



Nebraska Council on Developmental Disabilities

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NEBRASKA COUNCIL ON DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES ANNOUNCES OFFICIAL NAME CHANGE

(Lincoln, Nebraska) – The Nebraska Council on Developmental Disabilities is pleased to announce that Council members recently approved a formal name change from the Nebraska Planning Council on Developmental Disabilities to the Nebraska Council on Developmental Disabilities.

The Nebraska Council on Developmental Disabilities (Council) is a federally mandated independent Council comprised of individuals and families of persons with developmental disabilities, community providers, and agency representatives who advocate for systems change and quality services. The Governor appoints 24 State Council members for three year terms with more than 60% of members being people with developmental disabilities or family members. The Department of Health and Human Services serves as the Council's Designated State Agency to assist with administering the Council's federal funds.

The Council's mission is to engage in advocacy, capacity building, and systemic change activities that assure that individuals with developmental disabilities and their families participate in the design and have access to the needed community services, individualized support, and other forms of assistance that promote self-determination, independence, productivity, and integration and inclusion in all facets of community life. Council activities demonstrate new ideas for enhancing people's lives through training activities, through community education and support, by making information available to policy-makers, and by eliminating barriers.

Councils on Developmental Disabilities were formed into federal law and were created by the Developmental Disabilities Act (DD Act) in 1970. The Administration on Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities (AIDD) is the federal agency responsible for oversight. Funded in every State and Territory of the United States, these Councils represent a Federal-State partnership in developing and improving futures for and with people with developmental disabilities and their families. The Nebraska Council on Developmental Disabilities removed the word "planning" from their name in order to be consistent with the reauthorization for the DD Act.

Despite the name change, the Nebraska Council on Developmental Disabilities wants to ensure stakeholders that their commitment to improving the system of supports for Nebraska citizens with disabilities and their families remains a priority.

More information about the Nebraska Council on Developmental Disabilities can be found online at www.dhhs.ne.gov/DDCouncil or contact our office by email at DHHS.DDCouncil@nebraska.gov, or call 402-471-2330.