GOAL 2: People with developmental disabilities and their families are empowered to lead the lives they want and transform communities.

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<th>OBJECTIVES</th>
<th>STRATEGIES/MAJOR ACTIVITIES</th>
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| 2.1 - Increase knowledge and skills of people with developmental disabilities and families through education and training. | 2.1.1 - Research models for leadership development that are replicable, address regional needs and support ongoing advocacy.  
2.1.2 - Create an RFP focused on leadership development for PWDD and families.  
2.1.3 - Use the Council’s Education and Training Sponsorships to support local and issue-specific trainings that increase knowledge and skills that people with developmental disabilities and family members use to advocate for themselves and others.  
2.1.4 - Fund small grants to local and statewide organizations to increase knowledge and skills of PWDD and families. |
| 2.2 - MDDC, DRM (Disability Rights Maryland previously MDLC) and Maryland Center for Developmental Disabilities (MCDD) will work together to develop and widely disseminate materials that explain critical aspects of the DDA service system in a way that is easily understood and usable by people with developmental disabilities and their families. | 2.2.1 - Track changes occurring with DDA system collaboratively with DRM and MCDD.  
2.2.2 – Determine plan for preliminary activities collaboratively with DRM and MCDD.  
2.2.3 – Partner with DRM and MCDD to identify priority topics.  
2.2.4 – Develop a template and protocol for the development of the materials.  
2.2.5 – Develop branding for consistency and be recognized as the “go to source” for understandable materials. |
| 2.3 - Increase knowledge and understanding of issues of importance to people with developmental disabilities and their families. | 2.3.1 – Establish advisory committee of PWDD & family members to improve effectiveness of communications. Use advisory committee to provide feedback on communications as needed.  
2.3.2 – Refine and improve the Council's newsletter, News You Can Use communications, Facebook, Twitter, and website to maximize impact.  
2.3.3 – Increase number of people receiving Council communications & connected on social media platforms.  
2.3.4 – Utilize communications to disseminate information about healthcare, transportation, and social relationships (first priorities selected by the Council).  
2.3.5 – Conduct webinars. Review outcomes of past webinars and refine as necessary. |

OUTCOME: People with developmental disabilities and their families have the information and skills to flourish and create change in their communities.