**Acronyms commonly used within the Disability Community:**

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| AAIDD | American Association on Intellectual & Developmental Disabilities – an interdisciplinary association of professional and concerned individuals in the field of intellectual and developmental disabilities. |
| AAPD | American Association of People with Disabilities |
| ABA | Applied Behavior Analysis – a professional field that uses principles of leaning to increase performance of socially desirable behaviors. It always relies upon the collection of objective data to measure performance and the effectiveness of an intervention. |
| ACF | Administration for Children and Families |
| ACLU | American Civil Liberties Union |
| ACYF | Administration for Children, Youth and Families - the Federal agency that provides information and assistance to parents; administers national programs for children and youth (including Head Start); works with states and local communities to develop family support services; and seeks joint ventures with private sector to enhance the lives of children and their families. |
| ADA | American with Disabilities Act – a federal law providing comprehensive civil rights protections for individuals with disabilities. It guarantees equal opportunity for individuals with disabilities in employment, public accommodations, transportation, state and local government services and telecommunications. |
| ADHD | Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder |
| AIDD | Administration on Intellectual & Developmental Disabilities The federal agency responsible for overseeing activities under the Developmental Disabilities Assistance and Bill of Rights Act of 1990. |
| ALU | Alternative Living Unit – a home where three or fewer people with disabilities reside |
| APSE | Association for Persons in Supported Employment – a national membership organization that promotes the concept of paid integrated employment and full community participation for all individuals. |
| ARC | Known as **The Arc** - A statewide non-profit advocacy organization dedicated to the welfare of children and adults, family members, educators, professionals, and the public. Its activities include program development, technical assistance; information, referral and counseling; prevention activities and systems advocacy. |
| ARD | Admission, Review, Dismissal – the part of the IEP process to determine placement in the least restrictive environment and discuss any additional services, supports, and/or modifications needed for IEP implementation |
| ASA | Autism Society of America |
| ASD | Autism Spectrum Disorder |
| AT | Assistive Technology |
| AUCD | Association of University Centers on Disabilities |
| BIP | Behavior Intervention Plan |
| CAP | Client Assistance Program – provides information and intervention services to clients and applicants of DORS regarding benefits and services available under the Rehabilitation Act |
| CAP | Corrective Action Plan – The document setting out the means by which an education agency shall correct its deficiencies as determined by its monitoring agency. |
| CCD | Consortium for Citizens with Disabilities – a national coalition comprised of over 75 consumers, service providers, and professional organizations which advocates on behalf of people with disabilities and their families. |
| CEC | Council for Exceptional Children |
| CIL | Centers for Independent Living – in NV: SILC, NNCIL, SNCIL |
| CMS | Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services – the federal agency responsible for Social Security and Medicaid. |
| CP | Cerebral Palsy |
| CSLA | Community Supported Living Arrangements - A federal program developed through the Health Care Financing Administration (HCFA) which assists individuals with developmental disabilities to live in homes of their choosing, regardless of the nature or severity of their disability, with people with whom they choose to live, and receive services from the providers of their choice. |
| DD ACT | Developmental Disabilities Assistance and Bill of Rights Act |
| DD | Developmental Disability |
| DDA | Developmental Disabilities Administration – the principal state agency providing funding for services to persons with developmental disabilities. |
| DDC | Developmental Disabilities Councils (now referred to as Councils on Developmental Disabilities) – the federally funded state organization authorized in the Developmental Disabilities Assistance and Bill of Rights Act of 2000 to provide advocacy, policy analysis and planning, and ensure comprehensive services for persons with developmental disabilities. |
| DHHS | Department of Health and Human Services |
| DSA | Designated State Agency - For NV this is DHHS |
| DSM | Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders published by the American Psychiatric Association. |
| EDGAR | Education Department General Admissions Regulations |
| EEOC | U.S. Equal Employment Opportunity Commission |
| EI | Early Intervention - Individualizes services for infants and toddlers who are at risk for or are showing signs of developmental delay. |
| EIS | Early Intervention Services |
| EPSDT | Early & Periodic Screening, Diagnosis and Treatment |
| ESY | Extended School Year – Special education and related services provided beyond the normal school year, in accordance with the child’s IEP and at no cost to the parents. |
| FAPE | Free and Appropriate Public Education |
| FERPA | Family Educational Rights Privacy Act |
| FTA | Federal Transit Administration |
| FY | Fiscal Year |
| HCBS | Home and Community Based Services |
| HUD | Housing and Urban Development. |
| ICC | Interagency Coordinating Council (ICC) brings policy makers, service providers, and parents together.  It serves to support and assist with the ongoing development and implementation of quality statewide early intervention services for young children with disabilities and their families. |
| ICF | Intermediate Care Facility |
| ID | Intellectual Disability |
| IEP | Individualized Education Program – a written statement for a child with a disability that is developed and implemented in accordance with the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act. |
| IFC | Interim Finance Committee |
| IFSP | Individualized Family Services Plan - A written plan describing the infant's current level of development; the family's strengths and needs related to enhancement of the infant's development; goals for infant and the other family members; and the specific early intervention services needed to meet the goals. |
| IHP | Individualized Habilitation Plan - a written plan developed by an interdisciplinary team explaining a person's goals and services in accordance with the Developmental Disabilities Assistance and Bill of Rights Act. |
| IRWE | Impairment Related Work Expense - (A Social Security Administration work incentive) services or equipment, needed for a person to work because of a disability, which are paid for by the worker, such as a wheelchair transportation, vehicle modifications, adaptive equipment, attendant care, medications and job coaching. |
| ISP | Individual Service Plan - The document which becomes the basis for services coordination for the consumer. It is developed by an interdisciplinary team with the input and approval of the consumer, and focuses upon the broad service areas needed by the consumer. It is recorded and managed by the services coordinator. |
| IWRP | Individualized Written Rehabilitation Program - The primary tool used by the vocational rehabilitation counselor and the prospective supported employee to identify the goal, content, cost, duration and sponsor(s) of substantial services. |
| LEA | Local Education Agency |
| LRE | Least Restrictive Environment |
| MFIAA | Money Follows the Individual Accountability Act |
| MHLP | Mental Health Law Project - A national public interest group that works to assume appropriate and humane care for mentally disabled children and adults in institutions and to improve the scope and quality of services provided to mentally disabled people. It undertakes test case litigation, public policy advocacy, and educational outreach |
| MiCASSA | Medicaid Community-Based Attendant Service & Supports Act |
| NACDD | National Association of Councils on Developmental Disabilities - A national organization that provides support and assistance to Councils in order to promote a consumer and families centered system of services and supports for individuals with developmental disabilities. |
| NARIC | National Rehabilitation Information Center - Library and information center on disability and rehabilitation |
| NCD | National Council on Disability |
| NCIL | National Council on Independent Living |
| NDRN | National Disability Rights Network - A national association for protection and advocacy systems. |
| NDSS | National Down Syndrome Society |
| NDSU | National Disabled Student Union |
| NICHCY | National Information Center for Children & Youth with Disabilities |
| NIDRR | National Institute on Disability & Rehabilitation Research |
| NIH | National Institutes of Health – the steward of medical and behavioral research for the Nation. It is an Agency under the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services |
| NOD | National Organization on Disability |
| OCR | Office of Civil Rights (U.S.) – promotes and ensures that people have equal access to and opportunity to participate in and receive services through the prevention and elimination of unlawful discrimination. |
| ODEP | Office of Disability Employment Policy – ODEP’s mission is to provide leadership to increase employment opportunities for adults and youth with disabilities. ODEP is a federal agency in the Department of Labor. |
| OSEP | Office of Special Education Programs (U.S.) |
| OSERS | Office of Special Education and Rehabilitation Services – the federal agency responsible for special education programs and services designed to meet the needs and develop the full potential of children with disabilities. OSERS provides support for training of teachers and other professional persons and grants for research. |
| OT | Occupational Therapy |
| P&A | Protection and Advocacy System – an independent system to protect and advocate for the rights of persons with developmental disabilities. |
| P.L. | Public Law |
| PA | Personal Assistant |
| PACER | Parent Advocacy Coalition for Educational Rights Center |
| Part C | Section of P.L. 99-457 - Early Intervention Programs for Infants and Toddlers with Disabilities of the 1986 Amendments to the Education of the Handicapped Act. Used to be referred to as Part H. |
| PAS | Personal Assistance Services |
| PASS | Plan to Achieve Self- Support – (a Social Security Administration work incentive) a way in which a person with a disability or blindness uses or sets aside income or resources to reach a work goal. For example, a person could set aside money for an education or a training program or to start a business. |
| PBS | Positive Behavioral Supports |
| PBIS | Positive Behavioral Interventions & Supports |
| PCA | Personal Care Assistant/Attendant |
| PDD | Pervasive Developmental Disorder |
| PNS | Project of National Significance |
| POG | People on the Go – Statewide Advocacy Organization |
| PT | Physical Therapy |
| PTIC | Parent Training & Information Center |
| P.L. 94-142 | Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) (Formerly known as the Education for All "Handicapped" Children Act, signed into law in 1975)(U.S.) |
| P.L. 99-457 | Early Childhood Special Education Law (U.S.) |
| RFP | Request for Proposals |
| RSA | Rehabilitation Services Administration – the federal agency that provides funding to state rehabilitation programs for people with disabilities to enter competitive employment. |
| SILC | Statewide Independent Living Council |
| SIB | Self-Injurious Behavior - Behaviors that are harmful to oneself, such as head-banging or scratching or biting oneself. |
| SLP | Speech Language Pathologist |
| SSA | Social Security Administration |
| SSDI | Social Security Disability Insurance – an insurance program for former workers who have become disabled, and for disabled adult children of workers who are retired, disabled or deceased. |
| SSI | Supplemental Security Income – A Social Security Administration program that provides monthly payments to aged, blind and disabled people with limited income and resources (assets) |
| TA | Technical Assistance |
| TASH | TASH: Equity, Opportunity, and Inclusion for People with Disabilities - A national membership organization consisting of people with disabilities, families, professionals and community members. Dedicated to people perceived as having severe intellectual disabilities and seeks to build an inclusive society that values all people. |
| TWWIIA | Ticket to Work and Workforce Investment Improvement Act - A federal program that allows states to expand Medicaid health care coverage so that people with disabilities who work can "buy-in" to health insurance. It enables people with disabilities to go to work (or to work more hours) without risking the loss of necessary health care services available through the Medicaid program. |
| UCEDD | University Center for Excellence in Developmental Disabilities – a program, college or university which provides for interdisciplinary training, demonstration of exemplary services, technical assistance and dissemination of findings (in accordance with the Developmental Disabilities Assistance and Bill of Rights Act of 1990). |
| WIA | Workforce Investment Act – Ensures that employees with disabilities have access to and use of information and data that is comparable to that of other employees. This also applies to members of the public seeking information or services from a Federal department or agency. |