NACDD Quarterly Public Policy Call

Tuesday, February 12, 2018 | 2:00 – 3:00pm Eastern

Call-in number: 800-832-0736

Passcode: 6261788

Moderator Code: 086530

Link to download recording: <https://nacddonline-my.sharepoint.com/:u:/g/personal/jmisilo_nacdd_org/ETyDmbB4FUxIqoWnLTwjWYEBfpPbfVKHvm5S6mGHqGpjSQ?e=wPPrl9>

* First quarterly call of 2019.
  + NACDD’s FY17-19 strategic plan as passed by the NACDD Board directs that we “value the voices of stakeholders and actively asks them to get involved in our work.”
  + These calls promote this vision by providing an opportunity for DD Council members, staff and supporters to hear directly from NACDD staff about the federal legislative landscape as it pertains to the DD Councils. There will be the opportunity to ask questions and provide feedback, but if your question is not addressed during the call, or if you would like to hear about other federal issues, please feel free to email [info@nacdd.org](mailto:info@nacdd.org) at any time and we will respond.
  + There will be 3 more calls in 2019, so please mark your calendars. All calls will be held at this time 2-3pm Eastern on the following dates:

-June 11 State spotlight: Direct Service Provider Workforce Crisis  
-September 10  
-December 10

* Update on Congress
  + How does this shutdown threat impact the DD Councils?
    - Short answer: It doesn’t. Last year, for the first time in decades, Congress passed our appropriations through the Labor/HHS bill. Our funds are secured for 2019. But, work on our 2020 appropriation is stalled until Congress can reach agreement on the remaining 2019 appropriations bills.
    - Shutdown does have an affect on people with I/DD - a large percentage of people with disabilities living in poverty they will be impacted without food stamps, housing vouchers and transportation services
    - Senator Lisa Murkowski (R-AK) has proposed a bill that would automatically invoke a continuing resolution if a spending deadline were to come and there was no agreement on a bill - could have a dangerous side as well as it could allow the old funding levels to simply continue in perpetuity and work to secure increases may never be realized. DD Councils do not function efficiently under CR’s which create greater uncertainty and lead to underfunding of programs we all care about.
    - NACDD has joined with our coalition partners in calling for regular order in the appropriations process so that all Americans can benefit from the federal programs we rely on every day.
* DD Councils Appropriations.
  + Donna and Erin are working with legislators on for an additional 5% increase later this month
  + Sen. Chris Murphy (CT) and Rep. Jim Langevin (RI) have again agreed to be our champions. Last year, 34 congressmen and 22 senators signed a letter to the committees stating the support for an increase in appropriations for DD Councils. NACDD staff are looking for even more support going into our 2020 request.
  + 18 national disability rights groups supported our increase last year
* Federal Policy Issues
  + Disability Integration Act - bipartisan and bicameral legislation, introduced by Senators Charles Schumer, Minority Leader (D-NY) and Cory Gardner (R-CO) in the Senate and Representative Jim Sensenbrenner (R-WI) in the House, to address the fundamental issue that people who need Long Term Services and Supports (LTSS) are forced into institutions and losing their basic civil rights. The legislation (S.117, H.R.555) builds on the years of work DD Councils and other groups have done to end the institutional bias and provide seniors and people with disabilities home and community-based services (HCBS) as an alternative to institutionalization.
  + Autism Cares Act reauthorization before September of this year. It has has expanded research and coordination, increased public awareness and surveillance, and expanded interdisciplinary health professional training, including LENDs, to identify and support children and youth with Autism and their families - will expire in September 2019 without a successful reauthorization. Bipartisan bills to reauthorize the Act were introduced on February 7th by Sen. Robert Menendez (SB 427) and Rep. Christopher Smith (HR 1058). NACDD will be working with our partners at AUCD who are asking individuals to contact their members of Congress to impress the importance of this legislation.
  + The Transition to Competitive Employment Act - represents a thoughtful approach to ending the outdated and unfair payment of workers with disabilities who receive subminimum wages under Section 14(c) of the Fair Labor Standards Act (FLSA) of 1938. The bill not only phases out Section 14(c), but importantly includes funding to help states and providers transform business models to support individuals with disabilities to transition to competitive integrated employment and tracks outcomes over the six year phase out period.
* DD Awareness Month
  + March 20 - filmmaker Dan Habib will be our guest for a screening of his film, *Intelligent Lives*, at the Capitol Visitor Center - opportunity to educate lawmakers about the critical need for DD Councils
  + March 26 - NACDD and Congressman Langevin will host a DD Awareness and Education Fair in the House Rayburn Building. Advocates with disabilities, including several from the Maryland, Virginia and DC DD Councils will engage lawmakers on how federal programs impact community living.
  + Many councils are working with lawmakers and governors to designate March as DDAM through proclamations and resolutions. NACDD staff have collected state examples that you can customize for your own.
  + Some councils are planning to hold their own screening of *Intelligent Lives.* Dan Habib and NACDD staff will be hosting a webinar on how you can bring *Intelligent Lives* screening to your community tomorrow, Wednesday, Feburary 13, at 3pm. For more information send an email to [info@nacdd.org](mailto:info@nacdd.org) .
  + Please remember to share your activities and DD Awareness Month resources with NACDD at [info@nacdd.org](mailto:info@nacdd.org).
* Disability Policy Seminar
* NACDD Pre-DPS “The Crisis of Caregiving” panel and reception will be held on Sunday, April 7th, from 3:00-6:00pm supported by Anthem
* The Disability Policy Seminar - April 8-10 in Washington, DC
  + NACDD and AIDD will lead a webinar on what to expect at DPS on March 28th, 4-5pm
* State Fact Sheet Webinar - March 13
* State Spotlight – [Bette Ann Mobley](https://content.govdelivery.com/accounts/MD529/bulletins/1b48624), Director, Maryland ABLE
  + ABLE implementation in the states
  + Over 8 million people who potentially could have account – only 35k have an account
  + Issues: lack of knowledge, fear, consistency in reaching out
  + CA – workbook on state website, social media campaign in launch of ABLE
  + VA –VA DD Council works with ABLE Now
  + My NY Able Program – working with state comptroller’s office
  + MD DD Council – supportive and assisted in outreach to network, bills that will affect ABLE – funding writing a guide to Maryland ABLE and Spanish translation
  + Updates webinar available – Contact JJ Hanley or Bette Ann Mobley [bmobley@maryland529.org](mailto:bmobley@maryland529.org)