



CALLING ALL ADVOCATES ~ November 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 interested individuals who include self-advocates, family members, professionals, employees and dedicated New Mexicans uniting for one mission. **New Mexico Developmental Disabilities Planning Council's** mission is to 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. The next DDPC Council Meeting is on Friday, **November 17**.

Disability News & Upcoming Events

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

Guardianship Program Update:

The Guardianship Program has been working diligently with other members of the Guardianship community in quickly finding temporary guardians for all of DDPC's individuals impacted by the Ayundando fraud scandal. The staff are tirelessly working with the courts, contractors and

various agencies in order to assign permanent Guardians to individuals who were impacted. The hearings have now ended and the impacted clients have been reassigned.

Staff members conducted a presentation at the **Southwest Conference on Disability on October 12**. The presentation focused on how the new *CMS Final Rule Changes* as well as the *Know Your Rights* efforts will impact individuals that have a Guardian.

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.

Federal Program Update: The Federal Program projects directly relate to the current Five-Year Plan (2017-2021) developed and approved by the Council. The Plan is based on information collected statewide from New Mexicans with disabilities, family members, professionals and community members.

Funding for these projects is from the United States Department of Health and Human Services, Administration for Community Living/Administration on Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities (AIDD).

For example, the Federal Program funds the **Information Network** at the UNM Center for Development & Disability. The Network is a comprehensive information service to the New Mexico disability community through referrals to various agencies and by staff traveling across the state providing informational materials.

The Federal Program created a **survey** to identify **health services gaps** which is provided to DDPC federal program contractors to have project participants complete and return to DDPC, attached to the quarterly reports.

To see the Five Year Plan of the New Mexico DD Council, click [here](#).

Center for Self Advocacy (CSA) Update:



ATTENTION interested people with disabilities and/or family members!

The Center for Self Advocacy (CSA) is accepting APPLICATIONS now for the Spring Class of the **Advocate Leadership Academy**.

- 14-week Spring Class starting in mid-January 2018
- Click [HERE](#) to print off the Application to complete and mail by Nov. 30, 2017 (Spring Class deadline)
- Call Daniel at 505-670-5698 to request an Application to be mailed to you

The **CSA** staff have kept busy during the month of October. During the Southwest Conference on Disability, two presentations were conducted. The October 11 presentation focused on the Advocate Leadership Academy, while the October 13 presentation focused on Disability Issues as told through the stories of different self-advocates.

The second **From Fear to Freedom** event took place on October 18 at **Parents Reaching Out. Advocate Leadership Academy** Leader Sergio Resendiz was one of the panelists and staff members Lindsay Sloan and Daniel Ekman participated. This group took place with a Spanish-speaking group of parents in Albuquerque.

Other events included Daniel Ekman participating on a **NM LEND** panel at their *Legislative Advocacy* event, Lindsay Sloan and Daniel Ekman participating in a Rio Rancho High School transition fair and staff members Lindsay Sloan and Cynthia Berkheimer attending the **Buddy Walk** in Silver City with **DDPC Executive Director** John Block on October 21.

To schedule outreach events conducted by the CSA, contact Lindsay at 505-841-4571 or Lindsay.Sloan@state.nm.us.

Fall Fiesta for Friends POTLUCK
Saturday November 18 from 2-5 pm at the

DDPC - See Flyer Below
Reserve YOUR SEAT - Call 505-841-4519

Daniel.ekman@state.nm.us



Bring Food to Share
as We Celebrate
Friendship!

Fall Fiesta for Friends

Saturday, Nov. 18
2:00 to 5:00 pm
DDPC, 625 Silver Ave.
Suite 100
Albuquerque, NM
Call to reserve your seat
and/or for questions:
505-841-4519

Hosted by
Developmental Disabilities
Planning Council

**DDPC OPEN HOUSE and Academy
GRADUATION**

Delicious Food ~ Thanks to our Food Sponsors Below!
MONDAY NOVEMBER 27, 3:00-6:00 pm
625 Silver Ave. Suite 100, Albuquerque



Celebrate the end of the Fall Class of the ***Advocate Leadership Academy*** and find out more about the work of the Fellows. Join us at our **Open House and Academy Graduation**. There will be food, sponsored by the local business mentioned below, information about the Academy and opportunities to network with future self-advocate leaders in New Mexico.

For more information, contact Daniel Ekman at 505-670-5698 or Daniel.ekman@state.nm.us

A BIG THANK YOU to our generous Food Sponsors for the Open House and Academy Graduation:

- Jason's Deli (Louisiana)
- Olive Garden (San Mateo)
- Applebee's (Menaul)
- Chili's (Miles)
- Pelican's (Montgomery)
- Chili's (Coors)
- Old Town Pizza Parlor (Rio Grande)
- Romano's Macaroni Grill (Louisiana)
- Dion's Pizza (Central)
- Pizza Hut (Eubank)
- Furr's Cafeteria (Wyoming)
- Albertson's (Ventura)
- Range Café (Wyoming)



November 29, 2017
**New Mexico Allies for Advocacy
Monthly Stakeholder Meeting**
5:30 PM - 7:00 PM
Landmark Apartments
6303 Indian School Road NE
Albuquerque

Call 505-670-5698 for more info

The New Mexico Legislative Health and Human Services Disability Concerns, Disability Subcommittee has released their workplan. The next meeting has not appeared on the website yet. Click [here](#) for work plan.



Medicaid Telephone Identity Theft Scam Alert

The Following comes from the New Mexico Human Services Department Website

There have been reports of what appears to be an identity theft scam by callers claiming to be representatives of the New Mexico Medicaid program. These solicitors are calling individuals several times a day and asking for their name, Social Security Number and Medicaid number. Medicaid recipients should never provide personal information such as Social Security Number or Medicaid identification numbers over the phone to unsolicited callers.

These callers are not affiliated with the New Mexico Human Services Department, its Medicaid program, the Centennial Care managed care organizations, or the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services.

If you have received an unsolicited call from someone claiming to be a representative of the Human Services Department or the New Mexico Medicaid program, you may file a complaint with the Federal Trade Commission at <https://www.ftccomplaintassistant.gov>. If you have already fallen victim to this or a similar scam, please visit <http://www.identitytheft.gov>.

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@nmaq.gov, 505-717-3584. Click [here](#) for more information on this project.

Know Your Rights

A coalition of interested New Mexicans is working on the **Know Your Rights** campaign which addresses the CMS Final Rule and rights of individuals with disabilities. The Final Rule amends the regulations which govern the Medicaid 1915 (c) Home and Community Based Services (HCBS) waiver programs. These rules are an important step forward in federal policy, supporting inclusion and integration of people with intellectual and developmental disabilities in the community.

For more information on the campaign, go to <http://actnewmexico.org/cms-final-rule.html>

From Fear to Freedom Grant Project



New Mexico Allies for Advocacy (Allies) is partnering with Parents Reaching Out (PRO) on a \$15,000 grant project - "From Fear to Freedom: Family Support Groups and Know Your Rights." This is an endeavor to educate parents of children with disabilities about their rights in adulthood. This project addresses misconceptions about the

Know Your Rights campaign, help parents understand why the Know Your Rights campaign is important for their children, raise the expectations that parents have for their future adult children with disabilities and increase the dialogue about future opportunities between parents and their children with disabilities.

"From Fear to Freedom" reflects a synergy among the goals of PRO, Allies and DDPC. One objective is to raise awareness of rights for parents with disabilities by offering education and communication opportunities in ten New Mexico communities. Another objective is to provide relevant information from the Know Your Rights campaign to parents, through adults with disabilities, sharing how misconceptions about adults with disabilities impact them. Adult self-advocates also share their success stories from their adult lives. In doing so, this creates a new normative expectation of rights for parents not just currently, but when their children become adults. Finally, the project creates a link between adult self-advocates and their initiatives, parents and their initiatives, and communities to create a shared vision of what the future will look like for children with disabilities.



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.](#)

**Martial Arts classes at the Mountain Dojo
319 Mountain NE Albuquerque**

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

Resources

"Health and Safety for Caregivers" four-hour training. The topics include workers rights, preventing infection, and Musculoskeletal Safety. The class is free to agencies and caregivers. It can be provided at an agency location and a time convenient to the agency and caregivers. Click [here](#) for a flyer with more specific information. If you would like to arrange a training, call Pamela Stafford, M.A., CESP at 505-710-9680.

Developmental Disabilities Supports Division (DDSD) worked with providers, advocates, and other stakeholders to develop a Provider Data Summary that makes key data about providers available to the public. [Learn more.](#)

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



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.

November CALENDAR of Events Contact 505-670-5698
to include your upcoming events.



November 3 Pickleball

Adaptive Sports Program
Manzano Mesa Multigenerational Center
Click [here](#) for more information



**RIO GRANDE
DOWN SYNDROME
NETWORK**

**November 4
Under 7 Play Group**
10:00 - 12:00 PM

For more information, click [here](#)



Parents Reaching Out

**November 9
Tips for IEP Success**
5:30-7:30 pm

Kid Power Therapy
Albuquerque, NM

For more information, click [here](#)



**November 9-11
Partners in Policymaking Session**
Albuquerque Airport Sheraton

For more information, click [here](#)



**RIO GRANDE
DOWN SYNDROME
NETWORK**

**November 13
Board Meeting**
6:00 - 8:00 PM
Balloon Museum

For more information, click [here](#)



Parents Reaching Out

**November 15
Native American Support Group**
5:00 - 7:00 PM
EPICS
1600 San Pedro Dr. NE
Albuquerque, NM



**November 30
Sled Hockey**
Adaptive Sports Program
6:15 PM
Outpost Ice Arena

Click [here](#) for more information

**SAVE THE DATE: January 25-26, 2018
Disability Rights Awareness Day**

Drury Plaza Hotel and Roundhouse



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 Lindsay Sloan at Lindsay.Sloan@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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