



## CALLING ALL ADVOCATES ~ October 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 New Mexicans 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. The next DDPC Council Meeting is on Friday, **November 17**.

### Disability News & Upcoming Events

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

**October 11-13, 2017**  
**Southwest Conference on Disability**  
**Albuquerque**

Click [here](#) for more information.



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### **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. Hearings started at the end of September and scheduled throughout October.

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](mailto:maria.bourassa@state.nm.us).

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**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:



The Center for Self Advocacy completed the first six classes of the **Advocate Leadership Academy** with:

- 7 Team Leaders (Self-advocates mentoring new advocates)
- 7 fellows (new advocates - people with disabilities & family members)
- 1 advocate from outside of the Albuquerque area.
- Classes focus on goals and action steps related to self-awareness and include Disability Awareness and Disability Advocacy.

**Outreach Coordinator** Lindsay Sloan; **Advocate Trainer** Cynthia Berkheimer; and **Advocate** Nat Dean traveled to Phoenix for the Southwest Alliance for Technical Assistance meeting. They completed their multi-year project to provide training and technical assistance to help develop self-advocacy in the Southwest United States.

Lindsay Sloan and **Deputy Director** Barbara Ibanez traveled with a group of advocates, in partnership with **Parents Reaching Out**, to Shiprock to present information on the **From Fear to Freedom Grant Project**. The staff and advocates talked about the **Know Your Rights Campaign** and discussed the dreams that parents have for their children as their children reach adulthood.

On September 28th, CSA Staff was part of an orientation for **Project HELLO** at **Albuquerque Balloon Fiesta Park**. A current **LEND** self-

advocacy fellow is part of the project and is being mentored by CSA staff. This is in collaboration on the **AUCD Diversity Grant** project through the **UNM Center for Development and Disability (UNM CDD)**. **Program Manager** Daniel Ekman drafted the Project Narratives and Capstones for the **Diversity Grant Project** in partnership with **UNM CDD**. The CSA is working hard on preparing for presentations for the **Southwest Conference on Disability**.

To schedule outreach events conducted by the CSA, contact Lindsay at 505-841-4571 or [Lindsay.Sloan@state.nm.us](mailto:Lindsay.Sloan@state.nm.us).

The New Mexico Legislative Health and Human Services Disability Concerns, Disability Subcommittee has released their workplan. It includes topics, meeting locations and meeting times. Please note that they will be meeting on Wednesday in the Picuris Room at the **Southwest Conference on Disability**. 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>.

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## 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](mailto:A.Rasheed@nmag.gov), 505-717-3584. Click [here](#) for more information on this project.

## Know Your Rights

A coalition of different groups and individuals 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 the 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 communities. Another objective is to provide relevant information from the Know Your Rights campaign to the parents, in particular 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 in the present, 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](http://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.

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



Parents Reaching Out

**October 2 and October 4  
Fundraiser at California Pizza Kitchen**

All Day  
For more information, click [here](#)



**October 3  
Pickleball**

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



Parents Reaching Out

**October 4  
Recipes for IEP Success**

5:00 - 7:00 PM  
Disability Resource Center, 1012 N Silver St  
Silver City, NM



Parents Reaching Out

**October 5  
Recipes for IEP Success**

5:00 - 7:00 PM  
Grace Requires Understanding,  
1206 Columbus Highway  
Deming, NM

New Mexico



Autism Society

**October 6  
Autism Mom's Meet Up**

6:30 - 8:00 PM  
Flying Star - Wyoming and Paseo del Norte  
To RSVP, click [here](#)



**October 7-9  
Albuquerque Adaptive Yoga Program  
Rio Grande Balloon Fiesta Rafting**

Adaptive Sports Program  
Balloon Fiesta Park  
Click [here](#) for more information





**October 7**  
**Families First: Beginning Toilet Training**  
8:00 AM - 11:00 AM  
CDD Building 103 East  
For more information, click [here](#)



**October 7**  
**Under 7 Play Group**  
10:00 - 11:30 AM  
For more information, click [here](#)



**October 7**  
**Sensory Friendly Movie**  
11:30 AM - 2:00 PM  
Mitchell Starlight Cinema 8  
2266 Sun Ranch Loop  
Los Lunas, NM



**October 7**  
**Mom's Night Out**  
6:00 PM  
For more information, click [here](#)



**October 12-13**  
**Fall Learning Camp**  
10:00 AM - 12:00 PM  
For more information, click [here](#)



**October 12**  
**New Mexico Allies for Advocacy Annual Board of Directors Meeting**  
4:15 PM - 6:15 PM  
Navajo-Nambe Room at  
Albuquerque Convention Center



Parents Reaching Out

**October 12  
Accommodations and Modifications for Students**

5:30 - 7:30 PM  
Kid Power Therapy,  
3530 Pan American Freeway #D  
Albuquerque, NM



New Mexico Autism Society

**October 16  
Autism Dad's Meet Up**

6:30 - 8:00 PM  
Nexus Brewery  
4730 Pan American East Freeway  
Albuquerque, NM



Parents Reaching Out

**October 18  
Native American Support Group**

5:00 - 7:00 PM  
EPICS  
1600 San Pedro Dr. NE  
Albuquerque, NM



Parents Reaching Out

**October 24  
Stop Bullying Now: A Workshop for Parents**

6:00 - 8:00 PM  
PRO Office  
1920 B Columbia Rd.  
Albuquerque, NM



**October 30  
Sled Hockey**

Adaptive Sports Program  
6:15 PM  
Outpost Ice Arena  
Click [here](#) for more information



**SAVE THE DATE: November 27**

**DDPC Open House**  
4:00 - 7:00 PM  
**DDPC Large Conference Room**

**SAVE THE DATE: January 25-26, 2018**  
**Disability Rights Awareness Day**  
Drury Plaza Hotel and Roundhouse

Funded by:



**DDPC**

NEW MEXICO  
**DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES**  
PLANNING COUNCIL

### 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](mailto: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.](#)