



NEW MEXICO  
**Developmental Disabilities  
Planning Council**

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*Susana Martinez*  
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*Liz Thomson*  
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## **Guardianship Advisory Council (GAC)** DDPC Office of Guardianship

The Guardianship Advisory Council By-Laws provide for a membership of a minimum of ten voting members with a maximum of twenty voting members. Voting members shall be appointed by the NMDDPC Executive Director. Half of the appointments are subject to expiration each year, with the other half expiring the following year (list below shows the initial terms). No individual organization (except the DDPC Council) shall have more than one voting member participating in the group at one time.

The following are hereby appointed members of the Guardianship Advisory Council:

1. Petitioning Attorneys, Guardians ad Litem and court appointed Visitors
  - Senior Citizens' Law Office - 1 year term (Marsha Shasteen has been participating)
  - Scott Aaron - 2 year term
2. State contracted guardianship providers
  - Tierra Alta Guardianship Service - 1 year term (rep. by Luciano Garcia, Letticia Garcia, Harry Minter, or George Fernandez)
  - Necessity Case Management - 2 year term (Erin Ruscetti)
  - Decades - 1 year term (Nancy Oriola)
3. Other guardianship providers including volunteers and other non-contracted guardians
  - Corner Stone Guardianship Services - 2 year term (rep. by Duane/Ann Christensen)
  - Leo Garza, AARP - 1 year term
  - Elder and self-directed programs - providers or family members who are guardians from the D&E Waiver, Mi Via, and TBI program:
    1. \_\_\_\_\_ - 2 year term
    2. \_\_\_\_\_ - 1 year term
4. Family members and peers
  - Lynn Griffin, guardian for her young adult son, works in the Information Center (recommended by Judith Liddell to replace her) - 2 year term
5. Disability rights advocacy organizations
  - Protection & Advocacy - 1 year term (Dennis Drucker has been participating)
  - NM Arc - 2 year term (Doris Husted has been participating)

6. Community based services
  - ARCA - Ed Kaul - 1 year term
7. Up to 5 members shall be members of DDPC Council  
(Replaced: Elizabeth Thomson, Colin Holmes)
  - Sandy Skaar - 2 year term
  - Angie Thompson - 1 year term
  - Dianne Griego - 2 year term
  - Jim Jackson - 1 year term
  - Terri McCaslin - 2 year term

Additionally, the GAC By-laws provide for a non-voting participating member from interested state agencies (DOH, CYFD, DVR, ALTSD) as follows:

- Administrative Office of the Courts (moved from Voting Member)
- Aging & Long Term Services Dept./Adult Protective Services (ALTSD/APS)
  - o \_\_\_\_\_, ALTSD General Counsel
  - o Ombudsman, Shannon Cupka
- Public Education Dept./Special Education -  
will participate when “transitional” education matters are on the agenda.
- Department of Health, DDS & Facilities
  - o Christine Wester
- Department of Health
  - o Gabrielle Sanchez-Sandoval
- Department of Vocational Rehabilitation
  - o (Need replacement for Richard Jiron)
- Department of Veterans' Services
  - o Grace DeSantiago
- Children Youth & Families Department
  - o Simon Romo
- VA Medical Center
  - o Jose Arturo Camacho (moved from Voting Member)

DDPC and Office of Guardianship staff includes:

Cristine Marchand, Frank Fajardo, Chris Rowland, Sarah Steadman, Denise Tierney, and Cecilia Salazar.

Cristine Marchand  
DDPC Executive Director