



## ADVOCACY:

### Enhancing Advocacy and Public Policy Work: People on the Go

LOCATION: Statewide

| FUNDING: \$200,000

#### GOALS

**Council Goal:** People with developmental disabilities effectively advocate for themselves and others and influence issues that are important to them.

**Council Objective:** Support People on the Go of Maryland and local self-advocacy groups to be strong, effective, and influential.

**Goals of Initiative:** To strengthen a self-directed, active, effective, and sustained statewide self-advocacy network that is focused on key issues affecting people with developmental disabilities and other related challenges.

#### OVERVIEW

People on the Go of Maryland will continue to expand and strengthen self-advocacy in all four regions of Maryland by raising awareness, recruiting, training, and supporting an engaged, self-sustaining local/regional advocacy group. People on the Go impacts a wide range of issues including transition, employment, person-centered planning, rate setting, and compliance with new HCBS settings rule.

#### STRATEGIES & ACTIVITIES

- Increase knowledge and skills of people to be effective in self-advocacy through voter training/awareness campaigns and public speaking skill-building.
- Support facilitator participation through webinars and information sharing and develop a communication strategy to announce upcoming trainings and events.
- Host an annual statewide self-advocacy conference where people with developmental disabilities will gain an increased knowledge of advocacy, civil rights, voting, and health and wellness.

#### OUTCOMES

- People with developmental disabilities have an increased knowledge of advocacy, civil rights, voting, health and wellness; more people with developmental disabilities becoming trainers and taking part in legislative matters, public speaking, and other leadership roles.