



# Council Connection

February 2012

## Funding News:

The Maryland Developmental Disabilities Council is pleased to announce investments in new and continuing initiatives on a range of priorities. These initiatives will result in lasting improvements by focusing on employment, grassroots organizing, self-advocacy and leadership, assistive technology and child care.

## In This Issue

[NEW Council Grants](#)

[Grants to Continue](#)

[In Other News...](#)

## NEW Council Grants for 2012

### ***Building Capacity & Improving Outcomes for Employment***

#### **Penn-Mar Human Services ~ Customized Training & Technical Assistance**

Penn-Mar will build its capacity to improve employment outcomes for people with developmental disabilities by providing staff with the skills necessary to implement customized- supports, which lead to competitive employment.

#### **Goodwill Industries of Monocacy Valley ~ Customized Training & Technical Assistance**

Goodwill is transforming its sheltered workshop to a community supported employment model. Additional organizational changes will be made including the building of staff capacity to provide individualized supports and services.

#### **Ardmore Enterprises ~ Workshop Reduction Project**

Ardmore will increase its staff capacity and develop community-based competitive employment for individuals with developmental disabilities.

#### **TransCen, Inc. ~ Employment Supports for Transitioning Students**

TransCen will improve the employment outcomes of youth with developmental disabilities by providing customized training and technical assistance to adult service providers who are participating in the Maryland Seamless Transition Collaborative (MSTC). The MSTC provides specific transition services and coordination of resources for students with disabilities resulting in a seamless transition from school to employment and/or postsecondary education.



#### **Maryland Association of Community Services ~ Real Lives Campaign**

Born out of a growing sense of urgency, the Real Lives Campaign is a grassroots effort to educate policy-makers about the need to take action and address the underfunding of community supports for Marylanders with intellectual and developmental disabilities. The Council's funds will help the campaign develop stories and videos and support other activities.

### **People On the Go of Maryland ~ Southern Maryland Self-Advocacy Consortium**

People On the Go of Maryland, a statewide advocacy group led by people with disabilities, will work with local advocates to help expand and support a self-advocacy movement in Southern Maryland - Charles, Calvert, and St. Mary's Counties. POG will also collaborate with provider agencies to identify ways in which they can better support the participation of people with disabilities in self-advocacy groups and activities in the community.

## Grants to Continue in 2012

### **People On the Go of Maryland ~ Enhancing Advocacy & Public Policy Work**

This grant will continue to support People On the Go of Maryland's operations, advocacy and activities as the statewide self-advocacy organization in Maryland. POG created a Public Policy Platform for 2012 to advocate for health care reform, deinstitutionalization, and for people with disabilities on the DDA Waiting List for community services. In addition, the Council's funds will support a legislative intern for the 2012 Maryland Legislative Session. For more information about POG visit, [www.pogmd.org](http://www.pogmd.org)

### **AT: LAST ~ All Together in the Mountains**

The All Together in the Mountains initiative will increase general awareness of assistive technology, build the capacity of service providers through training and create professional development courses for two colleges in Western Maryland.

### **The Arc Maryland: End the Wait Now! Campaign (ETWN)**

The ETWN Campaign is a targeted effort by people with developmental disabilities and their families to reduce, and eventually eliminate, the Developmental Disabilities Waiting List for community services. The Campaign will continue its grassroots education and advocacy activities across the state. For more information about ETWN visit, [www.endthewaitnow.com](http://www.endthewaitnow.com)

### **Maryland Family Network: E-Learning for Child Care Providers**

Through a no-cost extension, MFN will complete the process of creating an innovative and convenient web-based e-learning module to educate and train child care providers about children with developmental disabilities. Watch in 2012 for the module to be unveiled statewide.



For more information about ALL of the Council's New & Continuation grants for 2012 visit, [Projects](#)

## In Other News...

### **Council's 5-Year State Plan Guides the Future**

The Council's new 5-Year State Plan will guide our advocacy work, public policy work, and funding decisions for fiscal years 2012-2016. To review the plan visit, [State Plan](#)

### **New & Improved Resource for Families is Launched.**

The new and improved Family NETWorks website is now live! A project of the Council, Family NETWorks is Maryland's comprehensive online resource for disability-related information. View spotlights, the calendar of events, join the on-line parent group and more. [Family-Networks](#)

### **"End the Wait. Please Donate"**

"Spread the Word." MD tax payers have the option to donate to a fund that provides support to people on the Developmental Disabilities Administration's Waiting List for community services. For more information visit, [Printable Tax Information](#)

### **Council Publication Wins Award**

The Council's publication, *What's Possible: 9 Stories of Changed Lives*, and its writer/photographer Jennifer Bishop won the Positive Images in the Media Award from TASH, a national leader in disability advocacy. The publication tells the stories of nine people who left the Rosewood Center, Maryland's largest state run institution, to live in the community. To read *What's Possible* and for more information on how to receive free copies for educational and training purposes visit, [Publications/Reports](#)

TASH also awarded an honorable mention for the Positive Images in the Media category to the Council's documentary *Departing Rosewood*, a compelling story that follows one man's journey from Rosewood to his own home in Washington County. The documentary was shown at TASH's annual conference in November. To view *Departing Rosewood* and for more information on how to obtain free DVDs for educational and training purposes visit, [Departing Rosewood](#)

**Tom Webb, Council Chairperson | Brian Cox, Executive Director | Angela Castillo-Epps, Editor**

**Maryland Developmental Disabilities Council**

**Phone: 1.800.305.6441 ~ MD Relay: 711 ~ Fax: 410.333.3686**

**Website: [www.md-council.org](http://www.md-council.org) ~ Email: [Info@md-council.org](mailto:Info@md-council.org)**

Like us on Facebook 

*Funding for this publication is authorized by Subtitle B of the Developmental Disabilities Assistance and Bill of Rights Act of 2000, from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Administration for Children and Families, Administration on Developmental Disabilities, Washington, D.C.*