



## CALLING ALL ADVOCATES ~ September 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. The next DDPC Council Meeting is on Friday, **August 25**. Developmental Disabilities (AIDD) Technical Assistance Institute and the

### Disability News & Upcoming Events

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

**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](mailto: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:** The Federal Program projects directly relate to the current Five-Year Plan (2017-2021) developed and approved by the Council. The Five-Year Plan is based on input received from people with disabilities, family members, professionals and community members from across the state.

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 completed a **survey** to identify **health services gaps** which was sent to DDPC federal program contractors to share with their project participants and send back to DDPC with their 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 held the first three classes of the **Advocate Leadership Academy** in August 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 are focused on disability awareness, the importance of balancing life priorities and an introduction to the program itself.

- Academy participants complete weekly journal entries
- Focus on goals and action steps related to self-awareness.

Program Manager Daniel Ekman presented about Know Your Rights and Guardianship at the ***New Mexico Guardianship Association Symposium*** on August 25. DDPC intern Matt Castillo also began to work with the CSA Program during the last week of August. Also, a panel of CSA participants spoke to a class of Occupational Therapy students about their experience in the ***Academy***, as well as, their own personal life lessons. CSA staff have also helped mentor the current ***LEND*** self-advocacy fellow as part of their collaboration on the ***AUCD Diversity Grant*** project with the ***University of New Mexico Center for Development and Disability***.

The Center will also collaborate on various projects including the ***From Fear to Freedom Grant Project***, the ***Know Your Rights Campaign*** and the ***New Mexico LEND Program***.

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).

## FEATURED DDPC MEMBER: New CSA Outreach Coordinator, Lindsay Sloan



Lindsay was born and raised in the northwest suburbs of Chicago, Illinois. She grew up surrounded by horses, dogs, cats, and abundant wildlife. "I've always loved animals and nature, and my family allowed me to interact with the world alongside my older brother, despite my visual impairment. That instilled in me that I was just as capable as my sighted friends and family."

Lindsay earned her Bachelor's Degree in Psychology with a minor in Biblical Studies from Colorado Christian University in 2009, and has made her home in Albuquerque for 8 years. She enjoys traveling, sports and hiking. On quiet days, she enjoys getting lost in a good book. "My passion is seeing people with disabilities begin to believe in

their individual worth and use their newfound confidence to impact the world around them in positive ways." Congratulations Lindsay on your promotion!

The New Mexico Legislative Health and Human Services Disability Concerns Subcommittee has released their workplan. It includes topics, meeting locations and meeting times. 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@nmaq.gov](mailto:A.Rasheed@nmaq.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>

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



**September 6**  
**Know Your Rights Steering Committee Meeting**  
10:00 AM - 12:30 PM  
DDPC Large Conference Room



**September 7**  
**Meeting About the Future of Southwest Conference**  
9:00 AM - 12:00 PM  
CDD Building 103 East



Parents Reaching Out

**September 7**  
**Mariela Pijem Available in Las Cruces**  
1:30 PM - 4:00 PM  
Will be at DRNM office in Las Cruces



**September 8**  
**Noel Camborde Memorial Watersports Camp**  
Adaptive Sports Program  
Abiquiu Lake, New Mexico  
Register [here](#)



**September 8**  
**Autism Mom's Meet Up**  
6:30 PM  
Flying Star - Westside  
To RSVP, click [here](#)



Parents Reaching Out

**September 11**  
**Recipes for IEP Success**  
6:00 PM - 7:30 PM  
APS Parent Center  
For more information, click [here](#)



Parents Reaching Out

**September 14**  
**Recipes for IEP Success**  
5:30 PM - 7:30 PM  
Kid Power Therapy  
For more information, click [here](#)



**September 16**  
**Families First: Developing Communication Skills**

8:00 AM - 11:00 AM

CDD Building 103 East

For more information, click [here](#)



**September 20-22 with September 19 Pre-Conference**  
**2017 Native American Conference on Special Education**

Albuquerque Convention Center

Click [here](#) to find all related information



**September 23**  
**Albuquerque Adaptive Yoga Program**

Adaptive Sports Program

Jemez Mountains, New Mexico

Register [here](#)



**September 22**  
**Jeremiah's Place NM - Respite Event**

5:30 PM - 8:30 PM

Grace Church Albuquerque

For more information, click [here](#)



**September 23**  
**Rio Grande Down Syndrome Network Buddy Walk**

10:00 AM - 1:00 PM

Balloon Museum

For more information, click [here](#)



**Parents Reaching Out**

**September 23**  
**Donor and Volunteer Appreciation Picnic**

2:00 PM - 4:00 PM

Jerry Cline Park

For more information, click [here](#)





**September 25**  
**ADOS-2 Workshop**  
1:00 PM - 5:00 PM  
CDD Building 103 East



**September 26**  
**ADOS-2 Workshop**  
8:30 AM - 5:00 PM  
CDD Building 103 East



**September 27**  
**ADOS-2 Workshop**  
8:30 AM - 5:00 PM  
CDD Building 103 East



**September 27**  
**New Mexico Allies for Advocacy Monthly Stakeholder Meeting**  
5:30 PM - 7:00 PM  
Landmark Apartments  
6303 Indian School Road NE Albuquerque



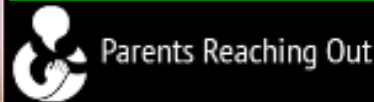
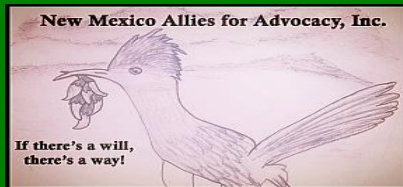
**September 30**  
**Sled Hockey**  
Adaptive Sports Program  
Outpost Ice Arena  
6:15 pm  
Click [here](#) for more information

## Disability News & Upcoming Events

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



## ***From Fear to Freedom Grant Project***



New Mexico Allies for Advocacy is partnering with Parents Reaching Out on a \$15,000 grant project. "From Fear to Freedom: Family Support Groups and Know Your Rights" is a collaborative effort between Parents Reaching Out (PRO) and New Mexico Allies for Advocacy (Allies) to educate the parents of children with disabilities about their rights in adulthood. Through this effort, we hope to address 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 these three programs. One objective is to raise awareness of rights for parents with disabilities by offering education and communication opportunities in 10 communities. Another objective is to get 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 will also share their success stories from their adult lives. In doing so, this will create a new normative expectation of rights for parents not just in the present, but when their children become adults. Finally, the project will create 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.

**HOLD THE DATE:**

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

Click [here](#) for more information.



Click [here](#) for early bird registration.



**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.

#### 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

#### 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

#### 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

at  
[Lindsay.Sloan@state.nm.us](mailto:Lindsay.Sloan@state.nm.us)  
or 505-841-4571.

even trained Mental Health  
Treatment Guardians.  
[Learn more about the  
essentials here.](#)

supported by federal and  
state funding [Learn more  
here.](#)