



CALLING ALL ADVOCATES ~ February 2017

What's happening in the disability community in New Mexico

Unite in support of the **DDPC** goals of Advocacy, Capacity Building and Systems Change

The **Developmental Disabilities Planning Council (DDPC)** is a group of individuals including self-advocates, family members, professionals, employees and dedicated individuals uniting for one mission. Our mission is that the **New Mexico Developmental Disabilities Planning Council** will promote advocacy, capacity building, and systemic change to improve the quality of life for New Mexicans with developmental disabilities and their families. For more in-depth information on the **DDPC**, take a look at [our council's five goals](#).

Recent DDPC COUNCIL News

The Council is seeking members from **outside the Albuquerque metro area**. All applications need to go through the Governor's website: <http://www.governor.state.nm.us/>. On the website there is a drop-down box "Governor's Office" where you can chose "Boards and Commissions" and click on the line for "Apply for a Board Position." In the application, you can apply for the Council.

Guardianship Program Update: If you would like to request a **presentation on guardianship**, contact Maria Bourassa, Guardianship Program Manager at 505-841-4524 or maria.bourassa@state.nm.us. The Guardianship Program has been hard at work with court hearings, site visits to Guardianship providers and preparing the new online database.

Federal Program Update: This program provides funding from the United States Department of Health and Human Services, Administration for Community Living/Administration on Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities (AIDD) to engage in advocacy, capacity building and system change activities for individuals with developmental disabilities. This initiative conducts and supports programs, projects and activities that carry out the purpose of the Developmental Disabilities Assistance and Bill of Rights Act of 2000.

For example, the Federal Program funds **Disability Rights Awareness Day on February 23 and 24**. DDPC funds two contractors for DRAD: The Arc of New Mexico, who coordinates the DRAD logistics and Disability Rights New Mexico, who coordinates the DRAD Program through the Disability Coalition Steering Committee. DRAD is an annual disability convention in Santa Fe that coincides with the NM legislative session. Advocates are trained and empowered by advocating directly with legislators about their needs.

Center for Self Advocacy (CSA) Update: The Center staff will be attending and supporting the **Know Your Rights Town Hall Meetings** for Advocates, Family Members and Guardians in February, March, and early April. [Learn more](#). The February Town Halls will be held in Albuquerque, Santa Fe, Las Cruces, and Taos.

The CSA staff is also preparing to present a 14-week pilot of their new Advocate Coach Training (ACT) leadership development program for individuals with intellectual/developmental disabilities that begins in March. If you would like to apply by June 1 for the program that begins in mid-July, [click here for the application](#).

To learn more about and see the amazing accomplishments of project teams in the 2016 Fall Class, click [here](#).

To schedule outreach events conducted by CSA, contact Suzanne at 505-670-5698 or email: Suzanne.kryder@state.nm.us.

FEATURED DDPC Staff



Daniel and his son

Daniel Ekman is the Program Manager at the New Mexico Center for Self Advocacy at the Developmental Disabilities Planning Council. He started at the New Mexico Center for Self Advocacy back in 2009 as a VISTA volunteer after being impressed by his experience as a participant in the Fall Class. He did many tasks and had a great learning experience during his two year term. He then was hired on as a Project Assistant in 2012 at the Center who continued his work on outreach and antibullying campaigns until taking his current

position last August.

He graduated with Honors with an MA Special Education from the University of New Mexico and won the 2013 Outstanding Student with a Disability Award from the Southwest Conference on Disability. He also received the 2011 Bob Thomas Award for Disability Advocacy from The Arc of New Mexico and will receive the Liz Thomson Award from Partners in Policymaking. He also currently a Diversity Fellow with the Association for University Centers on Disability. He has collaborated and volunteered with many organizations including the Jemez Vocational Rehabilitation Advisory Council, the New Mexico Autism Society, People First of New Mexico, New Mexico Young Disability Leaders, and New Mexico Allies for Advocacy among others.

More importantly than this, however, is that he is a proud father and husband. He has been married to his wife Rebecca since September 30, 2011 and Elias was born on April 22, 2016. He also enjoys spending time with his nieces, nephews and other extended family in New Mexico.

Legislative Reports from Disability Rights New Mexico

Jim Jackson writes a comprehensive report about disability issues in the New Mexico Legislature each week. Click on the report to access it.

[Report #1 for January 17-21, 2017](#)

[Report #2 for January 23-28, 2017](#)



Disability Awareness Curriculum Input Needed

The office of the Attorney General Outreach Division is developing a disability awareness curriculum. As part of this curriculum, they will have a section on their website with stories from the community. If you would like to be a part of this project, please contact Amira Rasheed, A.Rasheed@nmag.gov, 505-717-3584. More information about the project is [here](#).

February Events Contact 505-670-5698 to include your upcoming events.



February 1
State Employment Leadership Network's (SELN)
Systematic Instruction Webinar Series
12:00pm-1:30pm
Albuquerque
or online
[More information.](#)



February 3
Deadline for Project SEARCH applications
Albuquerque
[More information.](#)



Parents Reaching Out

February 8
Recipes for IEP Success
10:00am-12:00pm
and
4:00pm-6:00pm
Silver City
[More information.](#)



Parents Reaching Out

February 9
Care Mapping
10:00am-12:00pm
Albuquerque
[More information.](#)



February 9
School-to-Work Transition Team (SWTT) Meeting
10:00am-11:30am
Taos
[More information.](#)



February 9
Focus in ASD: Information to Consider When Selecting an ABA Service Provider
6:00pm-7:30 pm
Albuquerque
[More information.](#)



February 10
Hands On Workshop of Assistive Technology
8:00am-4:30 pm
Gallup
[More information.](#)



February 13-15
ADOS-2 Introductory Clinical Workshop
Albuquerque
More information at (505) 925-6033



February 15
Native American Parent Support Group



Parents Reaching Out

5:00pm-7:00pm
Albuquerque
[More information.](#)



February 16
Supported Employment Local Leader (SELL) Meeting
9:00am-10:00am
Albuquerque
[More information.](#)



Parents Reaching Out

February 16
Record Keeping Workshop-Keeping It All Together
1:00pm-3:00pm
Albuquerque
[More information.](#)



Parents Reaching Out

February 16
Accommodations & Modifications for Students
5:30pm-7:30pm
Albuquerque
[More information.](#)



February 16
Job-ING
5:30-7:30pm
Albuquerque
[More information.](#)



February 17
Resiliency: Find Your Inner Strength
3:00pm-4:00pm
Webinar

[More information.](#)



February 22
Resiliency: Find Your Inner Strength
5:30pm-7:30pm
Albuquerque
[More information.](#)



February 23
Hands On Workshop of Assistive Technology
8:00am-4:30 pm
Farmington
[More information.](#)



February 23
Parent to Parent Special Education Workshop
5:30pm-7:00pm
Gallup
[More information.](#)



February 23
Focus in ASD: Accessing the Community
6:00pm-7:30 pm
Albuquerque
[More information.](#)



Disability Rights Awareness Day
February 23 & 24, 2017
Santa Fe

The event is sponsored and funded by
the New Mexico Developmental Disabilities Planning Council.

The event is being organized by The Disability Coalition: The Arc of New Mexico, Disability Rights New Mexico, the Independent Living Resource Center, New Vistas, the New Mexico Governor's Commission on Disability, and the Developmental Disabilities Planning Council.

[Learn more.](#)



February 28
Supported Employment Local Leader (SELL) Meeting
1:00pm-2:30pm
Taos
[More information.](#)

Disability News & Upcoming Events

Contact [Daniel](#) to include your news and events

Two fun classes at the Mountain Dojo 319 Mountain NE Albuquerque

Drumming classes Tuesdays, Feb 7-May 2, for 12+ or adults. [Learn more.](#)
Martial Arts classes for Itty Bittys, Kids, or Adults on Thursdays. [Learn more.](#)

School to Work Transition: What We Need to Know for Successful Collaboration



March 1, 9am-4pm, Farmington [Learn more.](#)

March 2, 9am-4pm, Albuquerque [Learn more.](#)



Sustainability and Disability Conference - SUDI 2017

**Save the Date
March 2 - 3, 2017**

[Learn more.](#)

NM Technology Assistance Program



**Save the Date
March 10-11, 2017
Assistive Technology Conference 2017 (ATC17)**

[Learn more.](#)



The Arc of New Mexico

**Save the Date
March 31, 2017
Annual Sprout Film Festival**

[Learn more.](#)



Parents Reaching Out

Save the Date
April 20-21, 2017
13th Annual Family Leadership Conference, Albuquerque

Resources

For individuals on the Autism Spectrum, Facing Your Fears: Cognitive Behavioral Group Therapy approach to addressing Anxiety and Autism [Learn more.](#)

Autism Flexible Services Program: Program designed to help meet the needs of children with ASD and their families. [Learn more.](#)

For individuals on the Autism Spectrum and their peers, applications are currently available for Camp Rising Sun in June. [Learn more.](#)

From the New Mexico Crisis and Access Line: [Information in English and Spanish](#) and the [December 2016 Monthly Report](#)



Disability Rights New Mexico is looking for participant for two boards

The first board is the Disability Rights New Mexico Board of Directors.
The second board is for the Mental Health Advisory Council.

For more information on these boards and to apply, go to www.drn.org



Disability Rights New Mexico has moved

Their Albuquerque Office is no longer on Central and Louisiana. They are now located at 3916 Juan Tabo Blvd., NE, Albuquerque, NM 87111. Their new office is on the east side of Juan Tabo Blvd., NE, between Comanche and Montgomery. Turn east at the traffic light for "Juan Tabo Place", and they are in the second building on the right.

Their contact information has NOT changed.

Center for Self Advocacy

Exciting news and upcoming events at the **New Mexico Center for Self Advocacy**: [Keep up with our calendar of future events here.](#)

The Center for Self Advocacy has continued outreach to various schools. If you want **Center** staff to present at a school near you, contact Suzanne Kryder at Suzanne.Kryder@state.nm.us or 505-841-4571.

Guardianship Program

The **Guardianship Program** is a statewide, publicly funded guardianship services program for guardians of last resort for income and resource-eligible incapacitated adults.

The **Guardianship Program** provides guardians, legal services for court proceedings and even trained Mental Health Treatment Guardians. [Learn more about the essentials here.](#)

Federal Program

The **Federal Program** addresses five key areas including self-advocacy, education and early intervention, leadership/quality assurance, community action and support and employment.

The organizations funded through the **Federal Program** and others are supported by federal and state funding [Learn more here.](#)

[Visit us and learn more!](#)

New Mexico Developmental Disabilities Planning Council,
625 Silver Av. SW, Suite 100, Albuquerque, NM 87102