

TASK FORCE ON ADVOCACY

SELECTED PRIORITIES

At the 3/24/2021 Task Force on Advocacy meeting the following recommendations were chosen as priorities to work on:

- Work with the Public Policy Committee of the DD Council to review the results of the county board survey of individuals with DD serving on the county board; and, work with interested parties to establish an informational and educational outreach campaign that will increase the opportunities for individuals with developmental disabilities to serve on county boards of DD.

Focus of advocacy efforts: Public Policy Committee of DD Council

Potential strategic partners: Probate Judges, County Commissioners, Superintendents, OSDA, DODD, the ARC of Ohio, DD Network, County Board Association, CILs and additional community organizations.

- Work with the DD Council to convene a meeting of self-advocacy organizations, the DD system and IL network for the purpose of establishing overarching goals and joint strategies in the areas of training, mentoring, leadership opportunities, infrastructure and funding.
- Work with the DD Council to sponsor an annual meeting with self-advocacy organizations to discuss strategies to improve communication.

Focus of advocacy efforts: Information should be gathered from individuals and organizations to understand what is happening in Ohio. Self-determination roundtable discussions to have people come together.

Potential strategic partners: ODDC, OSDA, People First, and CILs

At the 4/28/2021 Task Force on Advocacy meeting the following recommendation was chosen as the third priority to work on:

- Work with the DD Act Partner organizations (ODDC, DRO and UCEDDs) to increase the number of governing board members with disabilities to a majority of their boards, or to the maximum extent possible under federal law, and to work the Task Force on Advocacy to implement the final report.

Focus of advocacy efforts: Work with the DD Act partners to identify the current number of individuals with disabilities on their boards and how they recruit members with disabilities. Highlight the ones that have this in the boards and share the success. Invite them to meetings. Promote consumer-control and individuals with disabilities should be making the decisions of the directions of these organizations, not families.

Potential strategic partners: Ohio DD Council, Disability Rights Ohio, Nisonger Center (Ohio State), University of Cincinnati Center for Excellence in Developmental Disabilities. Local Centers for Independent Living can assist.