

# Governor's Planning Council on Developmental Disabilities

## Mission and philosophy

The Governor's Planning Council on Developmental Disabilities seeks and advocates for activities which promote self sufficiency, community involvement and educational opportunities for people with disabilities, their families, and the Wyoming Community. The council's purpose is to assure that individuals with developmental disabilities and their families participate in the design of and have access to needed community services, individualized supports and other forms of assistance that promote self-determination, independence, productivity, and integration and inclusion in all facets of community life, through culturally competent programs authorized under Public Law 106-402, known as the Developmental Disabilities Assistance and Bill of Rights act of 2000.

The council accomplishes its mandates through several different avenues. Staff carry out some activities while others are accomplished by partnering with other established agencies and organizations to address areas of mutual concern. Additionally, the council identifies gaps in service delivery and provides sub-grants to agencies and organizations to develop and implement projects that address innovative ways to fill the gaps.

## Results of outcomes

To facilitate young adults with developmental disabilities becoming more effective leaders in their communities, the Youth Leadership Forum was held at Laramie County Community College. A total of 15 young adults ages 16 to 24 completed the forum.

To facilitate adult self-advocates, parents and family members to participate with local, state and national decision makers in policy development, the nationally recognized Partners in Policy Making program completed its second year. Fifteen parents and self-advocates completed the course.

The council has continued to support the development of local people first chapters by providing board training and technical support. Additionally, the council assisted in organizing and supporting the annual People First conference. A total of 72 self-advocates participated.

To enhance the opportunity for people with developmental disabilities to obtain employment consistent with their interest and abilities, 16 young adults were placed in full time employment and 10 additional are pend-

## General information

Brenda Oswald, executive director

## Agency contact

Brenda Oswald

Herschler Building, 1<sup>st</sup> W.

122 West 25<sup>th</sup> Street

Cheyenne, WY

[boswal@state.wy.us](mailto:boswal@state.wy.us)

307/777-7230

## Other locations

None

## Year established

1976

## Statutory references

Executive Order 1987-13

Wyo. Stat. 9-1-217

Wyo. Stat. 9-1-603(vii)

## Organizational structure

Attorney General's Office is the Designated State Agency that "shall, on behalf of the state, provide support to the Council."

## Number of authorized personnel

Four full-time

One Contract

## Clients served

People with developmental disabilities, parents and families of people with developmental disabilities, and general public.

## Budget information

General fund	\$103,343
Federal	\$446,347
Other	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$549,718</b>

ing through the Access ABILITY project.

The council continues to co-sponsor and coordinate the annual MEGA Conference on disabilities. Approximately 350 people; professionals, providers, self-advocates and family members attended.

To increase awareness and understanding of disabilities by decision makers, an advocacy network was established. Two hundred ninety nine individuals joined the network; 35 self-advocates, 82 family members, 147 providers and 36 others.

**Agency to which your group reports**

Department of Health and Human Services,  
Administration on Developmental Disabilities

**Number of members**

23

**Meeting frequency**

Quarterly

## Governor's Planning Council on Developmental Disabilities organization chart

