**Self -Advocacy Coordinator Status Summary**

FFY’19 First Quarter Report

For the period of Oct 1, 2018 through December 31th, 2018

Contents

[Informed Decision Making by Individuals w/IDD 1](#_Toc529186515)

[Self-Advocacy (IA)](#_Toc529186516) 3

[Glossary of Terms](#_Toc529186517) 6

Nevada Governor’s Council on Developmental Disabilities

Compiled by: Marisol Rivas

2/7/2019

# Informed Decision Making by Individuals w/IDD

Goal Summary- (Addresses cultural diversity, targeted disparity, education/training, resource knowledge and 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 organizations in NV to provide greater access to information and services for persons with I/DD enabling the Hispanic Community to have a voice in disability issues, thereby: reducing barriers to service and supports.

Project Summary:

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

* We are constantly reviewing and planning ways to integrate the Hispanic community. In our upcoming Partners in policymaking sessions we are offering the class in Spanish to promote integration. Part of the outreach efforts are to also educate the Hispanic community on the many topics offered by the PIP sessions.

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.

* Part of our efforts in eliminating barriers consist of translating more of our material so that it is accessible to our Hispanic community. Our PIP material will be translated to Spanish for our PIP student’s convenience and hopefully will help promote integration and attract the Hispanic community for future council projects.

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.

* We continue to reach out to organizations and are constantly sending out material as requested.

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

* We are beginning legislative session and are excited on what is to come. We are proud to say that we have many PIP graduates who are going to be advocating and hope to see our Hispanic community also come out. A big percentage of our last 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.

Impact of Activity: We are continually striving to integrate the Hispanic community in all we do. We hope that us facilitating information and promoting integration will make it easier for the Hispanic community to integrate themselves within the I/DD community and take advantage of the many resources that are available to them. We want to be able to address many of their concerns to help them make that connection or bridge within their community and make them more independent.

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 opening the door to the Hispanic Community. With the support and collaboration of NDALC we continue to expand our outreach to the Hispanic community also.

**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 AKTION club and met with their coordinator and members of the club. The meeting was mostly on budget goals and money that had been collected through various events during their end of year events like the Christmas Drive where they collect from the community and give to families in need.
* With conflicting scheduling, it has been difficult to attend most meeting but hoping to continue to attend meeting and bring back information for our advocates. Planning future People First Meeting.

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.
* As self-advocacy coordinator I am constantly sharing information via email on opportunities for the I/DD community as well as information on important events and workshops. Important newsletters from the IDEA Part C office as well as committee calls to NACDD. The last one in December addressed reviewing SAC purpose and the success and challenges in our area.

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

* In November we shared an opportunity from SARTAC on a Paid Fellowship for Self-Advocates.
* 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.

* During the months of December, we held our first “Calling All Leaders” call. The purpose of these calls is to gather all the Partners in Policymaking Graduates from the State of Nevada, to achieve forward movement in the 2019 Legislative Session. We would like to help prepare all graduates for the upcoming session and provide guidance for any legislative needs you may have.  The Council highlighted that we would like to support the PIP Graduates in making sure their voices are heard at the Nevada Legislature.
* During this call we discussed an upcoming “Day at the Legislature” which will include participation from past Partners graduates as well as other self-advocates across the state. Catherine provided information on getting information from your Legislator, setting up meetings, and general assistance along the way.
* The Council offered the teleconference phone line to be reserved by any of the Self-Advocates that may want to host their own calls, outside of the office staff limitations. Since we cannot lobby or take a stance on bills, we offered an un-monitored line for one-hour increments to be utilized anytime the Council didn’t have scheduled meetings.
* In addition, the Council staff have put together a list of all the BDRs and bills we are tracking this Legislative session, which can be found on our website under Legislative Information.

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 successfully completed at Dayton High School and Hug High in Reno! We successfully trained 6 trainers and reached 42 students in the process. Our student trainers from Dayton and Hug did excellent jobs in engaging and training their fellow peers in the process of transitioning from High school to college or work.
* Our trainers as well as us made close connections and in the process taught some teachers, aids and parents on the many capabilities that these young adults possess. And we also taught them that there are no limitations for their future as long as they work hard and strive for them.

Activity 1B) Provide funding opportunities for individuals w I/DD to attend disability-related conferences/summits to share knowledge, information etc. to other Nevadans with I/DD. (Consumer leadership/ED)

* The SAC and project manager are continually sharing information with the self-advocates on our consumer leadership funds and upcoming opportunities for them to request assistance for upcoming events like our summit and our legislative day at the legislator.

Activity 1C) Self -Advocacy Coordinator will facilitate the collaboration for the Youth Leadership Initiative.

* The SAC is currently in talks with Douglas High on getting them on board with the Y.E.S. program. Also, the SAC is looking into getting Carson High on board. We are also looking into incorporating schools in the south in the future.

NGCDD Expected Outcomes:

* Youth Leadership project is training youth with I/DD in at least 2 regions of Nevada.
* Individuals w/IDD and families will share info from conferences/summits with other Nevadans’s.
* Youth leadership project is training youth in at least 3 regions of Nevada.
* People with I/DD have increased leadership training.

Of Note:

The YES program has brought out great leadership and initiative in these young adults. It was great to see how they grew within the class and how they strived to participate and make goals for themselves that they were not aware of.

**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.
* Catherine has participated on the planning calls for the Cultural Diversity Summit at UNR and is a member of the Cultural Diversity Committee at UNR. The summit is scheduled for April 11, 2019 at UNR and is the sixth annual Northern Nevada Diversity Summit titled "Building Bridges in a Changing World." The Summit offers attendees the opportunity to discover new programs and opportunities; learn about new ideas and emerging research; and network with campus and community leaders.

Activity 1B) Education, information and training will be provided to develop leaders within the identified organization to support and expand participation of those with I/DD.

* We are continually working on providing resources within the I/DD community and within our partnerships. We provide it individually or with our many leadership events through out the year.

Activity 1C) As appropriate, provide direct funding to support people with I/DD to serve on cross/disability and culturally diverse boards, committees and work groups.

* We are continually reminding our advocates that our consumer leadership funds are there for their support.

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.

**Goal 2, Objective 2.4:** AIDD Partners will support leadership training for a minimum of 20 persons annually (10 persons with I/DD and 10 family members.)

Activity 1A-1D) We are currently in the planning stages for our upcoming PIP class which we will be supporting in all aspects. Currently we are in the registration process and will be selecting our new students for our upcoming 2019 PIP Sessions. We hope to have a diverse group of individuals w/IDD and family members as well.

NGDD Expected Outcomes:

* People w/IDD and their family members will have increased leadership training opportunities, becoming better advocates for themselves.

# 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