



"CALLING ALL ADVOCATES" September 2015

What's happening in the disability community in New Mexico.

Unite in support of the **DDPC** and our 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 seven goals](#).



September Events Contact [Daniel](#) to include your upcoming events



August 17 -
November 30,
2015

FALL CLASS! Hurry because this class is filling up fast and we have already one meeting with the UNM Graduate Students. An adult with a disability or anyone who knows an adult with a disability will be interested in this class. The **Fall Class** is a collaboration between two **University of New Mexico** Special Education Professors, Graduate Students and **The Center for Self Advocacy**.

- Dr. Susan Copeland and Dr. Megan Griffin bring their graduate students to the Center twelve times over the course of their class entitled *Advocacy & Empowerment with Individuals with Intellectual Disability and Severe Disabilities*. While they are at **UNM**,

they learn about self-advocacy and how crucial advocacy is to the quality of life of individuals with disabilities.

There are many **benefits** for those who join the program:

- Attend weekly classes on Monday afternoons starting on August 17 and going until November 30.
- Learn about self-advocacy and leadership and then practice those skills during their group work.
- Meet new people and influence the lives of special education students and future professionals.
- Share their work with community members. Past participants have also gained confidence, improved their public speaking skills and have opened the door to new opportunities within the disability community.
- Finally, not only is the class free, but our self-advocates get a stipend of \$100 per month for participating in the class. This is for working hard to create a product and DDPC believes that they should be compensated.
- All we ask is a weekly commitment and a desire to actively participate in the project. **Anyone who wants to sign up or find out more information can contact Joseph Calloway at joseph.calloway@state.nm.us or 505-841-4571.**

Disability Rights New Mexico FORUM -



September 15, 2015

- Disability Rights New Mexico is having two public forums on September 15 from 3:30-5 pm
- One of the forums will take place in Gallup at the Educational Development Center at 1000 E. Aztec Ave.
- The other forum will take place in Albuquerque at the Center for Development and Disability at 2300 Menaul Blvd. NE
- They want people to give input on their priorities for the coming year.
- This is your chance to give input to a group with direct contacts in the New Mexico Legislature.
- For more information, call 1-800-432-4682 or [Click Here](#)

Fun Activity/Fact of the Month

New Mexico STATE FAIR - September 10-20, 2015

- Get ready for the **77th Annual New Mexico State Fair** at the New Mexico State Fairground at San Pedro and Central in Albuquerque.
- [Click Here](#) for more information.



Parents Reaching Out

TRANSITIONS CONFERENCE
September 15, 2015

- Attend the **2015 Transitions Conference** at the *Center for Development and*

Disability for all the information you need on the transition process.

- **Parents Reaching Out** will discuss the transition from Pediatric to Adult Care.
- **The Developmental Disabilities Planning Council** and **The Arc of New Mexico** will be holding a session on Guardianship and alternatives to Guardianship.
- **The Division of Vocational Rehabilitation** will explain important timelines for employment for young adults.
- Numerous organizations will have booths including the presenters, **The UNM Center for Development and Disability**, **The New Mexico Technology Assistance Program**, **Education for Parents of Indian Children with Special Needs (EPICS)** and many more.
- Information will be in English and Spanish
- The conference will take place from 10-3 pm
- For more information: [Click Here](#)



AUTISM Training Events - September 10, 11 and 16, 2015

- **The Center for Development and Disability (CDD)** is holding a series of trainings on Autism Spectrum Disorder starting in September.
- The first training on Applied Behavior Analysis will be held at the CDD on September 10, 2015 from 6:00-7:30 pm.
- The second training on Social Developments and Supports for people with autism will be held at the CDD on September 11 from 9:00-11:30 am.
- The third training on Characteristics and Core Deficits in Autism Spectrum Disorders will be held at the CDD on September 16 from 1:00-4:00 pm.
- [Click Here](#) for more information and to see the complete calendar of trainings through the end of the year.



**September 14, 16,
17, 18, 22 and 29 -
Various Locations**

- **Partners for Employment** will present three trainings explaining the purpose of a job club and offer information on how to start a job club. A training will be held in Farmington on September 14th in Albuquerque on September 16th in Silver City on September 17th and Clovis on September 18th.
- On September 22nd at the CDD from 9-5 pm, a training is scheduled to teach how to get the most out of the job fair. [Click Here](#).
- Finally, don't forget to attend **The Center for Development and Disability Job Fair** on Tuesday, September 29th is at the **CDD** from 10:30 am-1:00 pm. Bring your resume, dress nice, polish up your interview skills and be ready to go job hunting. [Click Here](#) for more information.



**September
16, 2015**

Peer Mentor Training - Silver City

- *The Brain Injury and Family Peer Support Mentor Training* will be held in Silver City from 9 am-4 pm.
- It is based on a national peer mentoring training program.
- The training will be given by experienced peer mentors and will talk about important parts of being a good mentor.
- [Click Here](#) and click on the event for more information.



September 18, 2015 - Silver City

- *The New Mexico Technology Assistance Program* is holding a hands-on assistive technology workshop from 8:30 am-3:30 pm.
- The event is at **Western New Mexico University** in Silver City.
- [Click Here](#) for more information.



October 6 - 9, 2015

- *The Southwest Conference on Disability* is just around the corner.
- Scholarship deadline is soon. Program is available on the website.
- [Click Here](#) for more information.

Get to Know the Staff at DDPC

A Welcome to a New Colleague at the **New Mexico Center for Self Advocacy**



Lindsay Sloan and Chantal

Lindsay Sloan recently joined the Center for Self Advocacy at the DDPC as an **Advocate Trainer**. Lindsay graduated with a Bachelors' of Arts degree in Psychology with a minor in Biblical Studies from Colorado Christian University in 2009. She has served on the board of the National Federation of the Blind (NFB) of New Mexico's Albuquerque chapter from 2009-2011. Lindsay also served on the board of the New Mexico Association of Blind Student. (NMABS) from 2009-2011. She has volunteered with the New Mexico Young Disability Leaders (NMYDL) since 2011. Ms. Sloan is currently a member of the New Mexico Allies for Advocacy's Legislative Policy Committee. She has worked as a Youth in Transition Program Assistant from September of 2014 through April 2015 at the UNM Center for Development and Disability. Lindsay's hobbies include hiking, playing sports, reading historical and fantasy novels and traveling. **The DDPC is excited about Lindsay joining our team!**

Kathy Coates is the Chief Financial Officer for the **Developmental Disabilities Planning Council**. She has worked for 25 years in State Government and first started out with **DDPC** as the Financial Specialist. In December of 2013, she became the CFO for the agency. Her background is in Finance and Human Resources. She is responsible for preparing/administering, overseeing and monitoring the agency's yearly budget.



Recent DDPC COUNCIL News



Cate McClain (left) was presented with a handmade pottery plate by Sandy Skaar, Council Chair (right)

Cate McClain was honored at the last Council meeting for serving 25 years on the Council. She has retired and Pat Osbourn will take Cate's place to represent the UNM Center for Development and Disability.

Also, Doris Roberts, family member, has resigned after many years of serving on the Council.

THANK YOU CATE and DORIS for your many years of service to people with developmental disabilities in New Mexico!

Next Council Meeting is scheduled January 7 & 8, 2016.

If you are a **self-advocate or family member** and would like to apply to be on the **Council**, [Click Here](#)

Keep Interim Committees in Mind

Currently, there are many Interim Committees that cover a wide range of issues such as *Education, Finance, Jobs, Criminal Justice, Economic Policy, Oversight and Natural Resources*.

- For example, one of the important committees for people with disabilities is the **Disability Concerns Subcommittee**, which is currently chaired by Senator Nancy Rodriguez and features nine members. The next scheduled

meeting is September 25th at Adelante Development Center at 3900 Osuna Road NE in Albuquerque from 8:30 am-4:30 pm.



DDPC Program Descriptions

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.](#)

[Click here to learn more about the Fall Class](#)

- **The Center for Self Advocacy** has continued outreach to various schools and is always looking for new places and new people to make presentations. Staff provides informative and unique training to schools throughout the year. If you want **Center** staff to present at a school near you, contact daniel.ekman@state.nm.us or call (505) 841-4558.

Guardianship Program

Need a guardian or more information about guardianship? 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.](#)

[Click here to learn the basics of guardianship.](#)

The website also includes laws and regulations. [Go to our website](#)

Federal Program

See the federal program of the month section article for an example of the innovative and unique programs that are a part of the **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 funding [Learn more here.](#)

[Visit us and learn more!](#)

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