



State of Alabama  
Robert Bentley  
Governor

## Alabama Council for Developmental Disabilities

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Stefan Eisen Jr.  
Chairperson

Elmyra Jones-Banks  
Executive Director

### **2017 – 2021 Draft of State Plan and Goals and Objectives: Request for Public Comments**

Alabama Council on Developmental Disabilities (ACDD) serves as an advocate for people with developmental disabilities and their families. Under federal law, each state and US territory is authorized to establish a Developmental Disabilities (DD) Council, which receives funds to carry out initiatives for systems-change, capacity building and advocacy. Through these activities, the Council seeks to impact the independence, productivity, inclusion, and integration of people with disabilities in their communities.

All Councils are required to develop five-year state plans to fulfill their role. The state plan provides a framework for the Council's funding initiatives, staff work priorities and activities to which our federal resources are dedicated over a five year period. State plans are reviewed annually, and progress of stated goals and objectives are reported in December of each year for the previous federal fiscal year. State plans will be in effect for federal fiscal years October 1, 2016 – September 30, 2021. It will be submitted to our federal oversight agency, the Administration on Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities, on August 15, 2016.

ACDD spent over a year collecting public input. More than 600 people with disabilities, families, professionals and advocates provided input. Board members reviewed the input to determine the best investment of available resources based on priorities identified statewide. The federal government expects DD Councils to identify goals and objectives that can be achieved in five years. In addition, the federal government requires that Board activities focus on efforts to change entire systems, not on direct service.

In order for Councils to reach the goals, several strategies are used such as: outreach, training, technical assistance, supporting and educating communities, interagency collaboration and coordination., coordination with related councils/committees/programs, barrier elimination, system design and redesign, coalition development, informing policymakers, demonstration of new approaches to services and supports.

Consistent with federal requirements, the Council's draft 2017-2021 State Plan goals and objectives are being released for a 45 day public comment period. We are seeking input on the following 2 draft goals and objectives. The development of goals and objectives are driven by Developmental Disabilities Act requirements, Administration on Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities requirements, areas of need in the state, public input, and opportunities for collaborations that advance the Council's mission and vision.

Please mail your comment(s) to the above-listed address, or fax to (334) 242-0797 or email to [myra.jones@mh.alabama.gov](mailto:myra.jones@mh.alabama.gov), [holli.zukowski@mh.alabama.gov](mailto:holli.zukowski@mh.alabama.gov), or [sophia.dixon@mh.alabama.gov](mailto:sophia.dixon@mh.alabama.gov)

This document is available in alternate formats upon request.



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### ALABAMA COUNCIL ON DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES DRAFT GOALS AND OBJECTIVES - 2017 - 2021

**GOAL 1:** People with intellectual and developmental disabilities, their families and others will have increased information, education, and public awareness to participate in all aspects of community life and take part in decisions that affect their lives and the lives of others.

**Objective 1:** By 2021, educate and provide information to people with I/DD, their family members and others to increase leadership opportunities and inclusive participation in their communities' activities.

**Objective 2:** By 2021, ACDD will collaborate with transportation agencies, state and local agencies, organizations, and advocacy groups to identify and implement strategies to eliminate barriers to transportation for people with I/DD and others in targeted communities.

**Objective 3:** By 2021, ACDD will support activities that increase the knowledge of employers, providers, people with I/DD and their families, and others about the benefit of having people with I/DD participate in community-based workforce and volunteer activities.

**Objective 4:** By 2021, ACDD will support leadership development and advocacy training for families and people with I/DD; including young adults and others that will increase their knowledge about self-determination, service delivery systems, person-centered supports, educating and influencing policy-makers, and awareness of rights under state and federal law.

**Objective 5:** For each year of the state plan, in collaboration with the DD Network Partners, ACDD will strengthen at least one statewide advocacy organization, support leadership training opportunities for self-advocates, and support and expand participation of self-advocates in cross disability and culturally diverse coalitions.

**Objective 6:** In collaboration with people with I/DD, their families and stakeholders, the ACDD will reduce language barriers for Hispanic families in targeted areas when they are accessing I&R services and services.



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**GOAL 2: Support Systems are improved so that people with I/DD and their families live and thrive in the broader community**

**Objective 1:** By 2021, the ACDD will increase the capacity of organizations serving people with I/DD and their families to improve service delivery for the people they serve.

**Objective 2:** By 2021, the ACDD will support activities to create, improve, and/or implement policies and procedures to impact health access for people with I/DD.

**Objective 3:** By 2021, ACDD will support initiatives to increase capacity and knowledge of people with developmental disabilities, their families, and organizations about Alabama's Able Act and Alabama's Medicaid Regional Care Organizations through sustainable training and development and dissemination of reliable user-friendly information.