

# Iowa Developmental Disabilities Council's 2022 work plan

**Key:**

Yellow highlighted: Items that have changed since last meeting

Green highlighted: Items we still need additional input on

**Goal #1 (Advocacy):**

**Develop strong advocates and leaders who create the change they want.**

<b>Objective 1. Annually increase the number of lowans with disabilities and family members who engage in the civic and political decision-making process.</b>			
<b>Key Activities</b>	<b>Expected Outputs</b>	<b>Expected Outcomes</b>	<b>Progress</b>
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Host <b>Capitol Advocacy days</b> and town hall meetings.</li> <li>2. Provide training for 2022 General Election to both community and facility sites</li> <li>3. Update voter training materials</li> <li>4. Provide advocacy trainings and advertise our ability to offer this assistance.</li> <li>5. Host and support Make Your Mark! and other self and family advocacy conferences.</li> <li>6. Educate and inform advocates, stakeholders, and legislators, through infoNET, social media posts, and emails.</li> <li>7. Increase the number of advocates connected to the lowans with Disabilities in Action network.</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Five advocacy groups visit the State Capitol during session. Three advocacy groups hold town hall meetings during off session</li> <li>2. 200 lowans attend voter trainings</li> <li>3. Voter material are updated at least annual to ensure they remain current</li> <li>4. Training and advocacy toolkits developed</li> <li>5. 120 lowans with Disabilities and family members are active participants in advocacy trainings</li> <li>6. 100 lowans with disabilities participate in the annual Make your Mark conference and other self and family advocacy conferences support by the DD Council</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. People with disabilities and family members learn about the legislative process and engage with lawmakers</li> <li>2. People with disabilities using DD Council resources are registered and voting.</li> <li>3. People with disabilities and a family members use the DD Council resources to stay informed and to increase their effectiveness as advocates</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. In progress. <b>One held townhall Invite went out for capitol advocacy days. 2 tentatively scheduled</b></li> <li>2. Will start late spring</li> <li>3. Working on this. Trying to arrange meeting with Secretary of State's office</li> <li>4. <b>Providing this for the townhall meetings groups. Will schedule a general training for all in January/after capitol chat</b></li> <li>5. Work to being this spring on MYM! Sponsoring Epilepsy Conference, Autism Society</li> <li>6. <b>New changes to distribution of InfoNet starting in January. Stakeholder meeting in October. Capitol Chat December</b></li> </ol>

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>7. 12 issues of InfoNet are distributed to at least 4,000 Iowans</li> <li>8. Information is shared weekly through social media/and or emails</li> <li>9. 50 new advocates connect with our network</li> </ul>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>7. Campaign through our Advocacy Management</li> </ul>
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**Objective 1.2 Annually increase the number of Iowans with disabilities—including young adults and their family members—who lead and mentor others and take on leadership roles in projects, coalitions, councils and boards that increase the inclusion of people with disabilities in community living.**

Key Activities	Expected Outputs	Expected Outcomes	Progress
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Prepare self-advocates to train others to register to vote and vote.</li> <li>2. Support self and family advocates, and Council members by hosting town hall meetings and other public events with local and state leaders in their communities.</li> <li>3. Support peer-mentoring programs such as Community Ambassadors.</li> <li>4. Explore how to create an intern position within our state structure for a person with a disability to assist with training and projects.</li> <li>5. Continue partnerships with our DD network to provide the Youth Leadership Academy (YLA).</li> <li>6. Support graduates of the youth leadership academy</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Five proposals for voter education and engagement that include people with disabilities in lead roles are supported by the Council</li> <li>2. Two town hall meetings and/or other events, led by people with disabilities are supported by the Council</li> <li>3. At least five people become peer mentors as a result of Council support</li> <li>4. Meetings held with DHS and our DD network partners on internship development</li> <li>5. 10 youth attend the Youth Leadership Academy</li> <li>6. 100% of graduates of YLA are engaged in other leadership types activities.</li> <li>7. 2 outreach events are held to create awareness of</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Iowans with disabilities and family members demonstrate leadership skills through participating and leading community projects, training and local events</li> <li>2. Iowans with disabilities are trained by their peers to vote and become advocates.</li> <li>3. Youth with disabilities are active as leaders in their communities and state boards and commissions</li> <li>4. Boards and commissions are more inclusive for people with disabilities</li> <li>5. People with disabilities are active members on boards and commission</li> </ul>	<p><b>Worth</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. This will begin in late spring</li> <li>2. One held, two capitol advocacy days tentatively scheduled</li> <li><b>Cross and Fisher participating in capitol chats</b></li> <li>3. Partnering with CDD for another year for the ambassador projects. Videos will be updated and more events will be scheduled. They did share stories at the townhall meeting as requested by DHS</li> <li><b>Aller making video about advocacy</b></li> <li>4. Visited with VR about their internship program. Started conversations with DHS HR on how an internship project would work. Draft job description. Meeting held</li> </ul>

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<p>to engage in other councils, boards, community action groups at the local or state board</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>7. Support the mentoring program in the Iowa Talent Bank (Iowa's State and Local board and commission application site) by hosting outreach and awareness campaigns about opportunities available on commissions and boards at the local and state level.</li> <li>8. Work with the Talent Bank and the Governor's office to begin tracking those with disabilities that serve on boards and commissions</li> <li>9. Work with DD network to train and mentor people with disabilities on how to be effective members of boards, councils, and commissions.</li> <li>10. Work with boards, councils, and commissions to share ways they can be more inclusive of people with disabilities and the importance of inclusion.</li> </ol>	<p>opportunities available on boards and commissions</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>8. At least one training is held for people with disabilities to be more effective Council/commissions boards.</li> <li>9. Two or three Conversations/meetings are held with leaders/chairs of boards and commissions on how to be more inclusive</li> </ol>		<p>with Reach, and one with Drake</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>5. Meetings to discuss changes to the curriculum for YLA happening in January</li> <li>6. Fall retreat was held and advocacy opportunities shared</li> <li>7. Working with DHR and the Governor's office on this. They are going to add a questions allowing people to identify that they have a disability</li> <li>8. Same as above</li> <li>9. Will start discussions with DD network at next meeting</li> <li>10. Working with Governors office on how best to do this Working on setting up meeting with Governor</li> </ol>
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**Objective 1.3 By 2026, increase the number of Iowans with disabilities who successfully advocate for their own health care needs.**

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<b>Key Activities</b>	<b>Expected Outputs</b>	<b>Expected Outcomes</b>	<b>Progress</b>
<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. With the DD network and other state partners, develop a resource toolkit to provide health and health care advocacy education for people with intellectual and developmental disabilities and those supporting them.</li><li>2. Promote the resources toolkit to providers and support health care advocacy training.</li></ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Resource toolkit developed</li><li>2. Ten providers supported</li></ol>	<p>Iowans with disabilities advocated for their own health care needs</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. UCEDD has a social work intern convening an advisory committee that will meet in November to review toolkit developed by Oregon. Mark and Kristin from the Council have agreed to be on. Recommendations will be submitted in the Spring. TRAC grant through the University of Iowa is also interested in this work</li><li>2. This will happen later.</li></ol>

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## **Goal #2 (Systems Change):**

**Improve policy and practice that positively impacts people with disabilities.**

**Objective 2.1 Annually, target at least three key policy proposals (e.g. legislation, executive orders, or regulations being announced) to identify opportunities to educate policymakers about the impact of specific policies and make recommendations to ensure policies align with the principles of the Developmental Disabilities Act and the legislative priorities of the DD Council.**

<b>Key Activities</b>	<b>Expected Outputs</b>	<b>Expected Outcomes</b>	<b>Progress</b>
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<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Research state and federal public policies and trends effecting people with disabilities and share information to keep people informed</li> <li>2. Develop Policy briefs and/or white papers with key recommendations</li> <li>3. Facilitate strong relationships with community organizations.</li> <li>4. Collaborate with DD network partners (Disability Rights Iowa and the Center for Disabilities and Development) to identify issues and needs.</li> <li>5. Foster relationships with policymakers to influence policy by meeting with key leaders prior to the 2022 session.</li> <li>6. Participate and provide public comment in commissions and council meetings (Mental Health Disability Services, Medical Assistance Advisory Council, the Autism Council, the Brain Injury Council, and the Olmstead Task Force) and before administrative rules and legislative committees</li> <li>7. With Council members and DD network partners, develop an annual list of</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Number of policies shared through email social media and at events.</li> <li>2. Two policy briefs developed</li> <li>3. Number of events and projects with other community organizations</li> <li>4. Monthly meetings with the DD network and number of issues identified</li> <li>5. Five meetings held with legislators prior to session</li> <li>6. DD Council open house held yearly with legislators.</li> <li>7. Council staff will provide public comment at five or more commissions and council</li> <li>8. Priorities developed</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. As of a result of the DD Council education, each session sees positive policy changes for people with disabilities.</li> <li>2. Legislative leaders and state agencies obtain input from the DD Council about policy changes that effect people with disabilities</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. This is done through InfoNet Social media. Several posts went out in November and December (merging of DHS and IPH, town hall meetings DOJ report) First capitol snapshot was recorded and shared. Council staff participate in various meetings with national groups to stay abreast of Federal trends that may have impact</li> <li>2. This will be done during session</li> <li>3. Establishing relationships with the three providers hosting townhall meeting. Coordinated a meeting with other disability advocates to discuss shared legislative priorities</li> <li>4. We meet regularly with DRI and UCED. We have several projects with both.</li> <li>5. Virtual meeting scheduled for the January 14<sup>th</sup>. To review DD Council priorities. Invite went out. Relationships developed through townhall.</li> <li>6. Council staff do participate in meetings and provide public comment as necessary</li> <li>7. Bill established a committee to develop these to be approved at January meeting Look at moving up time frame</li> </ol>
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<p>policy priorities that increase community living for people with disabilities.</p> <p>8. Educate policymakers and other state leaders about gathering input from people with disabilities and sharing information in plain language.</p> <p>9. Educate policymakers and other state leaders on how to gather input from people with disabilities.</p>			<p>for legislative priorities to be approved next year November 2022</p> <p><b>Cross on policy committee</b></p> <p>8. Council staff did encourage DHS to host townhall meeting on the community integration plan. We need to continue to work on the best way of doing this. Suggestions on the best way to do this from the Council members. Possibly put together a cheat sheet for legislators on what plain language means and how to gather input. Still need to work on this</p>
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**Objective 2.2 With the use of DD Council resources, people with disabilities and/or their family members will annually propose new legislation and/or policy changes or about an issue important to them.**

Key Activities	Expected Outputs	Expected Outcomes	Progress
<p>1. Use infoNET to inform Iowans with disabilities and their families about policies that impact community living and inclusion.</p> <p>2. Share grassroots success stories of people advocating for themselves locally and at the state and federal levels.</p>	<p>1. Fifteen electronic issues of infoNet are produced, four print publications are produced.</p> <p>2. 2,000 people with disabilities receive InfoNet</p> <p>3. Thirty-five social media posts are made</p> <p>4. Three success stories shared</p>	<p>As a result of using the DD Council resources, people with disabilities and family members are instrumental in positive policy changes.</p> <p>Legislative leaders and state agencies obtain input from people with disabilities and family members about policy</p>	<p>1. This will start with session but infoNet has been sharing information about the redistricting sessions, special elections and the merging of DHS and IDPH and the recent DOJ report</p> <p>2. We need to work on this with Council members help. Mike's video could be one of</p>

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<p>3. Support and collaborate with the Iowa Family Leadership Training Institute to help families advocate for themselves and others.</p> <p>4. Host regular (at least monthly) policy calls with advocates and stakeholders during the legislative session for discussion and questions about proposed legislation.</p>	<p>5. 10 family members are trained through the Iowa Family Leadership Training</p> <p>6. Eight policy calls are held</p> <p>7. 10 advocates attend each call</p>	<p>changes that effect people with disabilities</p>	<p>them. Council Member Brittany was featured in our INS story about advocacy</p> <p>3. This happens in the Spring</p> <p>4. One held in December and scheduled the last Friday of the month during session</p>
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**Objective 2.3** In collaboration with our DD network partners, the DD Council will establish relationships with underserved populations of people with disabilities living in rural communities to increase those that use our DD Council tools and resources to advocate for priorities that address the needs in their communities.

Key Activities	Expected Outputs	Expected Outcomes	Progress
<p>1. With the assistance of Council members, seek out opportunities in Council members' communities to host and/or sponsor community conversations and awareness initiatives.</p> <p>2. Partner with the Department of Human Rights and local community organizations to host events in other rural communities.</p> <p>3. Continue to sustain relationships developed by adapting DD Council tools, training and resources so people can better advocate for their needs and stay engaged and informed.</p>	<p>1. Six community conversations are held in rural areas</p> <p>2. Tools and resources adapted</p> <p>3. Two voter training and/or local capitol days are hosted</p>	<p>1. The DD Council will establish relationships with underserved populations</p> <p>2. Underserved populations advocate for their priorities</p>	<p>1. We are looking for Council members to host meetings in their local areas with us. Rob Roozeboom shared he would be interested. <b>Werger, Cogil, Steveson, Roozeboom</b></p> <p>2. DHR will share any events we schedule</p>



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4. Host targeted voter trainings, local capitol days and town hall meetings for people in underserved communities.			
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## **Goal #3 Capacity Building**

**Strengthen communities to support people with disabilities.**

**Objective 3.1 Through annual training, technical assistance, and resources, the DD Council will collaborate the DD network, state agencies, and community programs to improve competitive integrated**

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<b>employment outcomes for people with disabilities.</b>			
<b>Key Activities</b>	<b>Expected Outputs</b>	<b>Expected Outcomes</b>	<b>Progress</b>
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Partner with Iowa Vocational Rehabilitation, the Iowa Coalition on Integrated Employment, and our DD network to provide training opportunities to community rehabilitation providers.</li> <li>2. Through infoNET and Iowans with Disabilities in Action, promote National Disabilities Employment Awareness Month with various activities with local and state officials and legislators.</li> <li>3. Share employment success stories, with advocates, stakeholders, legislators and community businesses.</li> <li>4. Sponsor and collaborate with DD partners (the Autism Society, Association of People Supporting Employment First, Iowa Vocational Rehabilitation, and others) to host employment-specific conferences for people with disabilities and their families.</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Five community rehabilitation providers are trained</li> <li>2. Four events promoting integrated employment are held during NDEAM month</li> <li>3. Four employment success stories are shared</li> <li>4. Thirty people with disabilities attend an employment related conference.</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Iowans with disabilities and their families advocated for policies and practices that support integrated community employment</li> <li>2. More people with disabilities are competitively employed</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. We are continuing the Customized Employment project with VR for another year. They are offering this program statewide to all providers who go through the customized employment training.</li> <li>2. We developed four videos that were shared on Facebook and through email. We hosted a benefits planning webinar for self advocates. Have people featured in the videos share them with their legislators. Frequent social media posts</li> <li>3. We will continue to share these videos and others throughout the year.</li> <li>4. No conferences</li> </ol>
<p><b>Objective 3.2 By September 30, 2026, the DD Council will partner with the DD network, state agencies, and/or other community programs to invest in at least two projects to demonstrate new approaches to</b></p>			

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direct services, enhance systems, respond to emergent issues, or eliminate barriers to access and use of community services (such as transportation, housing, assistive technology, health, education, and emergency preparation).

<b>Key Activities</b>	<b>Expected Outputs</b>	<b>Expected Outcomes</b>	<b>Progress</b>
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Work with community partners to host community conversations to determine emergency issues that could be addressed through new initiatives supported by the DD Council.</li> <li>2. Develop and communicate informational briefs on lessons learned.</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Four community conversations are held.</li> <li>2. One informational brief developed</li> </ol>	Innovated practices promoting community inclusion are developed	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Hosted Community Integration. We have meet with the DD network and Medicaid about workforce issues.</li> <li>2. Information brief could be about workforce crisis. Legislative priorities will feature this. Bill formed an alliance with other advocates to discuss this and our priorities <b>Stevenson and Warth</b></li> </ol>