



CALLING ALL

ADVOCATES ~ March 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 choose "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 the [Policy & Legislative Advocacy Network \(PLAN\)](#) through Disability Rights New Mexico. PLAN's objective is to recruit and support individuals with disabilities, family members and other individuals to become involved with shaping public policy in New Mexico.

Center for Self Advocacy (CSA) Update: March is Developmental Disabilities Awareness Month! This is when we reach out beyond our everyday networks and highlight inclusion, contributions and togetherness.

To celebrate this month, a Side by Side event will be hosted later in March with [Disability Rights New Mexico](#), [UNM's Center for Development and Disability](#), and DDPC. The goal of the Side by Side campaign is to raise awareness by having people with and without disabilities share their stories about their lives, side by side. We would like to share your story. If you haven't shared it with us this year yet, please contact Daniel Ekman at 505-841-4558 or Daniel.Ekman@state.nm.us. And, look for our weekly email updates on Side by Side.

The Center staff will be attending and supporting the [Know Your Rights Town Hall Meetings](#) for Advocates, Family Members and Guardians in March and early April. The March Town Halls will be held in Roswell, Gallup, and Farmington. The April Town Hall will be in Silver City.

The CSA staff is also preparing to present a 14-week pilot of their new Advocate Leadership Academy, a 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 Suzanne.kryder@state.nm.us.

FEATURED DDPC Staff



Cynthia Berkheimer is an Advocate Trainer. She has worked at the Center for Self Advocacy for 8 years, part time. She likes to educate people on disability issues and knowing their rights. Her work includes helping people know how to speak to legislators, be successful on the job, and live independently. She graduated from North Rockland High School in 1988 in New York. She lived in Phoenix, AZ for 18 years before moving to Albuquerque. In Phoenix, she worked as a Courtesy Clerk for three years.

When she moved to Albuquerque, she worked at Wal-Mart as a part time employee in the Food Department for 18 months before beginning her job at the Center. She likes bingo, watching TV, listening to music, reading, gambling, and going to movies. Her dream career is to be in the movies as an actress.

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 #3 for January 30-February 4, 2017](#)

[Report #4 for February 6-11, 2017](#)

[Report #5 for February 13-18, 2017](#)

[Report #6 for February 20-25, 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](#).

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



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

March 1, 9am-4pm, Farmington [More information.](#)

March 2, 9am-4pm, Albuquerque [More information.](#)



March 1

For Providers/Vendors/Consultants

CMS Final Rule: HCBS Settings Requirements Planning Meeting

1:00pm-4:00pm

UNM Continuum of Care, Albuquerque

[More information.](#)



March 1

NMABA Reading Journal

6:00pm-7:00pm

Albuquerque

[More information.](#)



March 2

Focus in ASD: What is ASD? Presented in Spanish

6:00pm-7:30 pm

Albuquerque

[More information.](#)



March 2 - 3

Sustainability and Disability Conference -- SUDI 2017

Albuquerque

[More information.](#)



March 7

Supported Employment Local Leader (SELL) Meeting

10:00am-11:30am

DVR Office, Roswell

[More information.](#)



Parents Reaching Out

March 9

Recipes for IEP Success

10:00am-11:30am

Los Alamos

[More information.](#)



Parents Reaching Out

March 9
Medicaid and EPSDT
10:00am-11:30am
Albuquerque
[More information.](#)



Parents Reaching Out

March 9
Record Keeping Workshop-Keeping It All Together
6:00pm-7:30pm
Los Alamos
[More information.](#)



March 10-11
Assistive Technology Conference 2017 (ATC17)
Albuquerque
[More information.](#)



March 15
School-to-Work Transition Team (SWTT) Meeting
9:00am-10:30am
NN OSERS Office, Gallup
[More information.](#)



March 16
Supported Employment Local Leader (SELL) Meeting
10:00am-1:00pm
Memorial Medical Center Annex, Las Cruces
[More information.](#)



March 16
Supported Employment Local Leader (SELL) Meeting
10:30am-1:00pm
Location TBD, Crown Point
[More information.](#)



March 16
Self-Advocacy: Empowering Your Voice
5:30pm-7:00pm
 Albuquerque
[More information.](#)



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



March 16
Focus in ASD: IEP Considerations for Students with ASD
6:00pm-7:30 pm
 Albuquerque
[More information.](#)



March 17
School-to-Work Transition Team (SWTT) Meeting
1:00pm-2:30pm
 343 Luna St, Los Lunas
[More information.](#)



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



March 23-25
Partners in Policymaking
 Albuquerque



March 29
Making Self-Employment Work for Persons with Disabilities
9:00am-1:00pm
 Albuquerque
[More information.](#)



March 29
School-to-Work Transition Team (SWTT) Meeting
2:00pm-3:30pm
San Juan Center for Independence, Farmington
[More information.](#)



March 29
Self-Advocacy: Empowering Your Voice
3:00pm-4:00pm
Webinar
[More information.](#)



March 30
Supported Employment Local Leader (SELL) Meeting
8:30am-10:00am
San Juan Center for Independence, Farmington
[More information.](#)



March 30
Making Self-Employment Work for Persons with Disabilities
9:00am-1:00pm
Silver City
[More information.](#)



March 30
Focus in ASD: Considerations for Employment
6:00pm-7:30 pm
Albuquerque
[More information.](#)



March 31
Annual Sprout Film Festival
[More information.](#)



March 31
School-to-Work Transition Team (SWTT) Meeting
10:00am-11:30am
SFPS BF Young Bldg, Santa Fe
[More information.](#)

Disability News & Upcoming Events

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



Support Group for LGBTQ people with disabilities

1st and 3rd Thursday of each month
6:00pm-7:30pm



[Learn more.](#)



Cultivating Coders
provides rural Native communities
with world-class Computer Science education.

[Learn more.](#)



Parents Reaching Out

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

[Learn more.](#)
[Brochure](#)
[Scholarship application](#)

Martial Arts classes at the Mountain Dojo 319 Mountain NE Albuquerque

For Itty Bittys, Kids, or Adults on Thursdays. [Learn more.](#)

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.dnm.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!](#)

Stay Connected



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