The 2017-2021 State Plan Survey

Report on Results
The purpose of the DD Council state plan survey is to engage a broad spectrum of stakeholders with particular focus on people with I/DD and their families in order to set funding and advocacy priorities for the Council for years 2017-2021.

Topics covered include
• Barriers and supports to community participation
• Barriers and supports within the State System
• Goals for South Carolina regarding people with I/DD and their families
• Systems change priorities regarding people with I/DD and their families
Respondents

- **45%**: People with I/DD and family members
- **30%**: Public agency stakeholder
- **24%**: Non-profit organization stakeholder
- **17%**: 30 years-old or younger

Survey Responses by County

- Richland: 33 responses
- Charleston: 15 responses
- Greenville: 15 responses
- Lexington: 14 responses
- Horry: 12 responses
- Dorchester: 11 responses
- Spartanburg: 11 responses
- York: 10 responses
- Aiken: 6 responses
- Berkeley: 6 responses
- Pickens: 6 responses
- Florence: 6 responses
- Marion: 6 responses
- Beaufort: 4 responses
- Williamsburg: 4 responses
- Georgetown: 3 responses
- Sumter: 3 responses
- Anderson: 2 responses
- Orangeburg: 2 responses
- Cherokee: 2 responses
- Jasper: 1 response
- Kershaw: 1 response
- Lancaster: 1 response
- Union: 1 response
- Fairfield: 1 response
- Newberry: 1 response

180 responses (not all reflected below)
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Top Survey Responses</th>
<th>Comments included</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Lack of transportation</td>
<td>Lack of communication between agencies</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Limited finances</td>
<td>Low expectations from community leaders regarding ability of people with disabilities</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lack of employment</td>
<td>Lack of services and supports in rural areas</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Person with disability not included in planning</td>
<td>Lack of services from agencies to integrate people with disabilities in community</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Not having choices</td>
<td>Lack of accommodations and supports in schools so that young people with I/DD can fully participate</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Disempowerment to exercise self-determination because of a lack of supports from state systems</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Barriers to Community Participation

- Lack of public transportation: 69 responses, 69% participation
- Limited finances: 65 responses, 65% participation
- Not having choices: 61 responses, 61% participation
- Lack of communication: 49 responses, 49% participation
- Not having accommodations: 49 responses, 49% participation
- Lack of relationships: 37 responses, 37% participation
- Lack of education: 35 responses, 35% participation
- Not having access to skills: 33 responses, 33% participation
- Lack of adaptive equipment: 32 responses, 32% participation
- Not making decisions: 30 responses, 30% participation
- Lack of housing: 29 responses, 29% participation
- Lack of healthcare: 27 responses, 27% participation
- Not having access to internet and/or mobility: 22 responses, 22% participation
- Not having access to childcare: 21 responses, 21% participation
- Person with disability not included: 20 responses, 20% participation
- Events do not have accommodations: 18 responses, 18% participation
- Not having access to skills: 18 responses, 18% participation
- Not making decisions: 17 responses, 17% participation
- Lack of housing: 16 responses, 16% participation
- Lack of healthcare: 15 responses, 15% participation
- Not having access to internet and/or mobility: 12 responses, 12% participation
- Not having access to childcare: 11 responses, 11% participation
- Not having choice: 10 responses, 10% participation
- Not having accommodations: 8 responses, 8% participation
- Lack of relationships: 7 responses, 7% participation
- Lack of education: 5 responses, 5% participation
- Lack of communication: 4 responses, 4% participation
- Limited finances: 3 responses, 3% participation
- Lack of public transportation: 2 responses, 2% participation
- Not having choices: 1 response, 1% participation
- Lack of adaptive equipment: 1 response, 1% participation
- Not having access to skills: 1 response, 1% participation
- Lack of housing: 0 responses, 0% participation
- Lack of healthcare: 0 responses, 0% participation
- Not having access to internet and/or mobility: 0 responses, 0% participation
- Not having accommodations: 0 responses, 0% participation
- Lack of relationships: 0 responses, 0% participation
- Lack of education: 0 responses, 0% participation
- Lack of communication: 0 responses, 0% participation
- Limited finances: 0 responses, 0% participation
- Lack of public transportation: 0 responses, 0% participation
- Not having choices: 0 responses, 0% participation
Community Participation Supports

Top Survey Responses
• Having a support person
• Family and friends live nearby
• Public transportation
• Accommodations available
• Integrated events

Comments included
• Caseworkers who connect individuals to integrated community activities
• Access to systems that lead to integrated, competitive employment
• Systems of support for young people with I/DD
• Access to personal transportation
• Networking among parents of individuals with I/DD
Supports to Community Participation

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Supports to Community Participation</th>
<th>Responses</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Having a support person</td>
<td>68</td>
<td>38</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Public Transportation</td>
<td>65</td>
<td>36</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Accommodations available</td>
<td>60</td>
<td>34</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Events are integrated</td>
<td>57</td>
<td>32</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>People treat me with respect</td>
<td>57</td>
<td>32</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Having friends available</td>
<td>55</td>
<td>31</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Having confidence with and without</td>
<td>44</td>
<td>25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Having a job coach</td>
<td>42</td>
<td>23</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Event information in accessible</td>
<td>41</td>
<td>23</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Making my own schedule</td>
<td>35</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Solving my own problems</td>
<td>31</td>
<td>17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Participate in event planning</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spending my own money</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Volunteer opportunities</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>17</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>16</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Barriers in State System

Comments included
- Waiver handbooks are not detailed enough
- Multiple public systems do not work well together or collaborate causing frustration
- DDSN is not enough involved with transition of young people out of school
- Information regarding State systems is not reliable or not updated frequently enough
- Training for school and other professionals who interact with people with I/DD is not sufficient
- Access to affordable transportation
- Lack of provider capacity in rural areas

Top Survey Responses
- Lack of knowledge regarding available services
- Waiting lists
- Funding limitations
- Transition from high school to post-high school life
- Ability to access services
- Lack of knowledge regarding available services
- Waiting lists
- Funding limitations
- Transition from high school to post-high school life
- Ability to access services
Barriers in the State System

- Knowledge of services: 101
- Waiting lists: 81
- Funding limitations: 56
- Ability to access services: 45
- Transition from high school: 57
- Case-manager case load: 46
- School administrators, faculty, and...: 43
- Provider turnover rates: 43
- Exceed financial qualifications: 40
- Concerns about abuse, neglect, and...: 37
- Concerns about health and safety: 33
- Concerns planning excludes person with...: 32
- Received education in segregated...: 18
- While in the state system: 18
- Grievance process: 11
- Received education exclusion: 11
- Education in segregated...: 10
- While in the state system: 6
- Educational process: 6
- State system: 3

Responses vs. Percentage
State System Supports

**Top Survey Responses**
- Competent case managers
- Knowledge of available services
- Knowledgeable information and referral coordinators
- Community-based employment
- Person-centered planning

**Comments included**
- Offering choices to people
- Services that are useful in contemporary society such as job coaches
- Independent case managers
- Availability of information in a variety of formats
- Professionals who encourage self-determination
- School districts, DDSN, and SC VRD working together
Supports in the State System

Responses
Percentage
Goals for South Carolina

• Employment, internship & job training opportunities for adults with I/DD.
• Collaborative transition services for high school students with I/DD that include DDSN, SC VRD, school districts & businesses that leads to competitive, integrated employment; post-secondary schooling; or self-employment.
• Access to accurate, comprehensive, understandable information about services available across State systems including DDSN, SC VRD, school districts and others.
• State systems that empower people with I/DD and their families to have choices, live self-determined lives, and have self-directed care and supports.
• Access to public or other modes of transportation.
• Continuing education for professionals regarding State systems.
• Systems that build capacity among case managers, service coordinators, and respite providers.
• Eliminate waiting lists and lower case loads for providers.
Ideas for Systems Improvement in South Carolina

• Enhance service network to empower people with I/DD who choose to live and to work in the community.
• Build state capacity by engaging public-private partnerships.
• Support interagency teams at the State and local level leading to improved collaboration.
• Engage more people with I/DD and their families on decision-making boards and committees especially at SC VRD and DDSN.
• Eliminate sub-minimum wage practices for people with I/DD.
• Streamline application process among multiple agencies.
• Provide more learning opportunities for people with I/DD and their families regarding their rights.
• Continue to implement the HCBS Final Rule and ensure that people with I/DD and their families are involved in the decision-making process at every level.
• Improve transportation infrastructure.