Current Projects

These are the projects the Maryland Developmental Disabilities Council is funding.

Advocacy

Enhancing Self-Advocacy and Public Policy Work

*People On the Go of Maryland (POG)*

People on the Go of Maryland (POG) is a self-advocacy group led by people with developmental disabilities. This grant makes it possible for POG to:

- Advocate for change with state agencies, the state legislature, and the community.
- Provides training, assistance, and support to a network of local self-advocacy groups. This helps them be strong advocates.

Project Learn

*The Arc Central Chesapeake Region*

This project is training 30 middle and high school students with developmental disabilities in Caroline County. It is also training up to 20 family members about Individual Education Programs (IEP) and 504 plans. The project will help students with developmental disabilities and their families advocate for what they want and need. This will help them learn and succeed.
**Criminal Justice**

**LEADING to Learn: Training on Working with Individuals with Developmental Disabilities for Correctional Supervisors**

*Loyola University*

This project is training people who work in Maryland jails and prisons about how to support people with developmental disabilities. Loyola is developing 12-15 trainings for correctional supervisors. They will test the training with 300 correctional supervisors in 4 prisons in Maryland. They will use what they learn to make the training better. Then the trainings will be available to correctional supervisors statewide. This will help correctional staff provide better support to people with developmental disabilities in Maryland jails and prisons.

**Community Supports**

**Rebuilding DDA Providers with Technical Assistance**

*Penn-Mar Human Services and TransCen Inc.*

This project will improve the way community service provides support people with developmental disabilities. This will make it possible for more people to live their lives the way they want. Two agencies with a lot of experience will help 5 service providers. They will:

- Provide assistance and training,
• Help the staff at the agencies learn from each other,
• Help the providers develop plans to make the changes they want, and
• Train and support people with developmental disabilities and family members to tell the providers what they need and want.

Other providers in Maryland will learn from this project. This will help them change how they support people.

Leadership Development

**Partners in Policymaking**

**The Arc Maryland**

This is a leadership program for people with developmental disabilities and their families. It is teaching people how to advocate for what they need in their own lives. It also is teaching them to be leaders that bring about change that helps other people.
The following resources were developed by the Council. They are available on the Council’s website or by contacting the Council.

**COVID Fact Sheets**

With the Maryland Department of Health (MDH), the Council created 9 fact sheets in plain language about COVID. They are:

- Vaccines
- Vaccines for Children and Teens
- Vaccines for People Who Can’t Leave Home
- Booster Shots
- Testing
- High Risk Health Conditions
- Treatments
- Monoclonal Antibody Treatment

**Planning Now**

This is a guide for families of people with developmental disabilities. It helps people with disabilities and their families plan for the future.
Developmental Disabilities Administration Fact Sheets

These 4 fact sheets have information about the Developmental Disabilities Administration (DDA). The information is easy to understand. The fact sheets are about:

- DDA
- The DDA waiting list
- Coordinators of Community Services
- Person Centered Planning

User Friendly ABLE Guide

This is a guide with a lot of information about the Maryland ABLE program. Maryland ABLE is a savings program. It helps people with disabilities and their families save money. They can use the money to improve their health, independence, and quality of life.

What Matters

This is a short booklet. It tells the stories of 9 people with disabilities. Their stories show how planning and the right supports help them live good lives.
What’s Possible: 9 Stories of Changed Lives

This is a short booklet. It tells the stories of 9 people who used to live at Rosewood Center. Rosewood was an institution for people with intellectual and developmental disabilities. Their stories show how their lives got better when they moved to the community.