

POSITIVE ABILITIES

Department of Administration

October 2021

Office of Executive Policy and Programs

The mission of the South Carolina Developmental Disabilities Council is to provide leadership in planning, funding, and implementing initiatives that lead to improved quality of life for people with developmental disabilities and their families through advocacy, capacity building, and systemic change.

Road Map to Inclusion Webinar Series and “Disability Road Map” Film Preview



Dan Habib and his son Samuel

The SC Developmental Disabilities Council, Able South Carolina, Disability Rights and Center for Disability Resources worked with film director Dan Habib and his son Samuel Habib to present “Road to Inclusion” Webinar series. The virtual sessions focused on:

- Person -centered planning/student-driven IEP’s
- Self-Advocacy/self-determination strategies and leadership development
- Inclusive education
- Community-based experiences such as extended learning opportunities, internships, work study, and apprenticeships
- Paid work experience and entrepreneurship development
- Family involvement and high expectations
- Higher education opportunities and supports

The webinars featured documentary films on disability-related topics and were created by Mr. Habib. The purpose of the series was to bring educators, professionals, people with disabilities, and family members together to learn about effective inclusion practices for people with disabilities from childhood to adulthood. The series included:

1. Creating a Culture of Inclusion in Schools and Communities
2. Creating a Road Map to Inclusive IEP’s
3. Creating a Culture of Inclusive Transition Practices
4. Disability Road Map Preview and Discussion

The series will be available and can be used as a tool to help guide other individuals. During the preview of the film “Disability Roadmap” participants discussed with Dan and Samuel how they have tried to build a culture of inclusion in their family, community, and school district, and plan for full adult life as Samuel enters his 20’s. Special guests from South Carolina also shared their “road map” through life within their community.



Lex Hathaway

Lex Hathaway is a sophomore at Winthrop University studying Applied Theatre and currently works as a peer Mentor with EQUIP. Derrick Means works two jobs, he is 1st Vice Chair of the DD Council, is on the Miracle League Board of Union County, and plays the bongos at his Church.

Lex and Derrick shared their stories of how they advocated for inclusion for themselves and now live independently.



Derrick Means

CONFERENCES

Due to COVID-19, conferences were held virtually. As people with disabilities are at greater risk, the disability service agencies are putting safety protocols in place to ensure participants are able to receive information and continue to have access to needed materials. Each of the following conferences had good success and continue to look for ways to expand their reach during the pandemic.

Virtual Conferences:

Assistive Technology (AT Expo) - Center for Disability Resources

Mapping Your Future/Empowering Your Future - Able, South Carolina

Hopes and Dreams - Family Connection

Life with Brain Injury - South Carolina Brain Injury Association

Youth Leadership Forum - Able South Carolina

South Carolina Developmental Disability Council 5-Year State Plan

The South Carolina Developmental Disabilities Council is pleased to announce the submission and provisional approval of our New 5-Year State Plan. The New State plan will continue to focus on 3 major target areas: Employment, Community Supports, and Self-Advocacy. This plan enables the Council to work with Targeted Disparities and emerging issues which address unforeseen circumstances such as COVID-19. This has created a need to interact utilizing safety protocols for all planned activities.

South Carolina Developmental Disabilities Council 5-Year State Plan

Goal 1. Employment	
Description People with intellectual and developmental disabilities have access to competitive, community-based career opportunities throughout their lifetime.	
Expected Goal Outcome 90% of people with intellectual and developmental disabilities and their families participating in Council-funded programming will increase capacity to access the resources available to enter into the integrated workforce development systems understanding their rights to sustainable employment.	
Objectives	
<i>Objective 1.</i>	Support programs for people with intellectual and developmental disabilities that promote access to integrated workforce development systems.
<i>Objective 2.</i>	Support programs that empower people with intellectual and developmental disabilities to develop self-determination and direct their own career strategy using appropriate evidence-based and best practice methods.
<i>Objective 3.</i>	The Developmental Disabilities Council will collaborate with the Center for Disability Resources (UCEDD) and Disability Rights South Carolina (P & A) to reduce employment barriers for people with intellectual and developmental disabilities.

State Plan Continued...

Goal 2. Community Supports	
<p>Description</p> <p>People with intellectual and developmental disabilities will have increased access to be fully included in the community of their choice.</p>	
<p>Expected Goal Outcome</p> <p>90% of people with intellectual and developmental disabilities and their family members participating in Council-funded programming will contribute to the identification of inclusive and integration gaps in their community services in the areas of: integrated employment, emerging health issues, Latino/Hispanic Families, Housing Resources, and Transportation.</p>	
Objectives	
<i>Objective 1.</i>	Support at least two programs that provide people with intellectual and developmental disabilities opportunities to improve community integration, inclusion, and self-determination.
<i>Objective 2.</i>	Support at least one program that addresses an emerging health issue for people with intellectual and developmental disabilities, families, and service providers using evidence-based practices and interventions.
<i>Objective 3.</i>	Support the development of relationships that improve Latino/Hispanic families with children with intellectual and developmental disabilities having access to needed services and supports.
<i>Objective 4.</i>	Support education of people with intellectual and developmental disabilities in housing resources.
<i>Objective 5.</i>	Support increased flexibility of transportation options so people with intellectual and developmental disabilities can participate in community events.

Goal 3: Self-Advocacy	
<p>Description</p> <p>People with intellectual and developmental disabilities and their families will have opportunities to increase their advocacy skills.</p>	
<p>Expected Goal Outcome</p> <p>Advocacy skills and opportunities will be increased.</p>	
Objectives	
<i>Objective 1.</i>	Provide support to strengthen a statewide self-advocacy organization led by and for people with intellectual and developmental disabilities.
<i>Objective 2.</i>	Support opportunities that strengthen leadership abilities in peer-to-peer networks of people with intellectual and developmental disabilities, their families, and their service providers.
<i>Objective 3.</i>	Support people with intellectual and developmental disabilities and their family members to engage cross-disability, culturally diverse leadership boards, committees, commissions, councils, and similar coalitions.

Targeted Disparity

Council rededicates the efforts to support the development of relationships that improve Latino/Hispanic families with children with intellectual and developmental disabilities having access to needed services and supports. Conversations with PASOS have already begun to strengthen the foundation of collaboration moving into the 5 years ahead to bridge the gaps in use of service due to the disconnect and mistrust of organizations providing services and supports due to political climates. PASOS, named best practice by Association of Maternal and Child Health Programs, supports Latino communities with education, advocacy, and leadership development by maternal and child health, reproductive health, leadership and advocacy, community health worker capacity building, education, awareness, support of immigrant and Latino and Hispanic population. In 2019, PASOS trained 1500 professionals in organizational capacity building. In 2017, the population of Hispanic/Latino reported in South Carolina was 282,500, the prevalence of disabilities of all ages for the Hispanic/Latino population was 7.3% which represents 20,700 individuals with disabilities within the Hispanic/Latino population. Organizations like PASOS have established the trust and consistency with the populations needed to bridge the gap of services and access to health and education equity necessary for the children of these families to receive the vital services and supports they need during their formative developmental years. Council will form a bi-directional exchange of information and training to create an inclusive, integrated cross-disability, cross-cultural network within South Carolina dedicated to advancing the employment, community supports, and self-advocacy objectives for the 2022-2026 state plan.

A significant key factor in advocacy is the huge role collaboration has on the effectiveness of the services being provided.

DD Network Collaboration

In South Carolina, the DD Network consists of Disability Rights South Carolina (P & A), the Center for Disability Resources (UCEDD) and the South Carolina Developmental Disabilities Council. The Network meets at least quarterly to plan and explore new areas of collaboration and to review current projects. Our Network is represented on the Home and Community Based Rule Workgroup which meets monthly. We have also helped to connect individuals with intellectual disabilities (I/DD) to these work groups and have developed a mechanism to monitor and share information across our Network and to key stakeholders as necessary. The priority to focus on integrated employment to reduce barriers for people with intellectual and developmental disabilities is aligned with statewide initiatives and feedback from stakeholders that quality, integrated employment opportunities are the top concern. The Employment First Initiative Act covers the full spectrum of areas needing to be addressed in order to create clear pathways from school to work transitions and independent living. DD Council's three employment grants work to address the barriers, delivery systems, capacity for sustainability, and training for professionals necessary to transform the job market for individuals with intellectual and/or developmental disabilities.



October is National Disability Employment Awareness Month (NDEAM). The DD Council recognizes services which highlight sustainable employment for individuals with disabilities. Below are events which highlight these efforts and recognize the need for increased employment opportunities.

Empowerment in Employment



Join us in listening to our panelists share their stories of challenges and successes in the workforce and share your own experiences.

November 4, 2021

12:00PM-1:00PM

<https://zoom.us/j/8975893520>

Meeting ID: 897 589 3520

1-646-558-8656

Door prizes will be given. You must be present to win.





able
SOUTH CAROLINA

FREE EVENT
27 OCTOBER 2021
3 PM - 4 PM

**AMERICA'S RECOVERY
POWERED BY INCLUSION**
National Disability Employment Awareness Month

(803) 779-5121
FOR MORE INFORMATION, OR TO REQUEST
REASONABLE ACCOMMODATIONS CONTACT: DTEMPIO@ABLE-SC.ORG

FREE webinar event!

**For Self-Advocates and Parents in Lee County
And other Rural Counties**

Register for this virtual event on October 27, 2021 from 3PM-4PM
We'll provide you with information on:

- FREE Covid-19 services,
- Independent living skills services,
- Employment services, and
- Resources for people with disabilities and health conditions, as well as community providers
- And more!

803-779-5121 Advocacy@able-sc.org

**America's Recovery:
Powered by Inclusion**

Marty Walsh
Secretary of Labor

Taryn Williams
Assistant Secretary
of Labor for Disability
Employment Policy

Jenny Yang
Director, Office of Federal
Contract Compliance
Programs

Jennifer Sheehy
Deputy Assistant Secretary
of Labor for Disability
Employment Policy

**A celebration of National Disability
Employment Awareness Month (NDEAM)!**

October 20, 2021, 2:00 – 3:00 p.m. ET

Leaders for Change and Inclusion Webinar Series

Join Us for Part 1: Leadership Skills

Target Audience: Self-Advocates and Parents



Presenter: Dori Tempio
Director of Community Outreach and Consumer Rights
Able South Carolina

https://bit.ly/leader_skills

October 29, 2021
1:00 P.M.-2:30 P.M.



Leaders for Change and Inclusion Webinar Series Part 2: Advocacy and Self-Advocacy

Target Audience: Self-Advocates and Parents



Moderated by Dori Tempio

https://bit.ly/_advocacy

November 18, 2021
1:00pm-2:30pm



COUNCIL NEWS

The new DD Council Officers are as Follows: Roger Kuperman, Council Chairperson, Derrick Means, 1st Vice Chairperson, Elizabeth Smithson, 2nd Vice Chairperson, Connie Gallman, Secretary.

Along with our new 5-year State Plan, we have several changes in Council Membership. We want to welcome Parents: Amy Hibbs from Simpsonville, and Suzanne Wingard from Orangeburg; Jeri Davison represents our Non-Governmental Agency from Able, SC; Mary Beth Fields from the Department on Aging; Anna Bleasdale, from SC Department of Health and Environmental Control; Harriet Abner and Carol Anderson from SC Vocational Rehabilitation.

Sadly, because of COVID-19, the SC DD Council has not met in person since February 2020. Since people with disabilities are at a higher risk, the Council voted to remain virtual until the number of COVID-19 infections become more favorable for in-person activities.

While we welcome our new members, we want to recognize the excellent support and give special thanks to Kimberly Addis, Susan Beck, Dianne Bennett, Phil Clarkson, Daphanie Dean, Lisa Jolly and Marion Taylor, for their outstanding service to the DD Council.

SOUTH CAROLINA DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES COUNCIL

Ms. Harriet Abner
Ms. Margaret Alewine
Mrs. Carol Anderson
Mr. Joseph “Joey” Barefoot
Mrs. Michelle Barefoot
Ms. Anna Bleasdale
Ms. Jeri Davison

Mrs. Mary Beth Fields
Ms. Beth Franco
Mrs. Connie Gallman
Mr. John Green
Mr. Demetrius Henderson
Mrs. Amy Hibbs
Mrs. Melissa Hunt
Mr. Roger Kuperman

Mr. Derrick Means
Ms. Kristi Moore
Dr. David Rotholz
Ms. Allison Danielle Sartin
Ms. Elizabeth Smithson
Dr. Kim Watkins
Mrs. Suzanne Wingard

Staff

Valarie Bishop, Executive Director
 Lori Rogers, Program Manager
 Dyketia Gregg, Grants Coordinator
 Cheryl English, Program Coordinator
 William Farrior, Program Assistant
 Esther Williams, Administrative Specialist

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