*District of Columbia*

*Developmental Disabilities Council*

# FINAL FIVE-

YEAR STATE PLAN

FY 2017 – 2021

June 2017 Revision 2

**Mission:** *The Developmental Disabilities Council (DDC)[[1]](#footnote-1) 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 District of Columbia Developmental Disabilities Council (DDC) is pleased to disseminate the New Five Year State Plan (Plan) describing goals, objectives and activities for fiscal years 2017 through 2021. This Plan represents the DDC’s commitment to fulfilling our responsibility to our District residents with developmental disabilities and their families as authorized in the federal legislation, Developmental Disabilities Assistance and Bill of Rights Act of 2000. The Plan is based on extensive community outreach over the past several months through:

* Development and posting of an online survey tool on the DDC website that is available in English and Spanish.
* Collection of nearly 200 completed surveys from District residents with developmental disabilities, family members, friends and stakeholders representing all eight wards. Survey results are posted on line.
* Meetings with District residents and the families involved with the Supporting Families Community of Practice, Project ACTION!, Parents Advocacy Leaders (PALS) Group, Georgetown University Center for Excellence in Developmental Disabilities Consumer Action Advisory Council, and other community stakeholders to solicit input and feedback; and
* Community forums at the Martin Luther King, Jr. Library and at the R.I.S.E. Demonstration Center. Participants identified areas of emphasis for the DDC’s consideration: 1) Self-Determination, Advocacy and Leadership; 2) Employment; 3) Education; and 4) Community Living. Focus groups were conducted in support of these four areas of emphasis. Participants’ ideas, suggestions and activities were recorded and documented on the DDC website.
* Two individual public comment periods conducted: 1) May 6 – June 21, 2016 and; 2) June 24 – August 9, 2016.

**SELF-DETERMINATION, ADVOCACY, & LEADERSHIP**

District residents with developmental disabilities and their families will be given accurate, timely information to make informed decisions regarding service delivery options available to them and provided opportunities to exercise and exhibit their self-empowerment and determination that lead to their increased productivity, independence, and quality of life as they choose.

**OBJECTIVE #1: DC residents with DD and family members will be supported in strengthening their self-determination, advocacy and leadership skills.**

Activity #1: Develop and coordinate the grant competitive process with the DC Office of Contracting

& Procurement for advanced DC Advocacy Program (DCAP) 2.0 for 18 or more DCAP graduates

per year with an emphasis on effective negotiating skills, effective leadership and mentoring.

Fiscal Year (FY) 18 and 21

Activity #2: Develop and coordinate competitive process with the DC Office of Contracting & Procurement

the General DC Advocacy Program (DCAP) 1.0 to 15 or more District residents with developmental disabilities and/or family members of children with developmental disabilities. FY 18 – 20

Activity #3: Coordinate with the self-advocacy organization-Project Action!, Quality Trust, Arc of DC,

Georgetown University Center for Child and Human Development (UCEDD) and Disability DC

(P&A) to provide technical assistance to at least 25 or more District residents with DD, family

members and DCAP participants and graduates to successfully develop testimonies and deliver

remarks on policy issues before the Council of the District of Columbia, Federal and District

Government agencies and/or U.S. Congress annually.

Activity #4: By FY 21, assist in identifying, recruiting and nominating at least 25 self-advocates, parents/guardians and/or DCAP graduates to actively serve on various national and local boards and commissions.

Activity #5: Support, sponsor and/or conduct two (2) or more local self-determination and advocacy events

with emphasis on leadership, civil rights, housing, transportation education, home & community-

based supports and/or behavioral health annually.

Activity #6: Pending funding availability, support five (5) or more self-advocates, family members, and/or

DCAP participants and graduates to attend national and regional conferences (i.e., SABE, TASH,

NCIL, APSE, AUCD, Disability Policy Seminar, etc) to identify current best practices and trends in the disability field annually.

**OBJECTIVE #2: District residents with DD and/or family members will have opportunities to serve as a valued partner to the DC Homeland Security and Emergency Management Agency and other first responder stakeholders to incorporate the functional and accessibility needs of District residents with developmental disabilities in emergency planning. (FY17-21)**

Activity #1: Actively participate on the DC Presidential Inaugural Committee (PIC) to address the functional and accessibility needs of individuals with disabilities in accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act during the Presidential Inauguration in January 2017 and January 2021, respectively.

Activity #2: Coordinate with the appropriate stakeholders to ensure that emergency preparedness information is accessible through multiple methods of communications utilized by individuals with developmental disabilities.

Activity #3: Advocate for and secure the participation of at least five (5) District residents with developmental disabilities and families in mock District-wide emergency preparedness events.

**OBJECTIVE #3: Individuals with DD and/or family members will be supported in their Civic Responsibility and Voter Registration/Education. (FY20-21)**

Activity #1: Provide training and education on the electoral process, accessibility options, and using the voting equipment to 50 or more District residents with DD.

Activity #2: In collaboration with the Board of Election and Ethics and local disability organizations, DDC will conduct voter registration campaigns, whenever necessary.

Activity #3: Encourage and identify registered voters with developmental disabilities to serve as poll workers on election day.

Activity #4: In collaboration with the Board of Election and Ethics, offer mock polling stations for District voters with developmental disabilities so these citizens can become familiar with the physical set-up of polling stations and exercising their civic duty to vote by using paper ballots or casting their ballot on electronic machines.

**OBJECTIVE #4: The DDC in collaboration with Georgetown University Center for Child and Human Development (UCEDD) and Disability DC (P&A) will strengthen at least one statewide self-advocacy organization, support leadership training opportunities by and for self-advocates and support/expand participation of self-advocates in cross-disability and cultural diverse coalitions.**

Activity #1: Provide funding, information, technical assistance and leadership to organization of individuals with DD to effectively educate policy makers and other advocates on the development and improvement of programs, services and supports for people with DD.

Activity #2: Provide info and support for participating in cross-disabilities and cultural diverse coalitions and advisory boards.

**EMPLOYMENT**

Transition youth and adults with developmental disabilities will have meaningful employment opportunities with competitive wages that allow these citizens to exhibit their talents, skills, and abilities in an inclusive environment working alongside their peers without disabilities in the District of Columbia.

**OBJECTIVE #1: At least twenty five (25) individuals with developmental and other disabilities between ages 14–24 will receive competitive placements in the District’s Summer Youth Employment Program (SYEP) annually. (FY17-21)**

Activity #1:Partner with the DC Rehabilitation Services Administration, and other appropriate private and public stakeholders in identifying and hiring high school students with developmental disabilities to participate in the annual program.

**OBJECTIVE #2: Disability Mentoring Days (DMDs) – In recognition of October as “Disability Employment Awareness Month”, DMDs will introduce thirty (30) or more job seekers, high school, college and/or graduate students with developmental and/or other disabilities to potential employment opportunities within the DC Metropolitan Area annually. (FY17-21)**

Activity #1: Fifteen (15) or more agencies or companies will participate and serve as mentor sites in the annual program. Encourage all employees to participate and serve as mentors, including employees with developmental disabilities.

Activity #2: DDC will conduct outreach and obtain thirty (30) or more applications for this annual program.

Activity #3: Collaborate and partner with agencies and companies to offer paid and unpaid internships to college and high school students with developmental disabilities.

**OBJECTIVE #3: At least twenty (20) youth with developmental disabilities, age fourteen (14) and under and their parents/guardian will participate in a program to begin setting high expectations and employment planning at an early age. (FY19-21)**

Activity #1: Teach and share information regarding Supporting Families Community of Practice.

Activity #2: Youth and parents will apply principles learned and assist in the identification of person–centered goals and expectations, including a trajectory for employment for the youth.

**EDUCATION**

Students with developmental disabilities and their families are given accurate, timely information regarding the educational services available in the District of Columbia and the applicable District and Federal laws and policies that impact and protect our infants, toddlers, and students receiving these services.

**OBJECTIVE #1: More than three hundred (300) high school students in transition will participate in meaningful opportunities to demonstrate their self-determination and advocacy skills and/or learn more about their protected rights, post-secondary education opportunities, and employment options. (FY17-21)**

Activity #1: Partner with the DC Rehabilitation Services Administration (DCRSA), Office of Disability Rights and other appropriate private and public stakeholders to connect with local high school students with disabilities.

Activity #2: Conduct training and information sessions for students regarding Americans with Disabilities Act, reasonable accommodations, assistive technologies, etc.

Activity #3: In collaboration with appropriate private and public stakeholders, coordinate and host the District-wide Secondary Transition Event.

**OBJECTIVE #2: Will strengthen and increase utilization of Early Intervention Services in the District. (FY19-21)**

Activity #1**:** Partner with the Georgetown University Center for Child and Human Development (UCEDD), CDC "Learn the Signs. Act Early" Ambassador for the District of Columbia, DC Act Early Team, and other appropriate stakeholders with expertise and understanding of early intervention services to inform and educate families and other community members.

Activity #2: Disseminate information regarding opportunities to participate in the Early Intervention Services Certification Program available through the UCEDD with the general public.

Activity #3: Educate general public, policymakers, and Part C & B administrators on the importance of expanding early intervention services available to families.

Activity #4: Disseminate CDC "Learn the Signs. Act Early" materials and other relevant information to families.

Activity #5: In partnership with the CDC "Learn the Signs. Act Early" Ambassador for the District of Columbia, educate policymakers and administrators on the importance of identifying quality early intervention service providers and coordinated service delivery offered to the families.

Activity #6: In partnership with the CDC "Learn the Signs. Act Early" Ambassador for the District of Columbia, educate twenty (20) or more parents/guardians of the early intervention services available to their infants and toddlers with developmental delays.

**COMMUNITY LIVING**

District residents with developmental disabilities and their families are: A) Given accurate, timely information to make informed decisions regarding home and community-based services and options available to them; and B) Provided educational opportunities to learn how to improve their own health and wellness outcomes while they are serving to be valued citizens actively contributing to all facets of community life in the District of Columbia.

**OBJECTIVE #1: In partnership with the DC Department on Disability Services (DDS) and other appropriate private and public stakeholders, continue to strengthen the capacity of the *Supporting Families* Community of Practice[[2]](#footnote-2) and its initiatives. (FY17-21)**

Activity #1: In partnership with DDS and other District government agencies, establish a Parent-to-Parent[[3]](#footnote-3)/Family-to-Family Chapter and assist in building its long-term capacity.

Activity #2: Assist DDS in identifying new members from diverse backgrounds and share information on the

Lifecourse Framework and the learnings from the Supporting Families Community of Practice.

**OBJECTIVE #2: At least ten or more District residents with DD will learn about and demonstrate the principles of *Living a Healthy Lifestyle*. (FY18-21)**

Activity #1: Develop and fund a Living a Healthy Lifestyle program to: 1) teach and demonstrate healthy eating habits and prepare meals for ten residents with DD; and 2) teach and demonstrate helpful exercise techniques to remain physically fit and healthy for ten residents with DD.

**OBJECTIVE #3: Individuals with DD and/or their family members will have access and opportunity to participate in the *Next Chapter Book Clubs[[4]](#footnote-4)* in the District of Columbia. (FY18; FY20)**

Activity #1: DDC will partner with the *Next Chapter* National Organization and DC Public Libraries. These organizations possess expertise with establishing *Next Chapter Book Clubs*, which are **inclusive** of members with and without intellectual disabilities.

Activity #2: DDC will fund and establish two *Next Chapter Book Clubs*.

**OBJECTIVE #4: District residents with DD and/or family members will have access to information about Housing Rights and Options to make informed decisions about their protected rights and housing options. (FY17-21)**

Activity #1: In partnership with the DC Office of Human Rights, DC Department of Housing and Community Development, and the Equal Rights Center, the DDC will sponsor and conduct the Fair Housing Act Symposium annually.

Activity #2: The DDC along with other advocates will educate policymakers and administrators on the challenges and barriers faced by District residents with developmental disabilities and their families in hope of improving and increasing the availability of affordable and accessible housing in the District.

**OBJECTIVE #5: At least 40 individuals with DD and/or family member will have access and the opportunity to participate in the *Community Service and Recreational Opportunities* Program. (FY20-21)**

Activity #1: *Community Service and Recreational Opportunities* program will be funded and implemented during FY20. Please Note: The DDC will have the opportunity to exercise one additional option year and continue the program through FY21.

Activity #2: Participants will take part in and benefit from inclusive recreational, social and community service

activities consistent with their interests and abilities.

**CROSS-CUTTING**

The Developmental Disabilities Council will actively collaborate with national and local organizations and government agencies to develop or improve upon legislation, regulations, policies, programs and other related activities that result in increased level of cultural and linguistic competence, advance person-centered planning, understanding, and acceptance of District residents with developmental disabilities, their families, and the culturally diverse backgrounds that they bring to our community.

**OBJECTIVE #1: Support the effective outreach and implementation of the new *No Wrong Door* (NWD)[[5]](#footnote-5) Program and its initiatives for people with developmental disabilities and their family/caregivers to make informed choices regarding long term supports and services they prefer and need in order to live with dignity in their homes and be fully included in their communities. (FY17-20)**

Activity #1: Serve as a valued partner to the DC Department on Disability Services (DDS), Office of

Aging/Aging and Disability Resources, Department on Behavior Health and other government stakeholders by offering recommendations and suggestions throughout the NWD implementation process via community outreach and feedback forums including existing partners.

Activity #2: Assist with disseminating NWD resources, such as the NWD E-Newsletter and other information

to the developmental disabilities community.

Activity #3: Assist DDS in identifying and recruiting a minimum of four (4) or more District residents with

developmental disabilities and family members reflective of all ages per year to participate in

Person Centered Planning (PCT) sessions and nominate candidates to become official PCT

trainers in support of the NWD program.

**OBJECTIVE #2: Residents of the District of Columbia will have increased information about people with developmental disabilities and their accomplishments/achievements. (FY17-21)**

Activity #1: Sponsor and conduct one (1) Community Outreach and Feedback Forum annually.

Activity #2: Maintain and offer relevant information through the DDC website.

Activity #3: Produce and disseminate at least four (4) press releases about the DDC activities & initiatives annually.

Activity #4: Develop and disseminate three (3) DDC newsletters annually.

Activity #5: Sponsor and conduct one (1) Accomplishments and Achievements Event in FY18 and FY20.

**OBJECTIVE #3: Collaborate with the DC Commission on Persons with Disabilities annually on events such**

**as the Mayor’s Expo on Disability Awareness.**

Activity #1: Submit annual report to the Mayor listing recommendations for improvement from the DDC and the

DC Commission on Persons with Disabilities.

Activity #2: Collaborate/assist in the planning and/or execution of the Mayor’s Expo on Disability Awareness.

**OBJECTIVE #4: \*\*\*TARGETED DISPARITY\*\*\*By FY 21, an increased number of American Indian,**

**Asian and Pacific Islander students and/or adults with developmental disabilities will have information,**

**access and support to enable them to participate in the community.**

Activity #1: Partner with the National Center for American Indians with Disabilities (NCAID) and the Mayor’s Office on Asian & Pacific Islander Affairs to do community outreach and increase number of American Indian, Asian and Pacific Islander students and/or adults with developmental disabilities getting the information and participating in community living activities.

Activity #2: Partner with NCAID and the Mayor’s Office on Asian & Pacific Islander Affairs to recruit and identify community members with developmental disabilities and their families to participate in leadership and advocacy activities sponsored by the DC DDC.

**OBJECTIVES BY AREA OF EMPHASIS BY YEAR**

**Fiscal Year 2017**

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| **SELF-DETERMINATION, ADVOCACY, & LEADERSHIP** |
| OBJECTIVE #1: DC residents with DD and family members will be supported in strengthening their self-determination, advocacy and leadership skills. |
| OBJECTIVE #2: District residents with DD and/or family members will have opportunities to serve as a valued partner to the DC Homeland Security and Emergency Management Agency and other first responder stakeholders to incorporate the functional and accessibility needs of District residents with developmental disabilities in emergency planning. |
| OBJECTIVE #4: The DDC in collaboration with Georgetown University Center for Child and Human Development (UCEDD) and Disability DC (P&A) will strengthen at least one statewide self-advocacy organization, support leadership training opportunities by and for self-advocates and support/expand participation of self-advocates in cross-disability and cultural diverse coalitions. |
| **EMPLOYMENT** |
| OBJECTIVE #1: At least twenty five (25) individuals with developmental and other disabilities between ages 14–24 will receive competitive placements in the District’s Summer Youth Employment Program (SYEP) annually. |
| OBJECTIVE #2: Disability Mentoring Days (DMDs) – In recognition of October as “Disability Employment Awareness Month”, DMDs will introduce thirty (30) or more job seekers, high school, college and/or graduate students with developmental and/or other disabilities to potential employment opportunities within the DC Metropolitan Area annually. |
| **EDUCATION** |
| OBJECTIVE #1: More than three hundred (300) high school students in transition in meaningful opportunities to demonstrate their self-determination and advocacy skills or learn more about their protected rights, post-secondary education opportunities and employment options. |
| **COMMUNITY LIVING** |
| OBJECTIVE #1: In partnership with the DC Department on Disability Services (DDS) and other appropriate private and public stakeholders, DDC will continue to strengthen the capacity of the Supporting Families Community of Practice and its initiatives. |
| OBJECTIVE #4: District residents with DD and/or family members will have access to accurate information about Housing Rights and Options to make informed decisions about their protected rights and housing options available in the District of Columbia. |
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| **CROSS CUTTING** |
| OBJECTIVE #1: Support the effective outreach and implementation of the new No Wrong Door (NWD) Program and its initiatives for people with developmental disabilities and their families/caregivers to make informed choices regarding long term supports and services they prefer and need in order to live with dignity in their homes and be fully included in their communities. |
| OBJECTIVE #2: Residents of the District of Columbia will have increased information about people with developmental disabilities and their accomplishments/achievements. |
| OBJECTIVE #3: Collaborate with the DC Commission on Persons with Disabilities annually on events such as the Mayor’s Expo on Disability Awareness. |

**Fiscal Year 2018**

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| **SELF-DETERMINATION, ADVOCACY, & LEADERSHIP** |
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| **EDUCATION** |
| OBJECTIVE #1: More than three hundred (300) high school students in transition will participate in meaningful opportunities to demonstrate their self-determination and advocacy skills and/or learn more about their protected rights, post-secondary education opportunities and employment options. |
| **COMMUNITY LIVING** |
| OBJECTIVE #1: In partnership with the DC Department on Disability Services (DDS) and other appropriate private and public stakeholders, DDC will continue to strengthen the capacity of the Supporting Families Community of Practice and its initiatives. |
| OBJECTIVE #2: At least ten or more District residents with DD will learn about and demonstrate the principles of Living a Healthy Lifestyle. |
| OBJECTIVE #3: Individuals with DD and/or their family members will have access and opportunity to participate in the Next Chapter Book Clubs in the District of Columbia. |
| OBJECTIVE #4: District residents with DD and/or family members will have access to accurate information about Housing Rights and Options to make informed decisions about their protected rights and housing options available in the District of Columbia. |
| **CROSS CUTTING** |
| OBJECTIVE #1: Support the effective outreach and implementation of the new No Wrong Door (NWD) Program and its initiatives for people with developmental disabilities and their families/caregivers to make informed choices regarding long term supports and services they prefer and need in order to live with dignity in their homes and be fully included in their communities. |
| OBJECTIVE #2: Residents of the District of Columbia will have increased information about people with developmental disabilities and their accomplishments/achievements. |
| OBJECTIVE #3: Collaborate with the DC Commission on Persons with Disabilities on events such as the Mayor’s Expo on Disability Awareness. |
| OBJECTIVE #4: By FY 21, an increased number of American Indian, Asian and Pacific Islander students and/or adults with developmental disabilities will have information, access and support to enable them to participate in the community. |

**Fiscal Year 2019**

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| **SELF-DETERMINATION, ADVOCACY, & LEADERSHIP** |
| OBJECTIVE #1: DC residents with DD and family members will be supported in strengthening their self-determination, advocacy and leadership skills. |
| OBJECTIVE #2: District residents with DD and/or family members will have opportunities to serve as a valued partner to the DC Homeland Security and Emergency Management Agency and other first responder stakeholders to incorporate the functional and accessibility needs of District residents with developmental disabilities in emergency planning. |
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| **EMPLOYMENT** |
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| OBJECTIVE #3: At least 20 youth with developmental disabilities, age 14 and under and their parents/guardians will participate in a program to begin setting high expectations and employment planning at an early age. |
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| **EDUCATION** |
| OBJECTIVE #1: More than three hundred (300) high school students in transition in meaningful opportunities to demonstrate their self-determination and advocacy skills or learn more about their protected rights, post-secondary education opportunities and employment options. |
| OBJECTIVE #2: Strengthen and increase utilization of Early Intervention Services in the District. |
| **COMMUNITY LIVING** |
| OBJECTIVE #1: In partnership with the DC Department on Disability Services (DDS) and other appropriate private and public stakeholders, DDC will continue to strengthen the capacity of the Supporting Families Community of Practice and its initiatives. |
| OBJECTIVE #2: At least ten or more District residents with DD will learn about and demonstrate the principles of Living a Healthy Lifestyle Program. |
| OBJECTIVE #4: District residents with DD and/or family members will have access to accurate information about Housing Rights and Options to make informed decisions about their protected rights and housing options available in the District of Columbia. |
| **CROSS CUTTING** |
| OBJECTIVE #2: Revisit, evaluate and assess the DDC’s plan to ensure that matters of cultural and linguistic competence are properly and accurately being addressed by the DDC. |
| OBJECTIVE #3: Support the effective outreach and implementation of the new No Wrong Door (NWD) Program and its initiatives for people with developmental disabilities and their families/caregivers to make informed choices regarding long term supports and services they prefer and need in order to live with dignity in their homes and be fully included in their communities. |
| OBJECTIVE #4: Developmental Disabilities Public Awareness, Accomplishments and Achievements. |

**Fiscal Year 2020**

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| **-DETERMINATION, ADVOCACY, & LEADERSHIP** |
| OBJECTIVE #1: DC residents with DD and family members will be supported in strengthening their self-determination, advocacy and leadership skills. |
| OBJECTIVE #2: District residents with DD and/or family members will have opportunities to serve as a valued partner to the DC Homeland Security and Emergency Management Agency and other first responder stakeholders to incorporate the functional and accessibility needs of District residents with developmental disabilities in emergency planning. |
| OBJECTIVE #3: Individuals with DD and/or family members will be supported in their Civic Responsibility and Voter Registration/Education. |
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| OBJECTIVE #2: Strengthen and increase utilization of Early Intervention Services in the District. |
| **COMMUNITY LIVING** |
| OBJECTIVE #1: In partnership with the DC Department on Disability Services (DDS) and other appropriate private and public stakeholders, DDC will continue to strengthen the capacity of the Supporting Families Community of Practice and its initiatives. |
| OBJECTIVE #2: At least ten or more District residents with DD will learn about and demonstrate the principles of Living a Healthy Lifestyle Program. |
| OBJECTIVE #3: Individuals with DD and/or their family members will have access and opportunity to participate in the Next Chapter Book Clubs in the District of Columbia. |
| OBJECTIVE #4: District residents with DD and/or family members will have access to accurate information about Housing Rights and Options to make informed decisions about their protected rights and housing options available in the District of Columbia. |
| OBJECTIVE #5: At least 40 individuals with DD and/or family members will have access and the opportunity to participate in the Community Service and Recreational Opportunities Program. |
| **CROSS CUTTING** |
| OBJECTIVE #2: Revisit, evaluate and assess the DDC’s plan to ensure that matters of cultural and linguistic competence are properly and accurately being addressed by the DDC. |
| OBJECTIVE #3: Support the effective outreach and implementation of the new No Wrong Door (NWD) Program and its initiatives for people with developmental disabilities and their families/caregivers to make informed choices regarding long term supports and services they prefer and need in order to live with dignity in their homes and be fully included in their communities. |
| OBJECTIVE #4: Developmental Disabilities Public Awareness, Accomplishments and Achievements. |

**Fiscal Year 2021**

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1. <http://ddc.dc.gov/> [↑](#footnote-ref-1)
2. <http://dds.dc.gov/page/dc-supporting-families-community-practice> [↑](#footnote-ref-2)
3. <http://www.p2pusa.org/p2pusa/sitepages/p2p-home.aspx> [↑](#footnote-ref-3)
4. <http://www.nextchapterbookclub.org/> [↑](#footnote-ref-4)
5. <http://dds.dc.gov/page/no-wrong-door> [↑](#footnote-ref-5)