



Introduction

State Councils on Developmental Disabilities Purpose

State Councils on Developmental Disabilities advocate for people with developmental disabilities and their families. They work to build community support systems that give people more control over their own lives and the services they receive.

In Indiana, this work is done by the Indiana Governor's Council for People with Disabilities. The Council listens to people with developmental disabilities and their families, identifies what they need, and works with state and community partners to make improvements.

Five-Year State Plan Purpose and Timeline

Federal law requires the Council to create a five-year plan. The plan sets goals based on community input and federal guidelines under the Developmental Disabilities Assistance and Bill of Rights Act (DD Act).

The proposed plan covers October 1, 2027 – September 30, 2032. It outlines the Council's priorities and the specific goals it will work toward over the next five years. At least 70% of federal funding must go toward these goals. All work under the plan is carried out in a way that respects individual differences and diverse backgrounds. All Council programs and projects will be done in accordance with the Council Mission and Vision Statements, which are:

Mission: The Mission of Indiana's Governor's Council for People with Disabilities is to advance the independence, productivity, and inclusion of people with intellectual and developmental disabilities (ID/DD) in all aspects of society.

Vision: For Hoosier communities to be accessible, inclusive, and respectful of all their members.





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>

Disclaimer: This meeting will be recorded. If you are joining by phone or Zoom, please be aware that your comments may be captured in the recording. By participating, you consent to being recorded. If you do not wish to be recorded, you may submit written comments instead.

✔ Emailing the Council at Council@gcpd.in.gov

✔ Can't join a public comment session? Call the GCPD office at 317-868-2580— staff are available to take your comments by phone.

✔ You may also share feedback using Collage in a Box, a picture-based activity that allows people to share ideas using images, symbols, drawings, AAC, gestures, or pointing. This option is available in digital or mailed formats. To request a Collage in a Box or to submit completed materials, email council@gcpd.in.gov.