

disabilityrights | WISCONSIN

October 17, 2018

DRW seeks public comments on our proposed 2019 Goals and Priorities for our federal grant to protect and advocate for people with intellectual and developmental disabilities. These goals and priorities will determine how DRW will allocate its federal protection and advocacy resources on behalf of people with IDD during the next year. These goals and priorities were developed with input from the public obtained at DRW Board listening sessions and the intake and case experience at DRW. These goals and priorities will be finalized after all public comments are analyzed.

Because our protection and advocacy resources have been declining for the past several years these goals and priorities reflect that reality, meaning that they are somewhat pared down from previous years. Commenters should keep in mind that these priorities are only for our federal protection and advocacy funds. An advocacy need that is not specifically reflected here may be being met through the use of other granting resources. As an example, DRW's Family Care and IRIS Ombudsman Program represents hundreds of people with intellectual and developmental disabilities in cases related to their long term care services in Family Care and IRIS. Because that advocacy need is being met through other resources, it is not reflected in the plan for this funding source.

Comments should be submitted to DRW's PADD Coordinator Mitch Hagopian via email at:

mitchh@drwi.org

or via U.S. Mail at:

Disability Rights Wisconsin
Attention: Mitch
131W. Wilson St., Suite 700
Madison, WI 53703

To ensure consideration, comments should be received by December 3, 2018.

DRAFT Statement of Goals and Priorities-PADD 2019

Goal 1: Decrease the risk of abuse and neglect of people with IDD in institutions, schools and the community.

Priority 1: Reduce the use of seclusion and restraint in schools by investigating and reporting on incidents of seclusion and restraint. Pursue policy changes to improve monitoring of seclusion and restraint.

Priority 2: Monitor all deaths of people with IDD in state centers and state mental health facilities, and children and adults with IDD in the community service system whose deaths we become aware of, for evidence of abuse or neglect as a factor in death and investigate when abuse or neglect appears to be a factor.

Priority 3: Respond, through community education and individual case advocacy, to instances of serious abuse and neglect of people with IDD in cases where the protective service system has not responded adequately.

Goal 2: Ensure that people have access to high quality, community-based Medicaid services and a long-term support system that promotes self-direction and care in the least restrictive, most integrated setting.

Priority 1: Ensure that people with IDD are not negatively impacted in any attempted alteration of the Medicaid program, by educating legislators and state policy makers on the unique needs of the IDD population and the role Medicaid plays in supporting them.

Priority 2: Ensure, through monitoring, individual case advocacy and technical assistance, that people with IDD applying for HCBS are not inappropriately denied eligibility through use of the computerized long term care functional screen and that their services are not wrongfully denied, terminated or reduced by engaging with legislators and DHS and representing selected individual applicants and recipients in court appeals of negative fair hearing decisions that are likely to have a systemic impact.

Priority 3: Improve outcomes, through systemic advocacy, technical assistance and limited individual case advocacy, for children eligible for the Children's Long Term Support Waiver and the "Children's Community Options Program."

Priority 4: Increase awareness and access to community based services and supports for African-American, Spanish speaking, and other underserved children with IDD and their families in Milwaukee County.

Goal 3: Reduce discrimination against people with IDD in employment, promote accessibility in facilities and programming, and ensure that employment for people with IDD occurs in the most integrated setting possible.

Priority 1: Educate people with IDD (and others) on their rights under the ADA to expect reasonable accommodation of their disabilities in employment. Engage in limited representation of people with IDD who have experienced significant employment discrimination because of their disability and their need for permanent job coaching.

Priority 2: Work to increase opportunities for competitive integrated employment through systems advocacy around WIOA.

Priority 3: Respond and provide technical assistance to complaints of inaccessibility to people with IDD in transportation, housing and public accommodations.

Goal 4: Improve the special education system's response to children with IDD by reducing the incidence of segregated educational experiences, increasing availability of adequate mental health services and ensuring meaningful, most integrated transition experiences for all students with IDD.

Priority 1: Decrease the provision of education to students with IDD in segregated settings (including at Choice schools) and classrooms through individual case advocacy, technical assistance, training and monitoring.

Priority 2: Increase availability of adequate mental health services and supports to students with IDD in order to reduce expulsion, suspension and law enforcement intervention through individual case advocacy, technical assistance, training and monitoring.

Priority 3: Ensure that transition planning requirements for children 14 and over are implemented and community vocational and other age appropriate, integrated, independent living experiences are part of the available curriculum in all districts and that all requirements of WIOA are met through individual case advocacy, technical assistance, systemic advocacy, training and monitoring.

Goal 5: Increase likelihood that people with IDD will receive services and supports in the least restrictive, most integrated setting and with the least imposition of their liberty as possible.

Priority 1: Serve on facility closing teams to ensure that people moving from institutions and community based residential facilities are going to less restrictive, more integrated community settings and provide individual advocacy to any person with IDD in a facility that is closing who requests assistance with individual community relocation planning.

Priority 2: Provide outreach and training and continue in leadership role in Wisconsin's Working Interdisciplinary Networks of Guardianship Stakeholders (WINGS) group. Continue leadership role in training on Wisconsin's supported decision-making agreements law. Advocate for one-time review of guardianship orders imposed before a person reached age 26.