



FY 2022-2024 PROPOSED GOALS & PRIORITIES **(10/1/2021-9/30/2024)**

GOAL 1: PREVENTING, FINDING, AND STOPPING ABUSE, NEGLECT, AND EXPLOITATION OF PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES IN FACILITIES.

PRIORITIES TO ADDRESS:

1. Conduct systemic investigations at private secured facilities and psychiatric rehabilitation treatment facilities.
2. Investigate suspected abuse, neglect, and exploitation in facilities or by a service provider.
3. Use monitoring authority to ensure appropriate treatment of residents in: children's nursing homes, mental health facilities, nursing facilities, private psychiatric facilities, sheltered workshops, educational settings, waiver settings, juvenile detention centers, and jails and prisons.
4. Investigate instances of discharge delays for individuals dually diagnosed with developmental disabilities and mental illness in mental health facilities.

GOAL 2: BREAKING DOWN BARRIERS TO ENSURE RIGHTS ARE RESPECTED AND SUPPORTS ARE AVAILABLE FOR PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES TO PARTICIPATE IN AN EQUITABLE AND INCLUSIVE SOCIETY.

PRIORITIES TO ADDRESS:

1. Provide individual legal advocacy to ensure the protection of rights for individuals with disabilities in the areas of self-determination, health care, abuse and neglect, discharge from institutions, civil rights, education, employment, justice, and voting.
2. *Civil Rights* – Improve the accessibility of buildings and public services.
3. *Education* – Address education barriers for children in institutions like juvenile detention, private secure facilities, etc.

Equality Through Advocacy
The Protection and Advocacy System for the State of Indiana



4. *Employment* – Advocate for increased Vocational Rehabilitation (VR) funding and equitable service prioritization within order of selection.
5. *Health Care* – Provide individual or systemic advocacy relating to policies or practices around COVID-19, including long-term consequences from those policies and practices. Advocate for policy changes to ensure availability and access to Home and Community-Based Services (HCBS) providers.
6. *Self-Determination* – Expand the knowledge and use of supported decision-making/less restrictive alternatives to guardianship.
7. *Voting* – Ensure elections are accessible to voters with disabilities

GOAL 3: SERVING AS A PARTNER IN RIGHTS ISSUES AND SUPPORTING SELF-ADVOCATES AND DISABILITY-LED ORGANIZATIONS.

PRIORITIES TO ADDRESS:

1. Provide easily accessible paths for to the public to contact Indiana Disability Rights (IDR) for advocacy needs, and to distribute of information, referrals, and resources to individuals.
2. Support the self-advocacy and disability-led movement in Indiana through continued collaboration with self-advocates and disability-led organizations on voting initiatives, supported decision-making and other activities that align with the mission of IDR.
3. Increase participation in the local, state and federal policy process including the monitoring of emerging trends in the area of disability rights, the use of strategic collaborations with other organizations, and educating legislators and policymakers regarding the impact of policies on people with disabilities.
4. Ensure IDR’s services are inclusive and respectful of the intersectional identities of the people it serves and employs.



5. Advocate for the inclusion of people with disabilities, those from marginalized communities, and people with lived experiences to be meaningfully included in policy workgroups at the agency/state/national level.
6. Generate new partnerships with stakeholders that have not traditionally held a seat at the policy table (e.g., cultural or religious groups, legal or professional groups, community issue groups, e.g., homelessness, Veteran's issues).