

## Vision

The Maryland Developmental Disabilities Council envisions a state where all people with developmental disabilities exercise control over their lives, reach their full potential, and lead healthy, fulfilling lives with enriching relationships.

## Mission

The Maryland Developmental Disabilities Council's mission is to advance the inclusion of people with developmental disabilities in all facets of community life by eliminating barriers, creating opportunities, empowering people, and promoting innovation.

Higher Expectations = More Inclusion  
More Opportunities = Greater Acceptance  
**Expectations Matter.  
Expect Ability.**

### CONNECT WITH US

For information about Council publications, announcements, funding opportunities, and other timely news important to people with developmental disabilities and their families, visit our website, sign up for our news posts, and follow us on social media.



**email:** [info@md-council.org](mailto:info@md-council.org)

**phone:** 410.767.3670 • 1.800.305.6441

**online:** [www.md-council.org](http://www.md-council.org)

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**Maryland Developmental  
Disabilities Council**

EMPOWERMENT • OPPORTUNITY • INCLUSION



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## TO ACCOMPLISH OUR MISSION, THE COUNCIL:

- Educates and informs policymakers about issues of importance to people with developmental disabilities and their families.
- Advocates for policies, practices, laws, and services that support people with developmental disabilities to exercise control over their lives, reach their full potential, and lead productive, meaningful lives.
- Designs and funds initiatives that increase community inclusion, improve services and supports, and increase opportunities for people with developmental disabilities to pursue their hopes, dreams, and aspirations.
- Promotes innovative approaches to supporting people to live, learn, work, and enjoy community life.
- Advocates for the elimination of barriers that create separation and segregation and limit opportunities for full inclusion and community participation.
- Raises public awareness about people's contributions and capabilities so differences are respected, attitudes change, and inclusion and equality become an expectation.
- Supports people with developmental disabilities and their family members to develop advocacy and leadership skills to affect change in their own lives and the lives of others.

The Council works in partnership with people with developmental disabilities and their families, as well as other individuals and organizations, to bring about lasting change. We develop a 5-year State Plan that establishes our priorities and serves as a roadmap for accomplishing our goals.

## COUNCIL MEMBERSHIP

Members of the Maryland Developmental Disabilities Council are appointed by the governor and include people with developmental disabilities, family members, service providers, state agency representatives, and a representative of Disability Rights Maryland and the Maryland Center for Developmental Disabilities.

## COUNCIL FUNDING

The Maryland Developmental Disabilities Council provides funding to organizations and groups to undertake a wide range of activities aligned with our mission. This includes small grants, trainings, sponsorship of educational events, and other small and large initiatives.

*For more information about membership and funding opportunities, please visit our website, [md-council.org](http://md-council.org), or call 1.800.305.6441.*

**Legal Authorization** The Maryland Developmental Disabilities Council is an independent self-governing organization established in 1971 and funded through the Developmental Disabilities Assistance and Bill of Rights Act. The Council receives an annual federal funding allocation administered through the Administration on Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities.

