

Highlights of DRW 2012 Annual Plans

A. Community and Institutions Plan

1. Advocate for people to move out of institutions into the “most integrated setting”, and advocate for people at risk of inappropriate admission to an institution to stay in the community.
2. Advocate for people to receive quality services of their own choosing (with an adequate level of services)
3. Advocate for members and potential members of Family Care, Partnership and IRIS to ensure that individuals’ needs and outcomes are met within the publicly funded long term care system for adults aged 18-59.
4. Advocate for improved systems and structures in the administration of publicly funded long term care.
5. Advocate the elimination of wait lists for community services for children & adults.
6. Work with local sexual assault & domestic violence agencies to improve access & quality of services for women with disabilities.
7. Increase the availability of peer-run and trauma-informed care for people with disabilities.
8. Advocate for the right of SSI Managed Care participants to receive appropriate primary & acute health care.
9. Confront cases & patterns of abuse & neglect in institutions & community residential programs.
10. Monitor & investigate deaths in institutions.
11. Provide self-advocacy training for consumers, and support self-advocacy in other ways.
12. Advocate for the right of inmates with mental illness or other disabilities to appropriate services & treatment, & to be free of abuse or neglect.

B. Civil Rights Plan

1. Advocate for the right to affordable & accessible transportation
2. Challenge housing discrimination
3. Confront a variety of accessibility barriers.
4. Challenge employment discrimination.
5. Increase integrated employment & reduce the use of sheltered workshops, segregated day programs & sub minimum wage
6. Advocate on a variety of issues affecting people with traumatic brain injuries.
7. Advocate the voting rights of people with disabilities, educate people on the new Voter ID law, and guard against other efforts that could disenfranchise people with disabilities.
8. Advocate the rights of DVR clients
9. Advocate people's rights to use service animals.

C. Schools Team

1. Advocate (on a systemic basis) for the right of students with disabilities to receive a quality education.
2. Confront abuse & neglect in schools, especially overuse of restraint & seclusion.
3. Advocate for the educational rights of Native American students with disabilities.
4. Confront the School-to-Prison pipeline.
5. Advocate on behalf of students who have been illegally suspended, expelled or otherwise removed from school.
6. Provide training for parents on educational rights.
7. Challenge proposals for school vouchers as well as existing voucher programs which violate the rights of students with disabilities.

8. Advocate for appropriate transition services for students with disabilities ages 14-21.
9. Advocate for the right to appropriate assistive technology.
10. Advocate for the right to inclusive education, & work to eliminate segregated schools.
11. Engage in efforts to ensure that the YoungStar Quality Rating & Improvement System for early childhood education improves access to and quality of child care for young children with disabilities.
12. Advocate for adequate special education funding.

D. Benefits Plan

1. Support expansion of Disability Benefits Specialist (DBS) programs statewide.
2. Continue to work with DHS to improve the quality of the DBS program.
3. Provide high quality training and legal backup to DBSs around the state.
4. Work collectively with Legal Action of Wisconsin to provide benefits – related assistance to inmates and parolees with disabilities.
5. Provide phone counseling on the toll-free Prescription Drug Helpline for persons under age 60 who are eligible for Medicare Part D.