



2010 Annual Report

Utah Developmental Disabilities Council

Our Vision

A world where all people have what they need to get what they want from life.



Our Mission

The mission of the Utah Developmental Disabilities Council is to be the state's leading source of critical innovative, and progressive information, advocacy, leadership and collaboration to enhance the lives of individuals with developmental disabilities.



Visit the Council's website at www.utahddc.org
or call
801.533.3965 or 800.333.8824



A message from
Kelly Holt - Chairperson 2010

2010 is my final year for me after serving 6 years on the Council. It has been a wonderful privilege and I have learned so much. My own leadership skills have increased and I wouldn't trade the experience for anything.

This year the Council helped develop the Grassroots Advocacy Partnership (GAP) to help families and individuals with disabilities learn better how to talk with their elected leaders. We need to educate these leaders about how disability impacts our lives and to show them that we can be successful people. I know that the extra efforts of the GAP leadership helped lawmakers understand how important it is to support people with disabilities by paying for services. I know the work of the GAP helped us maintain the service budget instead of taking big addition cuts.

In July the Council set aside money to produce a video to highlight how important services are to families. The video will be shown this winter to help legislators and people understand how disabilities impact people's lives.

Bryon Murray, our SABLE Region 3 Representative, and I were selected to present at the National SABLE Conference in Kansas City in September. We did a great job of educating our fellow conference attendees as well as demonstrating our leadership skills!

As I complete my years of service to the Council, I appreciate the big impact the Council has had on my life as well as how the Council has improved the lives of the many people it has touched through the years.

2011 marks the 40th Anniversary of the Council in Utah!



UTAH DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES COUNCIL
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2009-2010 Year in Review Overview

Leadership Development Quality Assurance

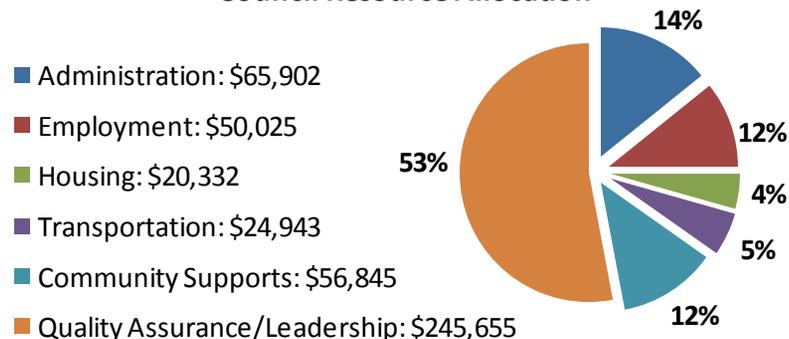
During the 2009-2010 fiscal year, the Council helped revitalize grassroots advocacy throughout Utah by hiring Regional Organizers who are responsible for developing the Grassroots Advocacy Partnership (the GAP). This partnership includes the Legislative Coalition for People with Disabilities, the Utah Statewide Independent Living Center as well as the five Independent Living Centers across the state, the Disability Law Center, the Family-to-Family Network, the Utah Parent Center, the Utah Association of Community Services and many other disability stakeholders. Through GAP efforts, the Utah State Legislature did not cut disability funding as deeply as anticipated during the 2010 legislative session.

The Council started the development of the next 5-Year Planning cycle for the Council. Led by John Agosta from the Human Services Research Institute, an intensive review during a two-day facilitated meeting in May began the work of developing the strategic plan.

How Does the Council Invest Its Resources?

During FY 2009-10, the Utah DD Council invested \$463,702 in grants and projects that directly benefit Utahns with developmental disabilities and their families. The funds are tied to specific outcomes identified by an extensive statewide needs-assessment in areas such as Employment, Housing, Transportation, Community Supports and Quality Assurance (Leadership Development).

Council Resource Allocation



Individual leaders continue to blossom and hone their self-advocate talents on the state level. Self-advocate Council members are actively involved in many different aspects of the statewide disability groups, including serving on the Boards of the Utah Parent Center, the Disability Law Center, the Autism Council and the Consumer Advisory Council at Utah State's Center for Persons with Disabilities.

The Council supports individual leaders who participate on the national level with the Self-Advocates Becoming Empowered (SABE) organization. National SABE Board member, Bryon Murray from Roosevelt, was re-elected to his second term as Region 3 Representative during the 2010 National SABE Conference in Kansas City. Seventeen Utahns attended the national conference and both Bryon Murray and our Council Chairperson, Kelly Holt were conference presenters.

In partnership with the Utah Statewide Independent Living Center, a delegation of youth advocates attended a National Youth Leadership Training in Raleigh, NC, in July. The delegates learned how to facilitate a new leadership curriculum and they returned to Utah fired up and inspired. They organized a "Disability Pride Parade" in September in conjunction with Special Olympics Utah's opening ceremony at the University of Utah with over 700 participants.

The Council provides outreach to Navajo self-advocates through a contract with Transitions in Blanding. Transitions supports four local People First groups including one in Monument Valley and Montezuma Creek.

The Utah State Board of Education honored South Valley Alumni People First Group Chairman Eric Stoker (center) for his work advocating for individuals with disabilities.



Transportation

The Council obligated \$50,000 towards building a partnership that will enable the Uintah Basin Association of Governments (UBAOG) to build transportation services along U.S. 40 from Duchesne to Vernal. The project has been slow to start because of funding problems and the lack of a person trained in mobility management. UBAOG is in the process of ordering an accessible bus that will cover a 60 mile route, scheduled to open in early 2011.

Council staff participate in the Regional Coordinating Council for transportation and attend bi-monthly meetings as well as meeting with the United We Ride group.

In addition, Council staff provided technical assistance to the Utah Transit Authority's Council on Accessible Transportation (CAT) Committee by revising and editing the UTA's paratransit rider's guide.



Employment

Utah Works was created in 2007 by a law that created the Purchasing from People with Disabilities Advisory Board. This Board meets monthly to review upcoming state contracts for possible set-asides for employment of people with disabilities.

The Council awarded Utah Works the last \$25,000 of a total of \$75,000 over the past three years. Now 206 people with disabilities are employed through state contracts. Utah Works has reached sustainability and has been awarded new funding from Vocational Rehabilitation. Additional state contracts are being explored and obtained.



The Council voted to participate in the Alliance for Full Participation which promotes employment for people with developmental disabilities. The baseline scorecard reflecting the current state employment statistics of people with developmental disabilities has been submitted nationally. A small committee of youth and their parents meet monthly to focus on helping transition-aged people get into the workforce.

The Council

Adina Zahradnikova	Don Uchida	Jennie Gibson	Robert Bucciare
Alan Ormsby	Eder Soriano	Jennifer Kuhn	Sherri Dial
Amy Weyrich	Elsie Dee	Kelly Holt	Suzanne Smith
Andrew Riggle	Eric Stoker	Kristen Hone	Tom Brownlee
Bill Young	Gabriel Vega	Lee Stephens	Tonya Hales
Bryce Fifield, Ph.D	Holly Williams	Nan Gray	Trevor Spackman
Deborah Bowman	James O'Neill	Nels Holmgren	Valarie Tanner
	Jane Tuttle	Nevah Stevenson	Rep. Paul Ray
	Jeanie Pettit	Reed Hahne	Sen. Pat Jones

Housing

The housing goal for the Council is for people with developmental disabilities to live where and with whom they choose and includes home ownership. In previous years the Council produced several videos and a housing resource guide available at www.utahddc.org. Council staff serve on the HomeChoice Loan Committee which enabled 13 families to purchase homes this year.

2010 marked the 20th Anniversary of the passage of the American's With Disabilities Act – a landmark civil rights bill for the community. Senator Orrin Hatch was a major sponsor of the original bill and he also helped with the reauthorization of the ADA this year. The Utah disability community recognized Senator Hatch with a special reception in his honor.



Community Supports Formal and Informal

The Council started a new grassroots effort - the GAP (Grassroots Advocacy Partnership) this year. The GAP's Regional Organizers train, support and disseminate information to families and individuals across Utah. These Regional Organizers are knowledgeable in the big picture political issues and support local individuals and teams in educating policy makers about disability issues and concerns. GAP members established such good relationships with members of the Health and Human Services Appropriations Committee that some major potential cuts to the Division of Services for People with Disabilities (DSPD) services were avoided. Over 200 GAP members are participating and utilizing social media to communicate about issues as well as traditional email and phone trees.

The Council established policies to administer the Respite Assistance Fund and donations from private sources are growing..

The Council funded scholarships that supported two parents and one family to attend conferences to assist them in developing their understanding of how disabilities impact their children.



2010 Annual Meeting: l to r: Doug Bull, Claire Mantonya, Eric Johnson, Kelly Holt, Tom Brownlee, Eric Stoker, Reed Hahne, James O'Neill.