

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.

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IN OTHER NEWS FROM FEBRUARY...

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](#)

Ideas for IN OTHER NEWS...

Departing Rosewood WINS Emmy

Maybe a blurb about Disability History and Awareness month (list our publications + any pertinent activities happening in MD?)

Announce New Council members? Faye?

Planning Now ...revised and available by visiting [www.-----](#)