

Delaware Developmental Disabilities Council

Margaret O'Neil Building, 2nd Floor
410 Federal Street - Suite 2 Dover, Delaware 19903
Phone: 302.739.3333 ♦ Fax: 302.739.2015 ♦ Website: www.ddc.delaware.gov



November 14, 2012

The Honorable Christopher Coons
United States Senate
221 Russell Senate Office Building
Washington, DE 20510

Dear Senator Coons,

The Delaware Developmental Disabilities Council (DDC) wishes to thank you as our United States Senator. We anticipate that you will continue to represent us in the fair and admirable way that you are known for here in Delaware.

The Developmental Disabilities Council falls under the federal Developmental Disabilities Assistance and Bill of Rights Act of 2000 (P.L. 106-402) and has equal Councils in each state and Territory. You are familiar with the work that we have done in Delaware in your role U.S. Senator and previously as President of New Castle County Council.

The DD Councils are required to develop and fulfill a 5 year State Plan that is a collaborative event with people with disabilities and other disability organizations in each state. That plan is submitted to the Administration on Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities (AIDD) and updated each year for approval and reporting (<http://www.acf.hhs.gov/programs/aidd>).

The Delaware DD Council 5 year State Plan can be found on our web site at http://www.ddc.delaware.gov/pdf/2012/strategicplan_final_2012_2016.pdf.

Our priorities are included in our Plan, but we'd like to highlight them here, briefly, to let you know where are efforts are focused. The areas that our community decided that we should emphasize are:

Health and Health Care,
Employment for People with Disabilities,
Self-Advocacy,
Rights as American Citizens,
Education,
Inclusive Community Living.

As always, we welcome the opportunity to work with you on these and other issues facing people with disabilities and we are available to assist you should you have questions or concerns for Delaware and the nation as it affects disability. Our national organization, the National Association of Councils on Developmental Disabilities is also available to assist in Washington should you need a resource (www.nacdd.org).



Again, congratulations! We look forward to working with you.

Sincerely,

Diann Jones

Diann Jones
Chair

cc. Donna Meltzer, NACDD



The Delaware Developmental Disabilities Council is federally funded in compliance with the DD Act.