



2015
Annual report

Delaware Developmental Disabilities Council

Working to ensure that people
with disabilities enjoy the same
quality of life as the rest of society



Contents

A MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR.....	3
A MESSAGE FROM THE DIRECTOR.....	4
ABOUT US.....	5
REVIEW OF FFY 2015.....	6
SOCIAL MEDIA 2015.....	7
COUNCIL INITIATIVES.....	8-12
DEFINITION OF DISABILITY.....	13
AREAS OF EMPHASIS.....	13
COLLABORATIVE AGENCIES.....	14
FINANCIAL FOCUS.....	15
MEMBERSHIP.....	16-17
MEET OUR STAFF.....	18
CONTACT INFORMATION.....	19

Message from our Chair



It has been a pleasure to serve as Chairperson for the Developmental Disabilities Council (DDC) for two years. During my tenure, I have spoken in Nevada, Kentucky, Oklahoma and Washington, DC about self advocacy. I am currently working with our Council to develop our next Five Year State Plan.

Yours in advocacy-

Barbara Monaghan

Chairperson



From left to right, Denise McMullin-Powell and Yoshiko Dart



July 26, 2015 ADA 25th Anniversary Celebration at Rodney Square in Wilmington, Delaware

Message from the Director

2015 brought many exciting events for the Delaware DD Council. One of the most significant for us and for our nation was the 25th Anniversary of the signing of the Americans with Disabilities Act. We were honored by visits from Senator Tony Coehlo, by the U.S. Business Leadership Network Disability History Museum on Wheels and by the Road to Freedom Legacy Bus. On board that bus were Mrs. Yoshiko Dart, Mrs. Janine Kemp, and Mr. Tom Olin. We were able to support the Legacy Bus by helping with the drive from Delaware to Washington, D.C. on July 26, 2015, the actual Anniversary of the ADA25!

We were especially honored to receive a personal to Delaware Video message from the Vice President of the United States, Joseph R. Biden, for this wonderful Anniversary celebration.

We are grateful for the those who fought before us. We are grateful for the benefits we've received because of their hard work and sacrifices. We only hope that we can follow in their footsteps and make a difference for those who come after us. In the words of Nelson Henderson, "The true meaning of life it to plant trees, under whose shade you do not expect to sit." LEAD ON!

Sincerely-

Patricia Maichle



Tom Olin



Lawrence Maichle



Brigitte Hancharick



From left to right, Yoshiko Dart, with Zachary Brenneman and Tara Bustard



From left to right: Lawrence Maichle, Janine Kemp, Yoshiko Dart, Tom Olin

About us

The Delaware Developmental Disabilities Council (DDC) is federally funded through the **Administration on Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities (AIDD)** and is authorized by Public Law 106-402 to address the unmet needs of people with developmental disabilities through system-wide advocacy, planning and capacity building efforts that promote self-determination, integration, and inclusion.

More than 60 percent of the Delaware DDC membership consists of individuals with developmental disabilities or their family members, advocates and state agency representatives. This diversity enables the Delaware DDC to better analyze and improve systems and services within Delaware and ensure that the voices of people with developmental disabilities and their families are heard.

The Delaware DDC believes that, given the appropriate supports, all people with disabilities can fully participate in community life. Although people with developmental disabilities have equality under the law; **vision and leadership** are vital if they are to have equality in their everyday lives. The Delaware DDC strives to create opportunities in the everyday lives of children and adults with developmental disabilities. We are committed to improving the quality of services for this population in Delaware and serves as an advocate and an instrument of system change. We look to a future where all people will have the opportunity to be included and to exercise control over their own lives.

For more information on the Delaware DDC, please visit www.ddc.delaware.gov



Review of FFY 2015

- ◆ The most recent data shows DE spends \$441,186/year per person on state-operated institutional care, as opposed to \$36,189/year for supported living.
- ◆ DE's total I/DD spending is \$169,412,299 with \$135,169,567 in Medicaid spending (80% of total I/DD spending).
- ◆ The DE Division of Vocational Rehabilitation provided the following statistics for FFY 2015. Total served 7,757, still in applicant status 304, deemed eligible 2,501, successful rehabilitation for most severe disabilities 357, successful rehabilitation for significant disabilities 715, transition youth served 2,284, supported employment served 707, waiting list 37..
- ◆ In the most recent UCP study "The Case for Inclusion", DE ranked 35/50 states in terms of disability services. This reflects a downturn of 21 places since the previous UCP report on state ranks. Scores were based on promoting independence, tracking health, safety and quality of life, keeping families together, promoting productivity and reaching those in need.
- ◆ DE also reported a decrease in the rate of competitive employment (from 30% to 19%), according to the UCP study.
- ◆ The ACS shows that in 2013, 339,071 Delawareans received assistance from the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP). Of that number, 18,079 recipients were from a household with one or more people with a disability.
- ◆ DE Paratransit has raised their fare to \$4.00 increasing travel difficulties for those with limited mobility/ financial resources.
- ◆ Housing remains out of reach for the majority of people with disabilities in DE. DE is 1 of just 4 states where the one-bedroom rent exceeds 100% of SSI in every part of the state. On average, a person with a disability receiving SSI (\$721/mo. avg. in DE) pays 106% of their monthly SSI income to rent an efficiency unit, and 123% to rent a one-bedroom unit.
- ◆ Delaware's Money Follows the Person (MFP) Program is in the final year of its grant. DDC is advocating for the continuation of this important program that helps individuals to move out of an institutional setting and into the community. It is possible that this this program will continue with funding from DMMA.



- * In 2015 through Facebook, the Delaware Developmental Disabilities Council was able to reach 452 people. In an effort to increase this number, our goal for 2016 is to reach 600 people. Please like us on Facebook at www.Facebook.com/DelawareDDC/
- * The Delaware Developmental Disabilities Council is also on Twitter. We can be located @Delaware_DDC. We currently have 66 followers. For 2016, our goal is to reach 100 followers.

Council Initiatives

Transition Training Modules, Period 5



COMMUNITY LEGAL
AID SOCIETY, INC.
EQUAL ACCESS TO JUSTICE

This year marked the end of this multi-year project between the DDC and the Disabilities Law Program (DLP). DLP is the state's Protection and Advocacy group. A series of training modules were developed over the two and a half year grant cycle, with many presentations given to groups ranging from middle and high schools to committees to the Partners in Policymaking class. Transition Training Modules are available online, and include information on employment and vocational rights, middle and high school rights, higher education rights, voting rights and the Age of Majority. The modules can be found on the Disabilities Law Program website: <http://transition.declasi.org/>

Launch Space I and II

The DDC was so pleased with the results of the first Launch Space Program, it voted to fund the program for a second grant cycle. Independent Resources, Inc. is the organizer and contractor for the program. Launch Space I resulted in 20 individuals receiving training in entrepreneurship opportunities. The Dolphin Tank award event for Launch Space I featured many of the community partners that the IRI staff culminated relationships with over the course of the Launch Space I grant. Partnerships were formed with more than 40 area employers, agencies, organizations and entrepreneurs. Launch Space II was just beginning in FFY 2015. Launch Space II will focus more on transition-age youth, and will utilize many of the practices and procedures developed during Phase I of the program.



(Left to right): Senator Brian Bushweller, Latosha Caldwell and Barbara Monaghan

LIFE Conference 2015

The Delaware Developmental Disabilities Council (DDC) sponsored the 2015 LIFE Conference. The 2015 conference marked the 17th annual LIFE Conference. The conference was held at the Dover Downs Hotel on January 15, 2015.

Conference attendance totaled 459 including attendees, speakers, exhibitors, sponsors, and conference staff. The structure of the conference remained the same as previous years, with a welcome address beginning at 8:30am, followed by a keynote presentation. The 2015 keynote presentation was “Looking Back, Looking Forward: Federal Disability Policy in Transition” by Michael Gamel-McCormick, Ph.D. Following the keynote presentation, there were three concurrent session times, each with four class options, covering the categories of Legislation, Independence through Assistive Technology, Families and Education. Continuing education hours/credits for Certified Rehabilitation Counselors, Physical Therapy, Speech/Language Pathology, Occupational Therapy, Nursing, Childcare (Level I Community-Based Training), and Professional Growth Hours from the Department of Education were available to attendees. Exhibitors and sponsors were available to participants from 7:30am through 3:45pm and were located along the hallway near the Ballrooms and in the hotel lobby. Exhibitors also had the option of being a “Take-one” exhibitor if they were unable to be present during the conference. This permitted an organization to include a piece of literature in the conference packets for each conference participant.



Prepare Yourself Delaware Conference

The DDC partnered with conference planning group All Clear Emergency Management Group (ACEMG) to plan and facilitate the May 5, 2015 "Prepare Yourself Delaware" conference. The conference was held at the Modern Maturity Center in Dover, Delaware from 8 AM to 3 PM. The purpose of the conference was to bring together first responders and individuals with disabilities, in order to open the lines of communication and ensure that there was a mutual understanding of preparedness means, what first responders will and will not do in the event of an emergency, and what individuals with disabilities can do to be better prepared.

Speakers included representatives from our UCEDD, the Delaware Emergency Management Agency (DEMA), the Division of Public Health Office of Preparedness, Special Needs Unit, Nate Trull (self-advocate from the Shriver Center at UMASS), Delmarva Power, all three state emergency managers, and representatives from Delaware's Centers for Independent Living.

Breakout sessions were held throughout the day. Topics included "There's No Place Like Home: Preparing to Shelter in Place", "Behind the Scenes with the Professionals: What Happens During an Emergency", "Making an Action Plan (MAP)" and "What to Expect at a Shelter". The day concluded with a session led by self-advocate Nate Trull.



Monica Edgar

Access to Medical Facilities - The goal of this project is to educate self-advocates and their families/caregivers regarding their accessibility rights in order to facilitate their emergence as strong self-advocates for access to medical facilities. DDC is contracting with Easter Seals of Delaware and Maryland's Eastern Shore for this project. Thus far, a training curriculum has been developed which uses a PowerPoint presentation delivered by the contractor. Takeaway items for individuals who attend the training include information on individual rights under the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), an infographic on People First Language, and a laminated card that individuals can leave with their provider. The cards list numerous reference websites, including the Mid-Atlantic ADA Center, a link regarding tax credits for accessible medical equipment, the DDC website and the Easter Seals Delaware website. This project was begun in FFY 2015, and will continue into FFY 2016.

Delaware People First Strategic Planning Retreat:

The DDC continues to support the efforts of Delaware People First, which is a self-advocacy organization formed and led by individuals with disabilities. Council provided funding for Delaware People First to hold their annual Strategic Planning Meeting in August of 2015. 5 DPF officers and coordinators attended the training, which was led by The Riot! at the Human Services Institute of Oregon. DPF came away from this meeting with a clearer direction forward and ready to plan their Self-Advocacy Conference in the Spring of 2016.



(Left to Right): Deb Nock, James McGhie, Joan Garden, William Monaghan Jr., Barbara Monaghan, Gary Mears, Tina Fields, Tommy Fields, Mark Reeves, Michelle Lombardi

Junior Partners in Policymaking

The Partners in Policymaking Program and Junior Partners in Policymaking Program run on opposite years. 2015 marked a Junior Partners in Policymaking year. The program was held from July 12-17, 2015 at the Hilton Garden Inn in Dover. There were 18 participants, 4 classroom assistants/resident assistants and one contracted coordinator. Of the participants, 14 have a disability, 3 are the sibling of a person with a disability and only 1 participant did not have a disability. The contractor for this project is a person with a disability. 3 of the 4 classroom and resident assistants are individuals with disabilities.

Other agencies who presented to the participants include the State Council for Persons with Disabilities, the Governor's Advisory Council for Exceptional Citizens, the Mid-Atlantic ADA Center, the Parent Information Center of Delaware, Avenue Medical and Self-Advocates Daniese McMullin-Powell, Jamie Wolfe, Bill and Barbara Monaghan and Emmanuel Jenkins. Topics covered included the history of disability, IEP participation, a MAP exercise, self-determination and writing and presenting legislative testimony. Participants traveled to Legislative Hall on the final day of the program to present their testimony in the House Chambers.

Funding for this program was provided by the Developmental Disabilities Council, Delaware General Assembly, and Department of Education.



Back Row (Left to Right): Zachary Martin, Noel Rodriguez, Gregory Gouge, Miguel Rodriguez, Douglas Patrick, Dylan Groff, Dominic Zamara

Middle Row (Left to Right): Phillips Scruggs, Zaneea Hall, Wendy Ehst, Claire Schuster, Amanda Hill, Brittany Patrick, Kalea Rosario, Jessica Evans

Front Row (Left to Right): Naomi Rivera, Dylan Ehst, Morgan Jungling, Zakoya Hall, Jamie Wolfe

DEFINITION OF DISABILITY

Developmental disabilities are chronic disabilities that are attributable to mental or physical impairments apparent before the age of 22. These disabilities tend to be life-long and result in substantial functional limitations in major life activities such as self-care, receptive and expressive language, learning, mobility, self-direction, capacity for independent living and economic self-sufficiency.

However, this definition does not begin to define the abilities and lives of people with disabilities. People with disabilities are also mothers, fathers, brothers and sisters. They laugh and cry, go to school, hold jobs, pay taxes, play sports, get married and have children. People with developmental disabilities are poets and playwrights, business leaders and professionals, athletes and advocates. They, like everyone else, are complex individuals with hopes, dreams and special challenges.

AREAS OF EMPHASIS

Throughout the year the efforts of the Delaware Developmental Disabilities Council have been guided by our State Plan that focuses on specific long-term goals for the people we serve. In FFY 2015, our State Plan addressed the following areas:

Employment

Formal/Informal Supports and Services

Health/Healthcare

Interagency Initiatives

Self-Advocacy Organization

COLLABORATIVE AGENCIES

AARP

Alzheimer's Association

Autism Delaware

Birth to Three Program, Division of Health & Social Services

Brain Injury Association of Delaware

Children & Families First

Community Legal Aide Society, Disability Law Program

Delaware Association of Rehabilitation Facilities

Delaware Assistive Technology Initiative

Delaware Economic Development Office (DEDO)

Delaware Emergency Management Agency

Delaware Foundation Reaching Citizens

Delaware People First

Delaware State Fire School

Delaware State Parks

Delaware State Police

Department of Education

Department of Health & Social Services

Department of Safety & Homeland Security

Department of Services for Children, Youth and Their Families

Department of Transportation

Division of Services for Aging and Persons with Physical Disabilities

Division of Developmental Disabilities Services

Division of Family Services

Division of Public Health

Division of Substance Abuse & Mental Health

Division of Vocational Rehabilitation

Easter Seals of Delaware & Maryland's Eastern Shore

Family & Workplace Connection

Governor's Advisory Council for Exceptional Citizens

Governor's Commission on Community Based Alternatives for

Individuals with Disabilities

Healthy Delawareans with Disabilities

Independent Resources, Inc.

Kids Included Together, Inc.

MS Society of Delaware

New Castle County Police Department

Parent Information Center

Sexual Assault Network of Delaware

State Council for Persons with Disabilities

State Rehabilitation Council

The Central Delaware Chamber of Commerce

The Delaware Business Leadership Network

The Delaware Center for Enterprise Development

The National Inclusion Project

United Cerebral Palsy

University of Delaware, Center for Disabilities Studies

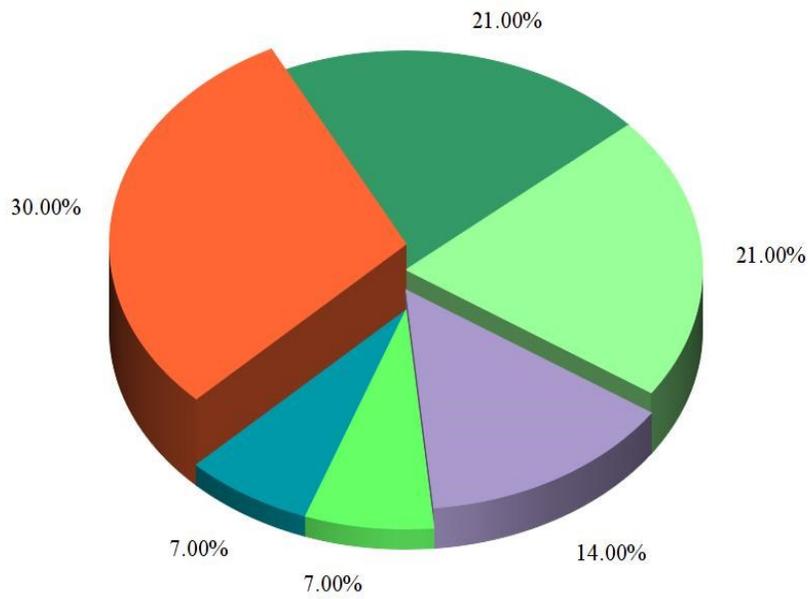
Victims' Rights Task Force

Wilmington Police Department

FINANCIAL FOCUS

Allocation FFY 2015

■ Planning/Administration ■ Community Supports ■ Health ■ Quality Assurance ■ Education/Employment
■ Recreation



Membership

According to Federal Law, the state council representing individuals with developmental disabilities must be composed of no less than sixty percent of people who are:

Individuals with developmental disabilities;

Parents or guardians of children with developmental disabilities; or

Immediate relatives or guardians of adults with mentally impairing developmental disabilities who cannot advocate for themselves; and

Those individuals must not be employees of a state agency that receives funds or provides services under this subtitle, and who are not managing employees (as defined in section 1126(b) of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 132a-5(b)) of any other entity that receives funds or provides services under this subtitle.

2015 Council Members

Chair (and Self Advocate)

Barbara Monaghan

Co-chair

Steve Slotkin

Self Advocate members

Angela Ehst

Tina Fields

Laura Greene

Larry Henderson

Joseph Merritt, Jr.

Sue Ellen Powell

Daniese McMullin-Powell

Family/Guardian

Terri Hancharick

Michael Harris

Rick Kosmalski

Nancy Lemus

Debra McCann

Gary Mears

Carrie Melchisky

Shawn Rohe

Steve Tull

Steven Yeatman

Federally Mandated Members:

Mary Anderson

Carol Barnett

Brian Hartman, Esq.

Katie Howe

HarrietAnn Litwin

Katie Macklin

Karen McGloughlin

Beth Mineo

Tracey Neugebauer

Meet Our Staff



Pat Maichle
Executive Director
(302) 739-2232



Kristin Cosden
Social Services Administrator
(302) 739-3623



Stefanie Lancaster
Administrative Officer
(302) 739-3333



Emmanuel Jenkins
Administrative Specialist I
(302) 739-7192

Contact Us

Delaware Developmental Disabilities Council

Margaret M. O'Neill Building, 2nd Floor

410 Federal Street, Suite 2

Dover, Delaware 19901

Phone: (302) 739-3333

Web: www.ddc.delaware.gov



<https://www.facebook.com/DelawareDDC>

@DDC_Delaware

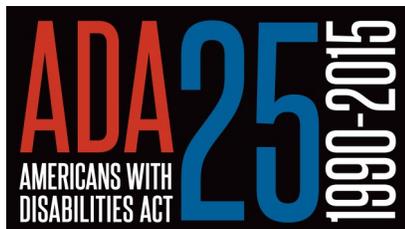


In Loving Memory

Justin Whitlock Dart, Jr



August 29, 1930 -
June 22, 2002



Justin Whitlock Dart, Jr. was an American [activist](#) and advocate for people with disabilities. He helped to pass the [Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990](#), co-founded the [American Association of People with Disabilities](#) (AAPD), and is regarded as the "Godfather of the ADA."

Dart contracted [polio](#) in 1948 before entering the [University of Houston](#), where he earned [undergraduate](#) degrees in history and education in 1954; however, the university refused to give him a teaching certificate because of his disability. The university is now home to the Justin Dart, Jr. Center for Students with Disabilities, a facility designed for students who have any type of temporary or permanent health impairment, physical limitation, psychiatric disorder, or learning disability.

While serving as the Vice-Chair of the [National Council on Disability](#), Justin and Yoshiko Dart embarked on a nationwide tour to meet with activists and individuals with disabilities. Justin and Yoshiko did not make these trips alone, often partnering with local disability advocates, community members and friends to help continue the conversation about disability. Based on these conversations, Dart and others on the Council drafted a national policy that called for national civil rights legislation to end the centuries-old discrimination of people with disabilities—what would eventually become the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990.

The [Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990](#), was signed into law on July 26, 1990. In a signing ceremony with President [George H. W. Bush](#), the President shared the dias with Evan Kemp, Rev Harold Wilke, Sandra Parrino, and Justin Dart.