Maryland Developmental Disabilities Council
CREATING CHANGE · IMPROVING LIVES

**Funded Project
FY 2024**

Enhancing Advocacy and Public Policy Work

People on the Go of Maryland

Location: Statewide   **Funding:** $100,000 | $33,333 match

GOAL

Support People on the Go to be a strong, effective, and powerful organization that leads change for people with developmental disabilities.

SUMMARY

People on the Go of Maryland (POG) is a statewide self-advocacy group led by people with developmental disabilities. With support from the Council and the Maryland Center for Developmental Disabilities (MCDD), POG works to improve issues that affect people with developmental disabilities. This includes increasing the knowledge and skills of people with developmental disabilities to be advocates on issues that matter to them. POG educates and advocates for change with state agencies, the state legislature, and the community. POG is also working to become an independent nonprofit organization.

ACTIVITIES

- Assist and train local self-advocacy groups to increase effective participation.
- Advocate for policies and legislation that positively impacts the lives of people with developmental disabilities.
- Increase knowledge and skills of people with developmental disabilities to be effective advocates and leaders.
- Support growing people with disabilities to be leaders on coalitions and boards in the state. POG will work to include people with different types of disabilities and people from different backgrounds to serve in leadership roles.
- Make sure POG's online presence is strong and active.
- Conduct more outreach to increase awareness of POG.

OUTCOMES

- Policies, laws, and programs that affect people with developmental disabilities are improved.

- People with developmental disabilities have a better understanding of advocacy and public policy.

- More people with developmental disabilities participate in advocacy and leadership activities.

- More people with developmental disabilities actively participate in committees and coalitions that are diverse. This means they include people with different types of disabilities and from different backgrounds.

- People with developmental disabilities use more online resources and trainings developed by POG.