of eliminating the agency or of consolidating it with another agency.**

An assessment of the consequences of eliminating the Council has been covered in the response to question# 10 above. By consolidating the Council with another agency, the State would forfeit the ability to perform these critical functions. Consolidation would also be inconsistent with the intent of the Developmental Disabilities Assistance and Bill of Rights Act (P.L.106-402), which requires that the Council be able to function independently of other agencies. Consolidation would also jeopardize the continuation of federal funding.

Please advise us if there is anything further that the committee needs from the Council for our sunset review. I am available to answer questions or provide information prior to the committee's meeting. I look forward to having the opportunity to discuss the Council with you and committee members in person.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Franc Kahn', with a long, sweeping horizontal line extending to the right.

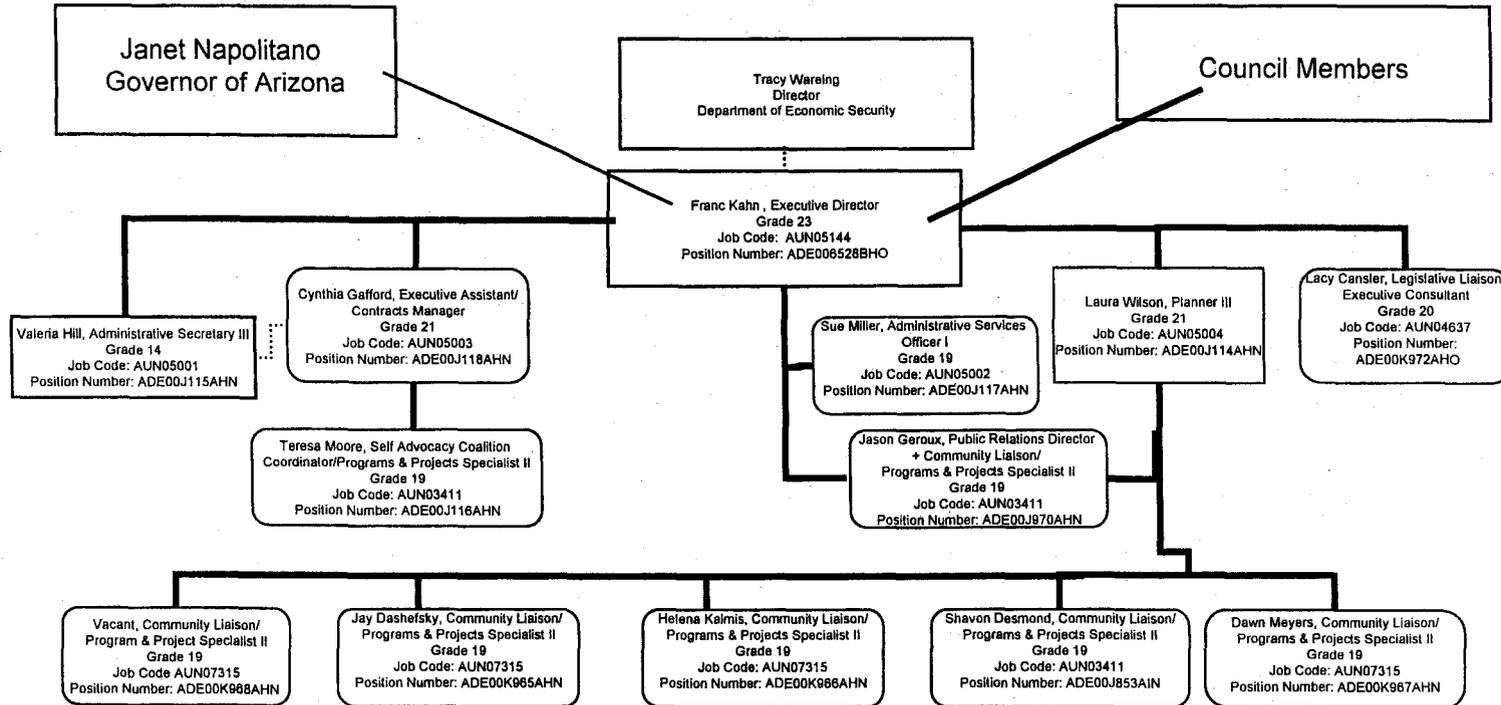
Franc Kahn  
Executive Director

cc: Representative Peter Hershberger  
Eden Rolland, House Human Services Analyst

***ATTACHMENT 4***

# Governor's Council on Developmental Disabilities

## Organizational Chart



January 9, 2008

Governor's Council on Developmental Disabilities  
Statement of Revenue and Expenditures  
Federal Fiscal Year 2008

	Dollars	Approved	YTD Actuals	Remaining	% Remaining
<b>Federal Grant</b>	1,256,061				
<b>Carry Over</b>	275,640				
<b>Subtotal</b>	1,531,701				
<b>Personnel</b>		224,192	198,156	26,036	12%
<b>Operating</b>		57,000	55,986	1,014	2%
<b>Travel - Staff</b>		13,000	12,361	639	5%
<b>Subtotal</b>		294,192	266,503	27,689	9%
<b>Employment Best Practice Project (EM)</b>		30,000	22,080	7,920	26%
<b>Aging &amp; Disability Resource Center - Staff (HE)</b>		30,000		30,000	100%
<b>Health Care Professional Training (HE)</b>		30,000	9,626	20,374	68%
<b>Direct Support Professional Training Curriculum (QA)</b>		15,000	10,000	5,000	33%
<b>Self Advocacy Coalition (QA)</b>		223,576	119,586	103,990	47%
<b>Self Advocacy Coalition Meeting Expense (QA)</b>		30,000	22,279	7,721	26%
<b>Secure Care Mentoring Project (CS)</b>		67,500	56,506	10,994	16%
<b>Smart Card Project (CS)</b>		45,000	7,074	37,926	84%
<b>Legislative Awareness Day Pre-Event Training (CR)</b>		15,000	15,000	-	0%
<b>Legislative Awareness Day Event (CR)</b>		15,000	6,553	8,447	56%
<b>Partners in Policymaking (CR)</b>		25,000	20,152	4,848	19%
<b>Council Outreach - Annual Report &amp; Website (CR)</b>		35,100	31,589	3,511	10%
<b>Community Advisory Board Support (various)</b>		15,000	6,895	8,105	54%
<b>Self Advocate/Family Member Scholarships (various)</b>		12,500	12,000	500	4%
<b>Self Advocate Transportation Support (TR)</b>		5,000	336	4,664	93%
<b>Self Advocate Leadership/Local Boards &amp; Commissions Support (QA)</b>		5,000	-	5,000	100%
<b>Travel - Council Members (various)</b>		40,000	36,563	3,437	9%
<b>Project Expenses -- Personnel Time/Benefits (various)</b>		446,013	416,563	29,450	7%
<b>Project Expenses -- Operating (various)</b>		67,200	58,672	8,528	13%
<b>Subtotal</b>		1,151,889	851,474	300,415	26%
<b>Grand Total</b>	1,531,701	1,446,081	1,117,977	328,104	23%

HO - Housing	CS - Formal and Informal Community Supports	Above the Line	24%
EM - Employment	QA - Quality Assurance (Self-Advocacy)	Below the Line	76%
CR - Cross Cutting	HE - Health Care    TR - Transportation		100%

Governor's Council on Developmental Disabilities  
Statement of Revenue and Expenditures  
Federal Fiscal Year 2009

	Dollars	Approved	YTD Actuals	Remaining	% Remaining
Federal Grant	1,342,090				
Carry Over	380,000				
Subtotal	<b>1,722,090</b>				
Personnel		260,500	-	260,500	100%
Operating		75,000	-	75,000	100%
Travel - Staff		40,000	-	40,000	100%
Subtotal		<b>375,500</b>	-	<b>375,500</b>	<b>100%</b>
			-		0%
Self Advocacy Coalition (QA)		200,000	-	200,000	100%
Special Education Training (ED)		50,000	-	50,000	100%
Special Education Advocacy (ED)		100,000	-	100,000	100%
Visitability Project Work Group (HO)		40,000	-	40,000	100%
Dental Coverage Work Group (HE)		10,000	-	10,000	100%
Employment Best Practices Trainings - (EM)		35,000	-	35,000	100%
Emergency Management Planning (CS)		25,000	-	25,000	100%
Disability Vote Advocacy Work Group (CR)		25,000	-	25,000	100%
Partners in Policymaking (CR)		25,000	-	25,000	100%
DD Suite Management (CR)		5,000	-	5,000	100%
Legislative Awareness Day Pre-Event Training (CR)		15,000	-	15,000	100%
Legislative Awareness Day Event (CR)		20,000	-	20,000	100%
Council Outreach - Annual Report & Website (CR)		98,000	-	98,000	100%
Self Advocate Transportation Advocacy Support (TR)		10,000	-	10,000	100%
Self Advocate Leadership/Local Boards & Commissions Support (QA)		10,000	-	10,000	100%
Community Advisory Board Support (various)		10,000	-	10,000	100%
Self Advocate/Family Member Scholarships (various)		17,500	-	17,500	100%
Travel - Council Members (various)		60,000	-	60,000	100%
Project Expenses -- Personnel Time/Benefits (various)		457,802	-	457,802	100%
Project Expenses -- Operating (various)		70,000	-	70,000	100%
Subtotal		<b>1,283,302</b>	-	<b>1,283,302</b>	<b>100%</b>
			-		0%
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>1,722,090</b>	<b>1,658,802</b>	-	<b>1,658,802</b>	<b>100%</b>
Goal Area					
HO - Housing CS - Formal & Informal Community Supports TR - Transportation				Above	23%
EM - Employment QA - Quality Assurance CR - Cross Cutting HE - Health				Below	77%
ED - Education					100%

***ATTACHMENT 5***



**Governor's Council  
on Developmental Disabilities**

*Working Toward One Community for All Arizonans*

# **Five Year State Plan 2007-2011**



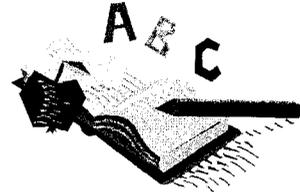
## Employment

### **Goal:**

**All individuals with developmental disabilities will have the choice to acquire, retain and advance in paid employment with benefits consistent with their interests, abilities, and needs, including supported employment or self-employment, in integrated settings in the community.**

**Objective 1)** By 2011, 100 individuals with developmental disabilities with the most significant barriers to employment will have jobs with employers as a result of the implementation of best practices

**Objective 2)** As circumstances dictate, the Governor's Council on Developmental Disabilities will advocate for the Rehabilitation Services Administration, Vocational Rehabilitation program to receive the state funding needed each year to access the full amount of federal funding available to Arizona for employment supports and services



## Education

### **Goal:**

**All individuals with developmental disabilities, from birth up to the age of 22, will have full access to a free and appropriate public education which includes all of the supports necessary to allow for equal participation within their community.**

**Objective 1)** Schools will receive the state funding needed each year to provide special education services to students with developmental disabilities

**Objective 2)** By 2011, 500 students with developmental disabilities, parents and/or family members representing three unserved and underserved populations of the state will utilize information they receive about their rights, responsibilities and protections under federal and state special education laws and regulations to advocate for special education services and supports.



## Housing

### **Goal:**

**All individuals with developmental disabilities will have unrestricted opportunities and choice for inclusive community living.**

**Objective 1)** By 2011, five single family home developers in Arizona, including one developer that serves at least one unserved or underserved community, will incorporate visitability and universal design concepts in their planning and development efforts

**Objective 2)** By 2011, 1000 people with developmental disabilities and/or their family members will be informed of and access Arizona's affordable, accessible rental housing search services offered by Socialserve



**This objective has been partially completed.**

## Health Care



### **Goal:**

**All individuals with developmental disabilities will have access to and use of coordinated health, dental, behavioral health and other human and social services, including prevention activities, in their communities.**

**Objective 1)** By 2011, all Medicaid-eligible ALTCS adults with developmental disabilities will have access to preventative dental care services

**Objective 2)** By 2009, individuals with developmental disabilities and their family members, including those from unserved and underserved communities, will be able to access, in one place, information about the social services and other community resources for which they are eligible

**This objective will be partially completed by September 30, 2008.**

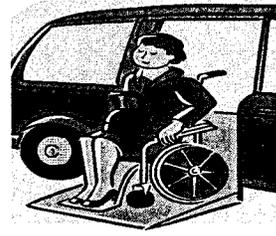
**Objective 3)** By 2008, 200 students graduating from Arizona medical schools and health care professionals will have the information that they need to provide services to individuals with developmental disabilities

**This objective is scheduled to be completed by September 30, 2008.**

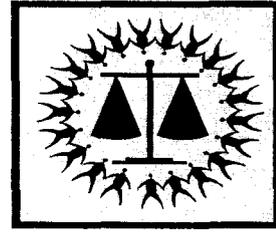
## Transportation

### **Goal:**

**All individuals with developmental disabilities will have choice and options for safe, affordable, reliable and coordinated transportation services for work, school, medical, and personal needs.**



**Objective 1)** By 2011, 25 individuals with developmental disabilities and family members, including 15 from unserved and underserved communities, will be supported to actively participate in existing groups to assess current transportation needs for people with developmental disabilities and identify and implement solutions that address the needs of individuals with developmental disabilities statewide



## Quality Assurance

### **Goal:**

**The service system will be fully responsive to individuals with developmental disabilities.**

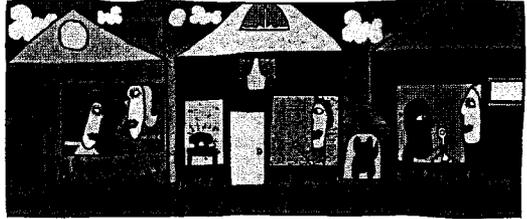
**Objective 1)** By 2011, the State of Arizona will develop and implement a standardized training and curriculum for direct support professionals serving people with developmental disabilities, which seeks to further professionalize the field of direct support

**Objective 2)** By 2011, 500 individuals with developmental disabilities and/or family members or guardians of individuals with developmental disabilities will direct and have control over the individualized budget and services that they receive from the Division of Developmental Disabilities

**Objective 3)** By 2010, the Self Advocacy Coalition of Arizona will be a non-profit organization and independently financially sustained

**Objective 4)** By 2011, 50 people with developmental disabilities, including individuals from unserved and underserved communities, will be active participants in cross-disability and culturally diverse leadership coalitions as well as locally-based boards and commissions, such as housing boards and youth leadership coalitions

**Objective 5)** By 2011, the State of Arizona will ensure that day treatment and training programs funded by the Division of Developmental Disabilities are monitored for compliance with quality of life standards as well as compliance with health and safety standards



## Community Supports

### **Goal:**

**All individuals with developmental disabilities will be valued participating members of their community and will have access to the full range of community services and supports.**

**Objective 1)** By 2011, 50 individuals with developmental disabilities will receive supports to transition out of secure care settings and will remain in the community for a minimum of two years without re-offending

**This objective will be partially completed by September 30, 2008.**

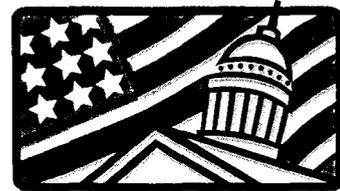
**Objective 2)** By 2008, 500 first responders will have the information that they need to support people with developmental disabilities in emergency situations

**This objective is scheduled to be completed by September 30, 2008.**

**Objective 3)** By 2011, all people with developmental disabilities who have the capacity to vote will be afforded the opportunity to do so

**Objective 4)** By 2011, 200 people with developmental disabilities and their family members will access an established full service network, including legal professionals, that is qualified to provide the information and support necessary to prepare for the life transitions that take place as individuals age

## Cross Cutting



### **Goal:**

**Members of the general public and policymakers, statewide, will be educated about issues impacting the lives of individuals with developmental disabilities and be informed about the Council's initiatives.**

**Objective 1)** By 2011, 100 local, state and federal policymakers will be educated about issues affecting the lives of individuals with developmental disabilities and will be informed on the Council's initiatives

**Objective 2)** By 2011, 5,000 members of the general public, including individuals from unserved and underserved communities or populations, will be educated about the ways in which individuals with developmental disabilities contribute to community life, issues affecting the lives of individuals with developmental disabilities, and Council initiatives

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**The Council has many opportunities for members of the community to participate in Council-sponsored projects. If you are interested in participating in some of the projects mentioned, please contact the Council office.**

**1-866-771-9378 (Voice)  
602-277-4986 (Voice)  
602-277-4949 (TTY)  
602-277-4454 (Fax)**

***ATTACHMENT 6***

Working Toward  
One Community



20  
07

ARIZONA GOVERNOR'S COUNCIL ON DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES

ANNUAL  
REPORT

# Letter from Chair

Dear Fellow Arizonans,

I am very pleased to present this year's annual report. The Governor's Council on Developmental Disabilities strives to shatter the preconceived perception of people with developmental disabilities. We at the Council truly believe that individuals with developmental disabilities have the right to pursue their own dreams and desires. The Council continues to pursue new and innovative projects including those that clearly demonstrate that:

- > People with developmental disabilities can organize and lead their own organization
- > Providing information related to affordable and accessible housing options leads to greater independence
- > Mentoring young people with often hidden disabilities provides them with the tools needed to succeed

In addition, the Council has become a very effective and respected advocacy organization both in Arizona and nationally. We boldly advocate at the State and National level for policies that support people with disabilities in reaching their full potential.

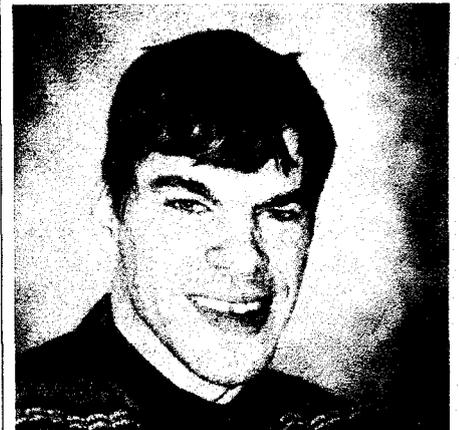
It continues to be my honor to serve as Council Chairperson. As a person with a significant disability, I recognize firsthand the barriers and obstacles that people with disabilities face on a daily basis. I have also had the unique opportunity as a Council Member to advocate and affect change on the State and National level. I encourage people who read this annual report to play a more active role in disability advocacy.

The Council welcomes you as a partner in this noble endeavor. I truly believe that if we all work together we can become a stronger community for all Arizonans!

Sincerely,

*M J Wangeman*

Matthew Wangeman  
Chairperson  
Governor's Council on Developmental Disabilities



# Letter from Director

Dear Friends and Colleagues,

Once again, the past year has proved to be a very successful one for us! Rather than highlight those achievements in this letter, I'd prefer to better acquaint you with our day-to-day working philosophy and values, and perhaps to solicit your continued partnership and meaningful involvement in our undertakings. It is my belief that our past year's achievements will be evident as you peruse this report further.

The Governor's Council on Developmental Disabilities is established for the principal purpose of ensuring maximal quality of life for people with disabilities. Accordingly, this is only possible with and by persons with disabilities, as principal actors and partners in this endeavor. As such, our trajectory is always calibrated and guided by the voice of people with disabilities, first and foremost.

We are an organization of like-minded individuals, of diverse backgrounds and experiences, who are working to ensure that people with disabilities are recognized as equal and important partners in all facets of societal life.

Our philosophy is simple. We hold as a basic and self-evident truth that we are one human family, of which, people with disabilities are an important, meaningful, vibrant and beautiful part.

When we see "community," we see *one* community. *One human family.*

Please take another look at the cover of this publication. *We wanted you to see it too.*

In the pages to follow, you'll find information to assist you in finding out how you can join us in our efforts to actuate our philosophy.

I invite you to stand with us and to become a part of our movement, for we are all stakeholders in this great work. Together, we will aim to change the world, one person at a time.



Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Franc Kahn".

Franc Kahn  
Executive Director  
Governor's Council on Developmental Disabilities

# Making A

***The Governor's Council on Developmental Disabilities is Arizona's State Planning Council for people with developmental disabilities and is authorized under the Developmental Disabilities Assistance and Bill of Rights Act (P.L. 106-402). The Council works to ensure the adequate provision of services for individuals with developmental disabilities through statewide planning that incorporates advocacy, systems change, and capacity building.***

- ▶ A maximum of twenty-five members serve on the Council. Members include individuals with developmental disabilities, family members of individuals with developmental disabilities, and individuals who represent the agencies that serve persons with developmental disabilities in Arizona.
- ▶ With the assistance of Council staff, Network partners, Community Advisory Boards, contractors, and community partners, the Council works to foster the independence, inclusion, and community integration of individuals with developmental disabilities.



# Differences

The Governor's Council on Developmental Disabilities has standing committees corresponding to the various areas of focus of the 5-Year Plan. These committees are tasked with working with staff to monitor and evaluate the progress of each 5-Year Plan goal and objective, monitor relevant public policy activities, and oversee the award of associated grant opportunities. These Committees meet a minimum of six times annually and report goal progress to the full Council.

Goal Committees have been formed as follows:

- Education & Employment
- Community Support (Transportation, Housing, Healthcare)
- Quality Assurance (Self Advocacy)

In an effort to ensure meaningful outreach to unserved & underserved populations, the Council has created the Multicultural Committee to monitor and assure:

- › The cultural competency of the Council
- › That all Arizonans are served by Council initiatives

In addition, the Council has developed two management committees that are tasked with the following:

**Administrative Committee:**

- › Acts in place of the full Council as needed
- › Reviews and approves all policy recommendations regarding organizational structure and procedures
- › Provides financial oversight of the Council
- › Oversees the hiring process and annual performance review of the Executive Director
- › Monitors Council compliance with federal monitoring standards and oversees the process of preparing for state and federal reviews

**Leadership Development Committee:**

- › Ensuring that Council membership is in compliance with federal membership standards
- › Coordinating leadership development opportunities for Council members
- › Encouraging Council member attendance at Council and committee meetings
- › Reviewing and providing recommendations to the Council with respect to the Council committee structure

# Community Advisory Board

*"Before I became involved with the CAB, I was just a person with a disability and working for the National Park Service in Page. Since joining the CAB, I have grown, and gained the tools to contribute to my community. I am grateful for the CAB and the Governor's Council on Developmental Disabilities."*

*-Dawn, self-advocate*



***In an effort to enhance the partnership between the Council and the local community, the Council has formed Community Advisory Boards at the local level to assist the Council in assessing the needs of individuals with developmental disabilities, providing information & referral services, conducting local activities in education, employment, community support and self-advocacy, and organizing a grass-roots advocacy network to educate state and local policymakers.***

- ▶ The six Community Advisory Boards (CAB) are composed of local self advocates, family members of individuals with developmental disabilities, and professionals working in the field of developmental disabilities. A Council Community Liaison in each region provides support and coordination to the local CAB.
- ▶ CABs support the Council's work in the areas of public policy, self advocacy, and 5-Year Plan implementation. They maintain a "finger on the pulse" of local communities, identifying critical issues and opportunities for innovative projects which are then brought to the attention of the Council.
- ▶ Another key initiative is the area of transportation. This includes, but is not limited to, supporting self advocates in obtaining positions on local transportation planning boards, commissions, and coalitions as a means of facilitating systems change.
- ▶ The CABs also assist with information and referral, and build strategic collaborations and partnerships within the community. A special emphasis is placed on outreach to unserved/underserved populations.

# Arizona

## Developmental Disabilities Network

THE GOVERNOR'S COUNCIL ON DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES, THE INSTITUTE FOR HUMAN DEVELOPMENT, SONORAN UCEDD AND THE ARIZONA CENTER FOR DISABILITY LAW ARE PARTNER ORGANIZATIONS THAT TOGETHER FORM THE ARIZONA DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES NETWORK. THE FOUR ORGANIZATIONS ARE AUTHORIZED UNDER THE DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES ASSISTANCE AND BILL OF RIGHTS ACT (PUBLIC LAW 106-202) AND RECEIVE FUNDING FROM THE US DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES' ADMINISTRATION FOR CHILDREN AND FAMILIES - ADMINISTRATION ON DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES. THE ARIZONA DD NETWORK PARTNERS WORK COLLECTIVELY AND COLLABORATIVELY TO FOSTER THE INDEPENDENCE, ADVOCACY AND COMMUNITY INTEGRATION OF INDIVIDUALS WITH DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES.

### Programs and Organizations

The Institute for Human Development (IHD) is an interdisciplinary training and research program located on the campus of Northern Arizona University. It is one of a national network of University Centers authorized by the Developmental Disabilities Assistance and Bill of Rights Act. IHD's mission is to build and enhance the capacity of a statewide service continuum for persons with disabilities. IHD recognizes the essential role of direct consumers and family members in the development and evaluation of effective service models and promotes system change that values and fully includes persons of all racial, ethnic, cultural and language backgrounds.

In 2006, the Department of Family and Community Medicine (FCM) of the University of Arizona became home to one of the nation's newest University Centers of Excellence on Developmental Disabilities (UCEDD). The Sonoran UCEDD works in partnership with the community to create and expand opportunities for people with developmental disabilities as they navigate life's transitions. Our name, "Sonoran" UCEDD, reflects where we live - Southern Arizona and the border region with Mexico - and the issues that inform our work. The goal of the Sonoran UCEDD is to ensure full community participation by individuals with developmental disabilities by advancing policy and practice in the areas of research, education, information dissemination and service.

With offices in Phoenix and Tucson, the Arizona Center for Disability Law serves as the state's designated protection and advocacy system for individuals with disabilities. The Center provides a wide range of services in the areas of special education, health care, mental health services, access to community services and employment. In addition to offering individual legal representation, the Center provides information and referral, brief assistance and educational workshops on the rights of persons with disabilities in a variety of arenas such as the educational setting and the workplace. The center also investigates allegations of abuse and neglect involving individuals with disabilities.

# 5-Year Planning Process

***Every five years, the Governor's Council on Developmental Disabilities is required to develop a new state plan, outlining the systems change, advocacy and capacity building activities that it will pursue on behalf of individuals with developmental disabilities.***

IN 2006, THE COUNCIL SPENT CONSIDERABLE TIME AND ENERGY DEVELOPING A PLAN THAT WAS BOTH REFLECTIVE OF COMMUNITY NEED AND CONSISTENT WITH THE MANDATES OF ITS FEDERAL AUTHORITY, THE DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES ASSISTANCE AND BILL OF RIGHTS ACT OF 2000.



Upon the conclusion of 26 community forums and a statewide telephone survey of over 450 individuals with disabilities, family members and providers, the Council developed a plan consisting of goals and objectives in the areas of education, housing, employment, community support, health care, transportation, quality assurance and self advocacy.

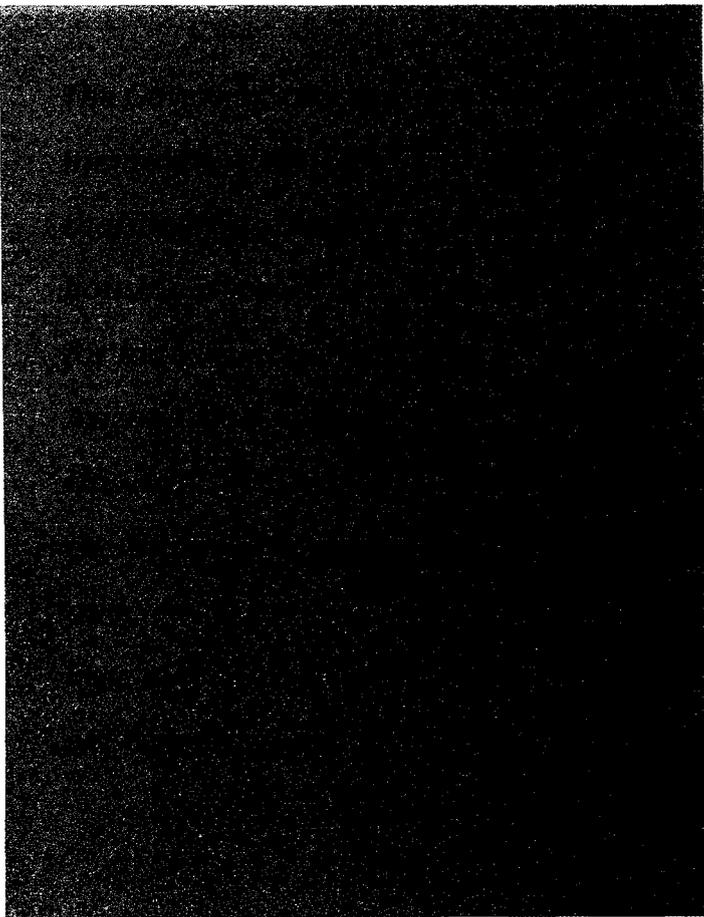
Work on the new plan has already begun and will continue through federal fiscal year 2011. Every year, the Council conducts a Community Feedback survey to ensure that the 5-Year Plan continues to meet the needs of individuals with developmental disabilities throughout Arizona. The Council values community feedback, and encourages members of the public to respond to this survey as it is released.

IN 2007, THE GOVERNOR'S COUNCIL ON DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES CONTINUED TO ADVOCATE AGGRESSIVELY AT THE LEGISLATURE IN THESE TWO AREAS. ON AN ONGOING BASIS, COUNCIL STAFF CONTINUES TO ADVOCATE FOR SYSTEMS IMPROVEMENTS TO ENSURE THAT CHILDREN AND ADULTS WITH DISABILITIES ARE AFFORDED ACCESS TO A QUALITY EDUCATION AND OPPORTUNITIES FOR COMPETITIVE, INTEGRATED EMPLOYMENT.



*Through the community forum process, people with disabilities and their family members underscored the importance of education and employment, and indicated that deficiencies in these areas should be addressed in the Council's 5-Year Plan. Toward that end, the Council has worked to address, through systems change advocacy & public policy, strategies for improving in these critical areas. In 2007, through its public policy efforts, the Council was successful in addressing shortfalls in funding for special education and continued advocacy for integrated & competitive employment situations for people with disabilities.*

# SocialServe.com



Prospective renters can search communities, rental costs, amenities and other features and get an up-to-date list of vacant apartments in the city or town of their choice. In addition, they can search for unique features including the availability of ramped entries, lowered counters in kitchens and bathrooms, roll-in showers, and proximity to public transportation, medical and shopping facilities.

These search features were developed for the community through a partnership between the Council & SocialServe.com.

For more information about Arizona's Affordable and Accessible Housing Database, please visit [www.socialserve.com](http://www.socialserve.com) or call 1.877.428.8844.

THE GOVERNOR'S COUNCIL ON DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES PARTNERED WITH THE ARIZONA DIRECT CARE CURRICULUM PROJECT, A STATEWIDE COLLABORATION OF PROVIDERS, CONSUMERS, ADVOCACY GROUPS, AND STATE AGENCIES BRIDGING THE NEEDS OF DIVERSE POPULATIONS IN A JOINT EFFORT TO DEVELOP QUALIFIED PROVIDERS OF DIRECT CARE AND SUPPORT.



# Arizona Direct Care Curriculum Project

*This partnership seeks to foster a stable, qualified direct care workforce for home and community-based long-term care services in Arizona. Instructional material was developed to educate direct support professionals on techniques to better support individuals with disabilities and seniors.*

#### Accomplishments in 2007 include:

- ▶ Instructor Training and Orientation: Two workshops for trainers were conducted in February and April 2007. 43 individuals attended the workshops, representing 27 provider agencies. 27 participants from 18 different agencies completed the training on the Developmental Disabilities Module.
- ▶ Training of Direct Care Workers: It is the intent of the project to give provider agencies the tools to offer more training to their staff. The curriculum is available to providers at no cost, and it can be adapted to the needs of the individual agency. As of September 30, 2007, seven agencies had submitted reports on training activities with the curriculum, including three agencies using portions of the Developmental Disabilities Module.

- ▶ Pima Community College in Tucson offered two courses with the Principles of Caregiving curriculum and is planning to schedule a course on the Developmental Disabilities Module for the year 2007-08. Other community colleges have expressed interest in replicating these efforts.

**COUNCIL FUNDS ALLOCATED - \$15,000**

**COUNCIL FUNDS EXPENDED - \$13,541**

- ▶ For more information on the Direct Support Professional Training Project, please contact:

Jutta Ulrich, julrich@azdes.gov

Dept. of Economic Security, Division of Aging and Adult Services,

602.542.4446

[www.azdes.gov/aaa/directcare.asp](http://www.azdes.gov/aaa/directcare.asp)



***Regional Coordinators work with self advocates to develop and/or support grassroots self advocacy groups, particularly in underserved communities.***

In 2007, the Council continued to contract with the Institute for Human Development, Arizona Center for Disability Law and the Native American Disability Law Center to support self-advocate leaders in their efforts to establish and lead the Self Advocacy Coalition of Arizona.

➤ For more information about the Self Advocacy Coalition of Arizona, contact:  
Teresa Moore, Statewide Coordinator  
1.866.771.9378  
[www.selfadvocacyofaz.org](http://www.selfadvocacyofaz.org)

Contract dollars facilitated the hire of four regional coordinators, designated to provide training and support to coalition building, goal setting, fundraising, and strategic planning.

*The Governor's Council on Developmental Disabilities strongly believes that those impacted by disabilities are the most important voice in the disability advocacy movement. Toward that end, the Council has supported self-advocates statewide to organize and lead in this manner.*

# YOU CAN BE

**Project Accomplishments in 2007 included:**

- › 32 individuals with disabilities trained in self advocacy and leadership
- › 148 individuals without disabilities trained in the principles of supporting self advocates
- › 180 members of the general public received information about the Coalition
- › 2 new self advocacy groups were established
- › The filing of the necessary paperwork at the state level to be recognized as an entity known as the "Self Advocacy Coalition of Arizona"

**Additional accomplishments in 2007 included:**

- › 54 self advocates educated on the legislative process
- › 15 self advocates utilized that information to educate policymakers on issues impacting people with disabilities
- › 10 additional self advocates were recruited to Coalition membership or local self advocacy groups

**COUNCIL FUNDS ALLOCATED - \$223,576**

**COUNCIL FUNDS EXPENDED - \$193,872**

*Self-advocates are  
overcoming  
our disability  
within ourselves.  
We forgive our  
opportunity to  
learn about what is  
disability and advocacy  
- Morgan*



# Health Care Professional

## Training Professionals

***The Governor's Council on Developmental Disabilities is working to enhance the health care system's capacity to provide competent, caring services to individuals with developmental disabilities, through education and training of medical students, residents and other health care professionals.***

The Council has contracted with the Sonoran University Center of Excellence on Developmental Disabilities to accomplish this objective. The project involves infusing information and training on developmental disabilities into the Life Cycle curriculum, and developing interprofessional conferences on disability, as well as teaching family medicine residents about disability care.

The project also involves other departments at the University of Arizona including Department of Pediatrics, Disability Resource Center and Colleges of Nursing, Pharmacy and Public Health. In addition, community members with disabilities were involved in the planning and educational aspects of the project, including utilizing individuals with disabilities and family members as trainers.

**This initiative focused on two specific areas:**

- The "Teaching Day for Residents" provided training to 25 medical residents specializing in Family and Community Medicine. The training included presentations by health care professionals with expertise in developmental disabilities as well as a panel of self-advocates and family members addressing their experiences with the health care system.
- The "Inter-Professional Student Conference on Disability" provided training to over 340 medical, pharmacy, social work, public health and law students. Students received an overview on disability history and culture, and were provided an opportunity to address case problems provided from testimonials from persons with developmental disabilities and family members.

**COUNCIL FUNDS ALLOCATED - \$26,992**

**COUNCIL FUNDS EXPENDED - \$3,008**

(Project implemented on June 18, 2007)



# Arizona Aging

## and Disability Resource Center



*The Governor's Council on Developmental Disabilities partnered with the Department of Economic Security/Division of Aging and Adult Services to enhance the participation of individuals with developmental disabilities in the planning and implementation of AZ Links – Arizona Aging and Disability Resource Center. AZ Links is a web-based clearinghouse created to help people with disabilities, seniors, caregivers and family members locate resources and services that meet their needs.*

#### Specifically, the Council supported the AZ Links Partnership through:

- › Funding for focus groups
- › Cross-training
- › Collateral and training materials
- › Opportunities to participate on state and local committees
- › Providing materials in alternative formats
- › A self-help web portal
- › A uniform application tool to be used by multiple long-term care service programs

#### Partners:

- › Area Agency on Aging
- › Division of Developmental Disabilities
- › Center for Independent Living
- › Arizona Health Care Cost Containment System/Arizona Long Term Care

#### Future Plans:

- › Focus groups will be held statewide to assist with systems improvements
- › Establishment of AZ Links Partnerships and rollout of AZ Links long-term support services in three additional geographic areas.
- › Work to implement a Common Intake Form to be used by all agencies for intake and referral
- › A publicity campaign emphasizing the benefits of using the AZ Links website

**COUNCIL FUNDS ALLOCATED - \$30,000**

**COUNCIL FUNDS EXPENDED - \$694**

(Two Year Project Through September 30, 2008)

- › For more information visit [www.azlinks.gov](http://www.azlinks.gov) or contact Allie Masters at [amasters@azdes.gov](mailto:amasters@azdes.gov)  
Dept. of Economic Security, Division of Aging and Adult Services,  
1789 W. Jefferson, Site Code 950 A, Phoenix AZ 85007  
602.542.4446

# Youth In Transition

***The Governor's Council on Developmental Disabilities partnered with the Office of Academic Community Engagement Services at Arizona State University to support youth with disabilities during their transition out of correctional settings through the Youth in Transition mentoring program.***

In 2007, the project served a total of 15 young women. Since receiving initial funding from the Council in 2005, the program has served a total of 45 young women. This program provides young women with disabilities with support as they prepare for transition back into their home communities. While incarcerated, mentees and mentors meet on a weekly basis to engage in relationship building, life skills development, and re-entry planning. Upon release, the mentors and mentees continue to meet on a weekly basis to implement the goals that the young women have set in their re-entry plans.

To date, 37 have been released from correctional settings to the community. Of those 37, 12 young women (32%) have not been re-incarcerated. Of the young women who returned to correctional settings, 70% returned for technical violations and not for new charges or crimes.

As a result of the project's success, a total of five additional communities have expressed their interest in replicating aspects of the program in their areas.

#### **Partners:**

- › Arizona Department of Juvenile Corrections
- › Girl Scouts Arizona Cactus-Pine Council
- › Boy Scouts of America
- › Grand Canyon Council
- › Catholic Charities

**COUNCIL FUNDS ALLOCATED - \$83,817**

**COUNCIL FUNDS EXPENDED - \$83,817**

- › For more information about the Youth in Transition Program, contact: Katie Barclay Penkoff at 602.400.8993 or e-mail at [katieb@asu.edu](mailto:katieb@asu.edu)

*"I loved it. I honestly loved it. I loved my mentor because she did help me. I told her I might not tell anyone."*



THE GOVERNOR'S OFFICE ON DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES CONTRACTED WITH THE TRI-CITY PARTNERSHIP FOR SPECIAL CHILDREN AND ADULTS TO ESTABLISH A PROGRAM TO EDUCATE FIRST RESPONDERS ON HOW TO BETTER SUPPORT PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES. THIS INITIATIVE WAS ACCOMPLISHED THROUGH TWO PHASES.



# Smart Card Program

## First Responder Smart Card

The Smart Card is a document containing vital information supplied by an individual on a voluntary basis that will provide police, fire & EMT personnel with details about the unique needs of a person with a disability whom they may encounter. The card is typically site based and located in a conspicuous location in a residence or an automobile.

## First Responder Training

In addition to the "Smart Card" itself, the project includes training for first responders on general disability awareness and how to better support an individual with a disability in an emergency situation. Furthermore, the program provides training for community members on appropriate instances in which to call first responders and the procedures that occur once a call is initiated.

***The Council is currently working with the Tri-City Partnership to further replicate the program statewide.***

## Partners:

Local First Responders (Police, Fire, EMS), School Districts, County Attorneys, Division of Developmental Disabilities, Northern Arizona Regional Behavioral Health Authority, Juvenile Probation, Adult Probation, Arizona Peace Officers Standards & Training (AZ POST), Adult Protective Services

**The First Responders Smart Card program is currently being implemented in the following communities:**

- Prescott, Prescott Valley, Chino Valley, Verde Valley, Cottonwood, Clarkdale, Sedona, Yavapai County, Scottsdale, Kingman, Lake Havasu, Mohave County, Flagstaff and Coconino County.

**COUNCIL FUNDS ALLOCATED - \$45,000**

**COUNCIL FUNDS EXPENDED - \$7,727**

(Project implemented on January 16, 2007)

- For more information on the First Responders Smart Card Program visit the Tri-City Partnership website at [www.tricitypartnership.org](http://www.tricitypartnership.org) or email [tricitypartners@cablone.net](mailto:tricitypartners@cablone.net)

# Blazing

## Legislative Awareness Day

In 2007, the Governor's Council on Developmental Disabilities hosted its 18th Annual Legislative Awareness Day, which drew the largest attendance in the history of the event. Over 200 self-advocates, family members and advocacy organizations turned out from all corners of the state to meet with legislators and to support the Council's public policy efforts.

## Legislative Consortium

The Council's Legislative Consortium, which includes individuals with disabilities, meets year round and serves as a multi-stakeholder think tank to support the Council's public policy initiatives. In addition to supporting the Council in the areas of education & employment, the Consortium was instrumental in assisting the Council to establish a preventative dental care program for Arizona's long term care population.

## Arizona Disability Advocacy Coalition (AzDAC)

The Council is a member of the Arizona Disability Advocacy Coalition (AzDAC), which is designed to coordinate advocacy efforts relative to public policy and to promote systems change. AzDAC works in partnership with individuals with disabilities, their families and community organizations in these efforts.

AzDAC membership includes: The Governor's Council on Developmental Disabilities, The Arc of Arizona, Arizona Bridge to Independent Living, Arizona Center for Disability Law, Arizona Chapter of the Paralyzed Veterans of America, Arizona Commission

for the Deaf and the Hard of Hearing, DIRECT Center for Independence, Inc., The Mental Health Association of Arizona, People First of Arizona, SMILE, Statewide Independent Living Council, Arizona Council of the Blind, Inc., Arizona Technology Access Program IHD/NAH, Behavioral Health/Consumers in Action, Epilepsy Foundation of Arizona, Mental Health Advocates Coalition of AZ, Pilot Parents of Southern Arizona, NAU Institute for Human Development Coalition for Family Support, Self-Determination and Disability, Raising Special Kids and State Rehabilitation Council.

## Legislative Training Event

The Council annually supports the AzDAC Legislative training event. The training is designed to help familiarize self-advocates with the legislative process by providing instruction on how a bill becomes a law, meeting with legislators, principles of self-advocacy, and current legislation impacting individuals with disabilities. Self-advocates utilize their acquired knowledge by meeting with their legislators at the Council's legislative Awareness Day event.



*The Governor's Council on Developmental Disabilities continued to collaborate with Pilot Parents of Southern Arizona to offer the Partners in Policymaking Program. The program is an innovative leadership training that teaches individuals to be community leaders and to affect systems & policy change at the local, state and national level.*

# A Trail

PARTNERS OFFERS A NATIONALLY RECOGNIZED, COMPREHENSIVE TRAINING PROGRAM DESIGNED TO EQUIP INDIVIDUALS WITH THE TOOLS NECESSARY TO ADVOCATE FOR SYSTEMS CHANGE. THE PROGRAM ALSO SUPPORTS GRADUATES TO ATTAIN MEMBERSHIP ON PUBLIC AND PRIVATE BOARDS AND LEADERSHIP COALITIONS. THE GRADUATING CLASS OF 2007-2008 CONSISTED OF 21 PARTICIPANTS.



#### Collaborating support for the Partners program includes:

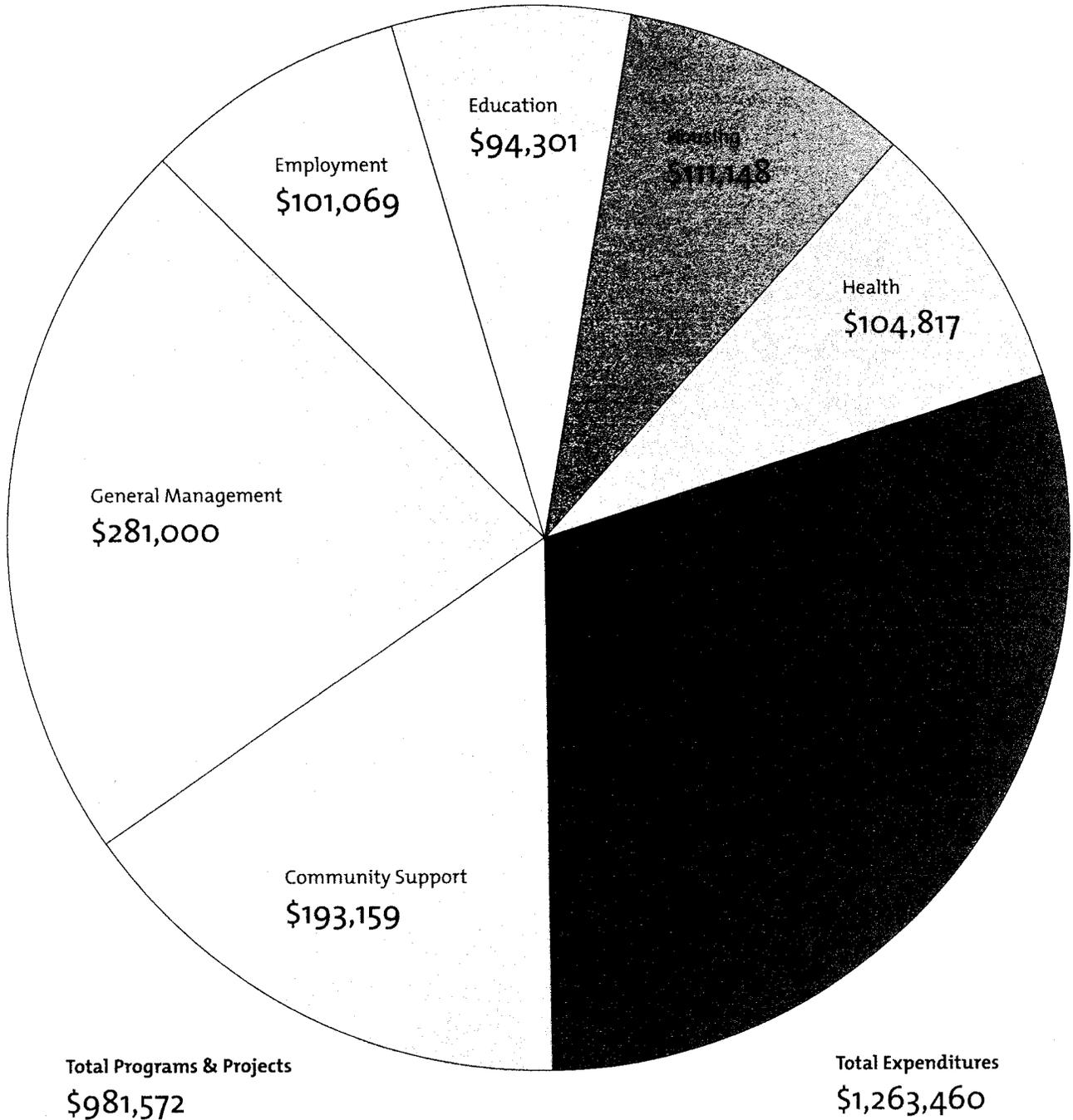
- › Division of Developmental Disabilities
- › Department of Health Services
- › Institute for Human Development
- › Arizona Center for Disability Law
- › Arizona Statewide Independent Living Council
- › Self Advocacy Coalition of Arizona
- › Arizona Health Care Cost Containment System
- › Arizona Long Term Care Services

- › Social Security Administration
- › Arizona Department of Education
- › Arizona State Senate
- › Arizona Technology Access Program

**COUNCIL FUNDS ALLOCATED - \$25,000**

**COUNCIL FUNDS EXPENDED - \$25,000**

- › To request a program application contact:  
Pilot Parents of Southern Arizona  
1-877-365-7270 or visit the website at [www.pilotparents.org](http://www.pilotparents.org)



# The Sky's The Limit

*The Governor's Council on Developmental Disabilities initiated 16 of the 21 objectives in the FY 2007-2011 5-Year Plan during fiscal year 2007.*

Following are a few highlights of current or upcoming activities and projects:

- › Facilitating regional employment symposiums in collaboration with community partners to train employers on best practices for supporting individuals with disabilities in the workforce. These symposiums also provide an opportunity for individuals with disabilities to link with potential employers
- › Supporting individuals with disabilities and their families to join culturally diverse and cross-disability leadership coalitions, as well as locally based boards and commissions as a means of influencing systems change
- › Working to educate home developers in Arizona on the importance of incorporating visitability and universal design concepts
- › Continuing to expand the number of affordable and accessible rental housing listings available at Socialserve.com
- › Continuing to support the Self Advocacy Coalition of Arizona in its efforts to become a sustainable non-profit organization
- › Working to ensure that all Arizonans with disabilities are afforded the opportunity to vote
- › Continuing to work with first responders and emergency management planning agencies in their efforts to support individuals with disabilities
- › To continually improve the Council's website to ensure that its content is responsive to the needs of individuals with disabilities & their families statewide, while showcasing maximum accessibility features
- › Continuing our commitment to public outreach, to ensure that people with disabilities and their families understand the role of the Council and are encouraged to participate in Council initiatives in the future

› For additional information or to become involved in Council projects, please call  
Toll Free: 866.771.9378 \* TTY 602.277.4949  
[www.azgcd.org](http://www.azgcd.org)



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Self Advocate  
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Council Vice Chairperson  
Family Member  
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