

The DDC Five-Year State Plan 2022-2026 Draft

Virtual Public Hearings and 45-Day Public Comment Period (ENGLISH)

The District of Columbia Developmental Disabilities Council (DDC) is in the process of developing a new Five-Year State Plan for fiscal years 2022–2026. The State Plan will guide the future direction and goals of the DDC and will reflect the diverse voices of the communities.

The draft for the DDC Five-Year State Plan 2022-2026 goals, objectives, and priorities will be available for a 45-days public comment period. The DDC State Plan’s main goals are Self-Determination, Advocacy and Leadership, Employment, and Community Living. Other areas of emphasis include Education, Housing, Health, and Formal and Informal Community Support. The draft plan can be found here: <https://ddc.dc.gov/page/2022-2026-state-plan>

The 45-day public comment period for the DDC Five-Year State Plan 2022-2026 will begin on May 5, 2021, and last through June 18, 2021.

There are several ways to provide your feedback on the draft plan:

1. Attend one of two Virtual Public Hearings on Thursday, May 27, 2021, from 10:00 AM to 11:00 AM and 1:00 PM to 2:00 PM. Register in advance here: <https://ddc.dc.gov/page/2022-2026-state-plan>
2. Complete our public comments survey directly. Links to our survey in English, Spanish, Amharic, Korean, Vietnamese, Chinese, and French can be found at: <https://ddc.dc.gov/page/2022-2026-state-plan>
3. Email your comments to: ddcstateplan.comments@dc.gov
4. Mail your comments to: Developmental Disabilities Council, 441 4th Street, NW, Suite 729N, Washington, DC 20001

If you need support or accommodations to provide your feedback, please contact Alison Whyte at alison.whyte@dc.gov or call/text 202-340-8563.

The Developmental Disabilities Council of the District of Columbia seeks to strengthen the voice of people with developmental disabilities and their families in DC in support of greater independence, inclusion, empowerment, and the pursuit of life as they choose. We strive to create change that eliminates discrimination and removes barriers to full inclusion through our advocacy. The DDC is established and operates by the Developmental Disabilities Assistance and Bill of Rights Act of 2000 -Public Law 106-402.

DC Developmental Disabilities Council Five-Year State Plan

Proposed Goals and Objectives

Fiscal Years 2022-2026

Values that influence all our work

Diversity, equity, and inclusion
Cultural and linguistic competence
Person centered thinking
Social justice and intersectionality
Human and civil rights
Leadership and advocacy
Collaboration

Goal 1: Self-Determination, Advocacy, and Leadership

By September 2026, people with developmental disabilities and their families in DC, including those with diverse cultural identities, will have increased their a) knowledge of and skills in self-determination, advocacy, and leadership, and b) capacity to educate and inform policy makers to promote equity and inclusion.

Objective 1

By September 2026, the DDC will have done all of the following: (a) strengthened at least one self-advocacy organization led by people with developmental disabilities, (b) supported opportunities for self-advocate leaders to provide training to other people with DD with diverse cultural identities who may become leaders, and (c) supported and expanded participation of people with DD in cross-disability, culturally diverse leadership and advocacy coalitions. This objective will result in increased participation of people with DD in advocacy activities and leadership positions that impact the design of and access to services and supports to build inclusive communities. The DDC will accomplish this objective with the collaboration of the DD Network Partners (Georgetown University Center for Excellence in Developmental Disabilities (GUCEDD) and Disability Rights DC at University Legal Services (P&A). *(It is estimated at least 5 organizations will participate in a collaborative effort and at least 150 individuals will participate and benefit from this activity over the five-year plan)*

Objective 2

By September 2026, the DDC will have increased the knowledge and participation of individuals with DD from the Latina/o/x and Hispanic community in advocacy efforts, through family engagement and training for improved access to culturally and linguistically competent resources and information. In accomplishing this objective, we will build upon the strengths and resilience of the Latina/o/x and Hispanic community. This objective will result in increased knowledge and leadership skills, increased access to information in Spanish and plain language, an increase in Latina/o/x and Hispanic community members serving in leadership positions and overall increased access to culturally and linguistically competent supports to build

equity and inclusion in the DC communities. The DDC will accomplish this objective with the collaboration of the DD Network Partners (Georgetown University Center for Excellence in Developmental Disabilities (GUCEDD) and Disability Rights DC at University Legal Services (P&A). *(It is estimated at least 5 organizations will participate in a collaborative effort and at least 50 individuals will participate and benefit from this activity over the five-year plan)*

Targeted Disparity: Decrease disparity of access to culturally and linguistically competent services, supports, and information for the Latina/o/x community in DC with an emphasis on engaging individuals and Spanish-speaking families and support systems in ways that honor the strengths and resilience of the community, address the complex needs and family dynamics of the Latina/o/x communities.

Objective 3

By September 2026, the DDC will have increased the capacity of people with DD and their families with diverse cultural identities to engage in policy advocacy to support equity in services and supports, social justice initiatives, and other policies that facilitate inclusion of people with DD and their families in communities. This objective will result in a well-informed and supported community of advocates with disabilities and family members. The DDC will accomplish this objective with the collaboration of the DD Network Partners (Georgetown University Center for Excellence in Developmental Disabilities (GUCEDD) and Disability Rights DC at University Legal Services (P&A), other community organizations, and community leaders and advocates. *(It is estimated at least 3 organizations will participate in a collaborative effort and at least 50 individuals will participate and benefit from this activity over the five-year plan)*

Goal 2: Employment

By September 2026, the DDC will have collaborated with employment-focused partners in systems change efforts to promote equal employment opportunities for people with DD through: a) supporting and educating communities about competitive, integrated employment; b) building public awareness among communities and employers about the benefits of employment of people with disabilities; and c) supporting efforts to increase inclusive work environments and more competitive, integrated employment opportunities.

Objective 1

By September 2026, the DDC will have increased awareness among DC-based employers and DC communities of the benefits of hiring people with developmental disabilities in competitive, integrated employment through a multifaceted, evolving strategy that is focused on employment first and competitive integrated employment initiatives in a collaborative effort with agencies, organizations, and employers. This objective will result in more inclusive work environments and more people with DD employed in integrated settings. *(It is estimated at least 3 organizations will participate in a collaborative effort and at least 50 individuals will participate and benefit from this activity over the five-year plan)*

Objective 2

By September 2026, the DDC will have supported and advocated for at least one policy and program for more inclusive employment opportunities for people with developmental disabilities within the DC government through interagency collaboration. This objective will result in more inclusive work environments and more people with DD employed in DC government. *(It is estimated at least 5*

organizations will participate in a collaborative effort and at least 50 individuals will participate and benefit from this activity over the five-year plan)

Goal 3: Community Living

By September 2026, people with DD and their families, with diverse cultural identities, will have the skills, resources, and supports that they need to thrive in their communities.

Objective 1

By September 2026, the DDC will have increased access to information, support, and training and technical assistance to professionals, grantees, community advocates, and other organizations related to person and family-centered thinking, cultural and linguistic competence, and leadership. This objective will result in systems and programs that are informed by person and family-centered principles and cultural and linguistic competence, as well as community leaders that promote equity, social justice, and inclusion of people with DD and their families in the community. The DDC will accomplish this objective with the collaboration of the DD Network Partners (Georgetown University Center for Excellence in Developmental Disabilities (GUCEDD) and Disability Rights DC at University Legal Services (P&A). *(It is estimated at least 3 organizations will participate in a collaborative effort and at least 100 individuals will participate and benefit from this activity over the five-year plan)*

Objective 2

By September 2026, the DDC will have supported activities and programs to explore and promote healthy interpersonal relationships (social, professional, intimate, and/or sexual) in ways that acknowledge the dignity of risk and balance safe practices. This objective will result in an increase in the knowledge, abilities, and skills of people with DD and their families with diverse cultural identities to engage in and support interpersonal relationships and contribute to a cultural shift towards acceptance and inclusion of these relationships in our view of society. *(It is estimated at least 3 organizations will participate in a collaborative effort and at least 100 individuals will participate and benefit from this activity over the five-year plan)*

Objective 3

By 2026, the DDC will have increased the capacity of people with DD and their families with diverse identities to understand and navigate transitions of services and supports throughout the life course, including but not limited to, transition from Part C to Part B of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA), secondary transition, and healthcare transitions. This objective will result in an increase in the knowledge, abilities, and skills to successfully advocate for what is needed during each transition period. The DDC will accomplish this objective with the collaboration of the DD Network Partners (Georgetown University Center for Excellence in Developmental Disabilities (GUCEDD) and Disability Rights DC at University Legal Services (P&A). *(It is estimated at least 3 organizations will participate in a collaborative effort and at least 75 individuals will participate and benefit from this activity over the five-year plan)*

Objective 4

By September 2026, the DDC will have increased the capacity of people with DD and their families, including those with diverse identities, to engage with their communities through technology and communications strategies that celebrate the disability community, and support to take advantage of a

variety of civic engagement opportunities. This objective will result in fewer barriers for people with DD and their families to enjoy full lives as integral members of their communities. *(It is estimated at least 5 organizations will participate in a collaborative effort and at least 100 individuals will participate and benefit from this activity over the five-year plan)*

Objective 5

By September 2026, the DDC will have supported at least one policy or program that involves interagency collaboration to decrease barriers to information and access to affordable and accessible housing options for people with DD in DC. This objective will result in increased stakeholder engagement in advocacy for affordable and accessible housing. *(It is estimated at least 2 organizations will participate in a collaborative effort and at least 25 individuals will participate and benefit from this activity over the five-year plan)*