With its mission of increasing the independence, productivity, self-determination, integration and inclusion of people with developmental disabilities and their families, the North Carolina Council on Developmental Disabilities (NCCDD) supports innovations that bring about positive change. Under authority granted in the Developmental Disabilities Assistance and Bill of Rights Act, PL 106-402, the Council advances positions and funds initiatives undertaken by nonprofit organizations, universities and government agencies - that focus on the goals and objectives set out in the NCCDD’s 2011-2016 State Plan. During this federal fiscal year, the NCCDD focused on the following areas.

STRENGTHENING HEALTH CARE

Following a nine-year effort, the National Curriculum Initiative in Developmental Medicine was launched in five states, in addition to its home state of North Carolina. Periodically, three-year services to adults with I/DD and other developmental disabilities employed by 2015. Working through the State Employment Leadership Network, a national partnership of 25 states committed to improving employment outcomes, the NCCDD is ensuring that North Carolina’s Division of Mental Health, Developmental Disabilities and Substance Abuse Services and its partners have access to expert-led and peer-sustained knowledge of the best practices and policies for advancing contemporary employment outcomes.

EDUCATION AND TRAINING PLUS

Education and training efforts met with success in 2011-2012, with Advancing Strong Leadership in Integrated Schools Increasingly known as Direct Support Professionals. A competency-based online training program for advancing contemporary employment outcomes.


PARTNERSHIPS 2011-2012

NC Council on Developmental Disabilities

With estimates that between 600,000 and 1.6 million adults who are aged 60 or older have intellectual disabilities and other developmental disabilities, the National Council on Developmental Disabilities launched an initiative during the year to help individuals and families prepare for those later years.

First in Families, a statewide program in North Carolina, was produced and released during the year. Using excerpts from interviews, the features of the program are explained by experts who actually took part, with some describing it as a “life changing event.”

Partnership for People, produced by grantee The Wallace Group, has won two national awards and has been distributed within the broader disabilities community. The video can be viewed online at nccd.org/partners.

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Executive Committee, from left: Crystal Foreman, Walter Ruff, III, I. Azell Reeves, Carrie Ambrose, Bob Rickelman, Ph.D., Paul Sagerman, M.D. and Jonathan Ellis.

From the NCCDD leadership

In the midst of budget cuts, a change in administration at the state level and a shift to a capitated system for managing Medicaid waiver services, the 2011-2012 year was a productive one for the NC Council on Developmental Disabilities. Through the NCCDD’s funded initiatives - each promoting innovations in policy and practice - the NCCDD made significant progress in fulfilling its mission of building bridges to communities where people with intellectual and other developmental disabilities (I/DD) lead self-determined lives; are productive; and are a valued part of everyday life.

Following the Council-funded project on the incidence of dementia among people with intellectual disabilities at the National Conference of the American Association on Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities, the Council launched a promising initiative supporting aging caregivers to plan and prepare for their later years and those of their family members.

Through its commitment to an Employment First policy for North Carolina, the NCCDD continued to make employment at a competitive wage in an inclusive workplace the gold standard for the state, addressing an unemployment rate of over 70 percent among people with intellectual and other developmental disabilities (I/DD) lead self-determined lives; are productive; and are a valued part of everyday life.

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Other Council initiatives for 2011-2012 improved inclusive, post-secondary education options for people with intellectual disabilities; enhanced access to primary health care; ensured that professional, well prepared leadership develops a shared vision, firmly rooted in the outcomes valued by those they serve; developed the knowledge-base and advocacy skills of families and people with I/DD; and built a frontline workforce with the competencies necessary to deliver high-quality, participant-directed services and supports.

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Yours truly,

Ronald D. (Ron) Reeve
NCCDD Chairman

Holly Riddle, J.D, M.Ed.
Executive Director, NCCDD

THE COUNCIL*

Carolyn “Cara” Alexander, Raleigh – NCCDD Advocacy and Leadership Committee Chair, Self-Advocate
James Davyson, Ph.D. – Carolina Institute for Developmental Disabilities, UNC at Chapel Hill
Crystal Bone, M.D., Charlotte – Guardian-Advocate
Sherry Braudis – Division of Social Services, NC Department of Health and Human Services
Robert “Rob” Brusick, Greensboro – Self-Advocate
Active Brown, Durham – Self-Advocate
Lisa Byrd, Durham – Self-Advocate
June Cates, J.D., M.D. – Division of Privacy, NC Department of Public Safety
Christian Carter, Asheville – NC Council of Community Programs
Eric Cole, Greensboro – Self-Advocate
Al Davis, Acting Secretary – NC Department of Health and Human Services
Jonathan Ellis, Murphyborough – NCCDD Vice-Chair, Self-Advocate
Laurens Fernandez, Raleigh – Parent-Advocate
Wilson Foust, Chapel Hill – Self-Advocate
Crystal Foreman, Raleigh – NCCDD Vice-Chair, Self-Advocate
Mike Groetsch, Dunn – Self-Advocate
Elizabeth Harrold, Charlotte – Self-Advocate
Lisa Harrington – Division of Vocational Rehabilitation, NC Department of Health and Human Services
Representative Verda C. Irving, Chapel Hill – Representative of the NC House of Representatives
Jim Arrington – Division of Mental Health, Developmental Disabilities and Substance Abuse, NC Department of Health and Human Services
Tara Lindon – Division of Medical Assistance, NC Department of Health and Human Services
Ronnie Macomber, Raleigh – Direct Support Professional
Senator Eric Insko, Fayetteville – Representative of the NC Senate
Michael McNell, Aberdeen – Self-Advocate

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www.nccdd.org
Toll free number for families and self-advocates:
1-800-357-6916
919-850-2901

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