**Self -Advocacy Coordinator Status Summary**

FFY’18 Fourth Quarter Report

For the period of July 1, 2018 through September 30th, 2018

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Nevada Governor’s Council on Developmental Disabilities

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# Informed Decision Making by Individuals w/IDD

Goal Summary- (Addresses education/training, cultural diversity, targeted disparity, resource knowledge & knowledge & network collaboration) Increase and strengthen the knowledge of individuals with I/DD to promote/encourage informed decision making about their choices leading to improved quality of life, increase independence, productivity and full inclusion in their communities.

Goal 1, Objective 1.1: Partner with three Hispanic communities statewide to promote improved access to information and services.

Project Summary:

Activity 1A) Engage in outreach to targeted Hispanic communities statewide to promote improved access to information and services.

* Our fourth quarter brought a great increase in outreach to our Hispanic communities by collaborating again with Azul blue in the United by Developmental Disabilities 2018 Advocacy Conference. A great number of attendees were actual graduates from our Partners in Policymaking class who are predominantly Spanish speaking. Partnering with Azul Blue gave us the opportunity to distribute a lot of our Spanish documents that we have developed and translated for the Hispanic community.

Activity 1B) Eliminate barriers to accessing Council systems change, advocacy and capacity building initiatives by translating important and relevant documents created by the Council to Spanish.

* We also collaborated with NDALC and other community agencies for two Spanish parent workshops, one in the South and one in the North, targeted specifically for the Hispanic community. All the information given at the workshops was in Spanish.

Activity 1C) Distribute translated materials to identified Hispanic organizations and groups across the state with follow up communications to those agencies to gauge the impact of the materials.

* One of our collaborations was with United Latino Community here in the North. Since they have their own space they were able to lend us that space to have our workshop for the North. We have given them material for distribution for their office where they have a high traffic of Hispanic people.
* Our material has been a great success also in the South with Feat who works with Hispanic people in the community and have requested for more copies in the last months.
* We reached out to the Latino parent cohort at WNC and they also took material for distribution at the school with there parent group.
* We have also reached many organizations and groups through our many events.

Activity 1D) Provide increased level of support and information to the Hispanic Community during legislative sessions.

* We are proud to announce that our first Partners in Policy making class graduated and we are confident that they will be great advocates. A big percentage of our PIP class was Hispanic and very involved in the I/DD community. With the support of NGCDD they will be successful in matters of concern as well as being advocates for their own matters when it comes to our legislative process. Although we are not currently in legislative session we are sure that our next session will bring forward many of our Hispanic graduates in matters of concern and we will see a new face arise for the I/DD community.

Impact of Activity

We have gotten great feedback on the impact the Partners in Policy making class has made especially from our Hispanic students. Many had never experienced this kind of setting with so much information on how to become self-advocates and learning about the many tools and resources to make them successful. Our Hispanic community was especially grateful to have experienced this setting and hope that it can be offered in Spanish for others in the Hispanic community to benefit from it.

NGCDD Expected Outcomes:

* Spanish speaking individuals with I/DD and their families will have the information they need to access services and reduce barriers to supports.
* Strong relationships with culturally divers agencies and organizations will increase collaborative efforts with the Council.
* More Spanish speaking individuals with I/DD and their families will actively participate in making truly informed choices that effect their lives.
* There will be an increase in Hispanic individuals/groups testifying at the legislature re: disability issues.

Of Note:

We continue our strong partnership with the Hispanic organization, AzulBlue. They have been instrumental in making our Partners class successful as well as opening the door to the Hispanic Community. With the support and collaboration of NDALC we have expanded our outreach to the Hispanic community. In collaboration with NDALC’s Intake Coordinator & Rights Advocate Yasodara Cabrera we held a very successful workshop in the south which was targeted mainly for the Hispanic Community and predominantly in Spanish to attract more of the Hispanic community who feels more comfortable with information in their native language. We made many connections with organizations and resources for the Hispanic community. We hope to continue having workshops in the future that emphasize in the Hispanic community and their integration as self-advocates in the I/DD community.

**Goal 1, Objective 1.2:** Partner with NV Communities for 6 community-based events and activities held in all regions of the State to educate and inform individuals with I/DD, families and professionals about important and emerging disability related issues, services and supports available.

Project Summary:

Activity 1A) Public Awareness Collaboration Events (PACE) will be developed in communities across the State to inform individuals with I/DD, their families and professionals about resources and/or topics of concern identified by consumers in the Council’s 5 Year State Plan to include targeted disparity, emerging issues and areas of emphasis identified in the DD Act.

* Staff and/or Council Members attended the following PACE events in the 4th quarter:
* National Night Out (August 7)- Marisol
* United by Developmental Disabilities: 2018 Advocacy Conference presented by

AZULBLUE & Nevada Governor’s Council on Developmental Disabilities (September 17)- Marisol

* Buddy Walk (September 22)- Ellen

Activity 1B) PACE Events to include at least two specific events relevant to underserved populations.

* National Night Out – (August 7)- Marisol
* United by Developmental Disabilities: 2018 Advocacy Conference presented by

AZULBLUE & Nevada Governor’s Council on Developmental Disabilities (September 17)- Marisol

Impact of Activity:

* The impact of these activities has brought more of the underserved populations to become aware of the council and the many resources we offer. National Night Out is a family event which brings together all kinds of families from Hispanic families to families with I/DD and organizations that work with the I/DD community. These kinds of platforms help the community understand what we do and how we are of service to the I/DD community.

NGCDD Expected Outcomes:

* Individuals with I/DD, families and professionals will be educated about important and immerging disability issues, services and support locally and nationally.
* More people with I/DD, families and professionals will make truly informed choices, therefore reducing barriers to accessing supports and services.

**Goal 1, Objective 1.3:** Participate in a minimum of 6(councils/committees/coalitions) to promote communications within and between agencies to ensure cohesive information about services and supports is available.

Project Summary:

Activity 1B) Self-Advocacy Coordinator will attend statewide committees and councils compromised of multiple agency representatives and bring that information back to the self-advocates.

* The Self-Advocacy coordinator attended the last CAAN (Carson Agency Action Network) monthly meeting where they talked about several resources, one being a new idea from the life change center in Carson which is targeted toward the homeless community but could be an asset to everyone in need. The idea is called a Karma Box which are placed individually in different spots and can be accessed by anyone. The purpose of the boxes is to give people access to resources like food and hygiene products when in need. At the same time people can donate items and just put them in the box for someone else to take.
* There was talk from other agencies and organizations none targeted toward the I/DD community.

NGCDD Expected Outcomes:

* Increased communication within and between agencies.
* Increased interagency collaborations.
* Council will ensure the voice of our consumers is heard within those agencies.

# Self-Advocacy (IA)

Goal Summary – Addresses advocacy, education/training, cultural diversity, targeted disparity & network collaboration). Ensuring individuals with I/DD have the education and training necessary to participate in advocacy and policy making activities.

**Goal 2, Objective 2.1:** Establish/strengthen minimum of 1 State self-advocacy organization led by individuals with I/DD.

Project Summary:

Activity 1B) Self Advocacy Coordinator will convene regular meetings (video-conference, telephone or in person) with I/DD Network representatives and individuals across the state to promote relationship building, information and resource sharing.

* We have continued conversations with multiple organizations including AZULBLUE and we are constantly looking for ways to promote relationship building and information and resource sharing within the community.
* The SAC made a connection in the North with the United Latino Community and met with their Executive Director Omar Anaya. Even though they don’t work directly with the I/DD community it was great to hear offhand from a community-based organization who work with the Hispanic/Latino community. In our meeting we did establish that indirectly there are members of the I/DD community that do look for assistance in various organizations as well as their agency even though they might not work directly with them their job is to provide them with resources on who does and how they can contact us and other organizations that help the I/DD organizations directly. Also, we established that many Hispanic families do not know how and where to look for these resources because they don’t know where to ask because of a language barrier or personal ideals.

Activity 1C) Self Advocacy Coordinator will identify and share funding opportunities to assist self-advocacy organizations in achieving/maintain sustainability.

* The SAC is continuously sharing with the self-advocacy initiatives interested parties list information on the Consumer Leadership Fund as well as others within the I/DD community that might benefit from applying for this fund. We are constantly promoting within the community at events and conferences that funds are available.

Activity 1D) Self-Advocates will participate in the biennial Legislative sessions by bringing forward issues that are important to them and taking a leadership role in developing their own legislative agenda.

* We will be connecting with self-advocates and tracking their legislative efforts in the future.

NGCDD Expected Outcomes:

* Self-Advocates will have the guidance, resources, information and support to promote relationship building among themselves.
* Key policy makers/legislature will receive education from self-advocates on disability issues.
* A strong, independent, self-advocacy organization run by individuals with I/DD will exist in Nevada.
* Self-Advocacy groups will work toward becoming financially sustainable.
* Self-Advocacy groups will work together to take a leadership role in developing coordinated legislative agenda’s.
* Increase in number of SA’s showing a united front, testifying at the legislature.

**Goal 2, Objective 2.2:** Support opportunities for a minimum of 10 self-advocacy leaders with I/DD to provide leadership training to youth with I/DD.

Project Summary:

Activity 1A) Year 1, a Youth Leadership initiative established in 2 regions of the State engaging PIP graduates and Self-Advocacy leaders to provide information to students with I/DD, their teachers and parents regarding self-determination, advocacy, post-secondary education and employment options.

* The YES program has launched! We are currently in session with two high schools in the Northern Nevada area. Catherine and Marisol have worked together to get this program going by meeting with the teachers and staff of both schools. We started in September training 3 students in Dayton High School and have also trained 3 more students in Reno at Hug High School. We are confident that we will have other schools join when they hear of the success of these first two groups. These students have showed they are great self-advocates and leaders. The training is being taught by students with I/DD and given to other students with I/DD.

NGCDD Expected Outcomes:

* Youth Leadership project is training youth with I/DD in at least 2 regions of Nevada.
* People with I/DD have increased leadership training.

Of Note:

In talking with the students, you can see that many of these students are being introduced to self-advocacy/determination, post-secondary education and employment options for the first time. This program has brought out initiative and goals that a lot of these students didn’t think were a possibility.

**Goal 2, Objective 2.3:** A minimum of 1 culturally diverse organization in Northern, Southern and other regions of NV (3total) will be provided information to provide support to expand participation of individuals with I/DD in cross-disability culturally diverse leadership groups.

Project Summary:

Activity 1A) NGCDD Members/Staff will establish a partnership with culturally diverse (cross disability) organization in each region of the State (3 total).

* Our partnership with Azulblue continues and the SAC is continuously working on making connections with more Hispanic organizations across the state. Also we worked closely with United Latino Community and have established a good repour with them for future work and events. Another organization that we worked with at our workshops was Milagros Escondidos in Las Vegas and they work directly with the Hispanic I/DD community. We also hope to work closely with them in the future.

NGCDD Expected Outcomes:

* Self-Advocates, cross disability and diverse disability groups will learn from each other and work together in partnership.
* Expand participation of people with I/DD in diverse groups.
* Individuals with I/DD will lead more inclusive lives and have more opportunities to be equally contributing members in their community.

Of Note: Due to several goals overlapping in information, you may see duplicates of the same information. Data for these goals will remain separate and non-duplicative.

# Glossary of Terms

**Best Practice:** A technique or methodology that, through experience and research, has proven to reliably lead to a desired result.

**Changed:** The act of making or becoming different.

**Created:** To cause to come into being.

**Implemented:** To put into effect, put into action, put into practice, carry out, enact.

**Improved:** To make or become better, to raise to a more desirable condition, or quality.

**Policy:** A statement of how an organization or entity intends to conduct its services, actions, or business. Policies provide a set of guiding principles to help with decision making.

**Procedure:** A description of how each policy will be put into action. Procedures often outline who will do what; what steps will be taken, and which forms to use.

**Policy and/or procedure change:** A policy and/or procedure change reflects a course of action that has the potential to create or improve policies and/or procedures regarding services and supports that promote self-determination, independence, productivity, and integration and inclusion in all facets of community life.

**Promising Practice:** A practice with an innovative approach that improves upon existing practice and positively impacts the area of practice. The practice should demonstrate a high degree of success and the possibility of replication in other agencies or settings but has not been tested.

**Regulation:** A rule or administrative code issued by governmental agencies at all levels, municipal, county, state, and federal. Regulations are not laws but have the force of law since they are adopted under authority granted by statues.

**Statue:** A law or other enactment made by a legislature and expressed in a formal document.

**Statue and/or regulation change:** A law and /or rule or administrative code that has the potential to improve laws, rules, or admirative codes regarding services, supports, and other assistance that promote self-determination, independence, productivity, and integration and inclusion in all facets of community life.

**Trained, or educated:** Training is an organized activity designed to give information and/or instructions to improve performance or help attain knowledge or skill; educated means to give information about something. This number would not include general public education (web-site hits, newspaper, social media, etc.) l