



# Introduction

## State Councils on Developmental Disabilities Purpose

The purpose of the State Councils on Developmental Disabilities is to engage in advocacy, capacity building, and systemic change activities that support the implementation of the purpose and policies in the Developmental Disabilities Act of 2000, to contribute to a coordinated, consumer- and family-centered, consumer- and family-directed, comprehensive system that includes needed community services, individualized supports, and other forms of assistance that promote self-determination for individuals with developmental disabilities and their families.

The Indiana Governor's Council for People with Disabilities is Indiana's State Council on Developmental Disabilities, and is the state advocacy agency that provides an independent voice for people with developmental disabilities and their family members to identify important community needs, collaborate with DD Act Partners, the State's DD service agency, and other governmental and non-governmental organizations to implement the DD Act in Indiana through the Five-Year State Plan goals and objectives.

## Five-Year State Plan Purpose and Timeline

Every five years, the Indiana Governor's Council for People with Disabilities is required by federal law to develop a five-year strategic plan, outlining goals and objectives that will be implemented over the five-year period. With public input and guidance from the Administration on Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities, the state plan is developed in accordance with requirements of the Developmental Disabilities Assistance and Bill of Rights Act of 2000 (DD Act).

State Councils on Developmental Disabilities are encouraged to engage with the community to continuously promote the tenants of the DD Act and ensure that the voices of people with developmental disabilities and their families are elevated and included in the implementation of the Council's State Plan.

The 2027 - 2032 State Plan covers the period from October 1, 2027 (the beginning of the 2027 federal fiscal year), to September 30, 2032 (the end of the 2032 federal fiscal year). It addresses specific information required by the federal Administration on Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities and includes the Council's determination of areas of emphasis and resulting goals and objectives for the five-year period. The Council must spend a minimum of 70 percent of its federal funding to address the Plan goals and objectives. All programs and projects of the Council are to be conducted in a manner that respects individual differences and cultural diversity. All Council programs and projects will be done in accordance with the Council Mission and Vision Statements, which are:

**Mission:** The Mission of the Indiana's Governor's Council for People with Disabilities is to advance social and policy changes that lead to respect for and meaningful inclusion of people with disabilities and their families.

**Vision:** Hoosier communities will be accessible, inclusive, and respectful of all people with disabilities.



# State Plan

The Council voted on March 10, 2026, approving the below two goals and associated objectives.

## Goal Area 1: Leadership and Advocacy

Increase leadership & advocacy among culturally and linguistically diverse people with IDD and families.

- Objective 1.1: Self-advocacy organization(s) led by people with IDD across Indiana have increased reach and capacity.
- Objective 1.2: Increase opportunities for skill building among people with ID/DD provided by others with ID/DD.
- Objective 1.3: More people with IDD are engaged in cross-disability and culturally diverse leadership coalitions.
- Objective 1.4: Increase the number of families across the lifespan engaged in personal and systems level advocacy.

## Goal Area 2: Community Inclusion and Belonging

Systemic barriers are addressed to increase community inclusion and belonging on the part of people with intellectual and/or developmental disabilities.

- Objective 2.1: Improve policy, practice, and programs to support people with ID/DD at the intersection of Home and Community Based Services and Social Drivers of Health.
- Objective 2.2: Increase representation of people who are underserved or unserved, including those with the most significant support needs, ensuring they are known, valued, and supported within community living.
- Objective 2.3: Increase community capacity for understanding, inclusion and belonging.



## Next Steps

### Continuous Community Engagement

In the spirit of *Nothing About Us, Without Us*, GCPD staff have scheduled two virtual engagement events to collect public comments from Hoosiers across the state. The Proposed Five-Year State Plan is available on the Council's website for review.

Community members are encouraged to provide public comment by:

- ✓ Using the survey link to submit your comments and feedback: [Five-Year State Plan: Public Comment Form – Fill out form](#)
- ✓ Joining one of two virtual engagement sessions; click the link to register and join.  
**Indiana State Plan: Virtual Session 1**  
**Date:** Tuesday, April 21, 2026  
**Time:** 2:00 PM to 3:00 PM (Eastern/Indianapolis Time)  
**Registration:** <https://tinyurl.com/33a6xmf6>
- Indiana State Plan: Virtual Session 2**  
**Date:** Tuesday, April 28, 2026  
**Time:** 2:00 PM to 3:00 PM (Eastern/Indianapolis Time)  
**Registration:** <https://tinyurl.com/3xt679b5>
- ✓ Emailing the Council at [Council@gcpd.in.gov](mailto:Council@gcpd.in.gov)
- ✓ Calling GCPD staff who can assist in taking comment over the phone for individuals who may not be able to join one of the virtual public comment sessions.

To talk with the Governor's Council for People with Disabilities about your thoughts on the goals and objectives, feel free to sign up for a time by choosing an option available on:

- April 15, 2026
- May 6, 2026
- May 13, 2026.

Use the link below to sign up:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C044BAFAF28AAFECE8-63276839-indiana>