

■ Contact Us

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For more information
about The Montana Council
on Developmental Disabilities, visit us at
www.mtcdd.org

■ Five Year Plan

Every five years the Council develops
and implements a long-range plan
detailing council priorities and the steps
needed to achieve them.

**The following are the nine
areas of emphasis identified
in the federal Developmental
Disabilities Act.**

- ✦ Self-Determination
- ✦ Education
- ✦ Employment
- ✦ Transportation
- ✦ Housing
- ✦ Recreation
- ✦ Health Care
- ✦ Community Inclusion
- ✦ Quality Assurance

The long-range plan is based upon
input received from statewide public
forums, written survey results and
discussions with persons interested in
the service system.

■ Contract Program

For over 30 years the Council has
carefully distributed federal funds in
the form of contracts to organizations
statewide. Our investment in these
organizations is a major advocacy
tool to encourage systems change
to better support Montana's citizens
with developmental disabilities and
their families.

Annually, based upon priorities
identified in our long-range plan,
the Council releases Call for
Investment packets which identify
the targeted areas.

Contact Council staff for goals,
priorities and timelines for
submitting responses to Calls for
Investment. Call for Investment
packets are also available on the
Council website.

The Montana Council
on Developmental Disabilities
is a private, nonprofit, 501(c)(3) corporation.

*The Montana Council
on Developmental Disabilities
is committed to
a consumer-driven
service delivery system
that improves independence,
productivity and integration
of people with
developmental disabilities
in all aspects of life
and community.*



WHAT

Are developmental disabilities?

Developmental disabilities are defined by federal law as severe, chronic disabilities that:

- ◆ Are attributable to a mental or physical impairment or a combination of the two
- ◆ Are evident before the person is 22 years old
- ◆ Are likely to continue indefinitely
- ◆ Require individually-planned and coordinated supports and assistance of a lifelong or extended duration
- ◆ Result in substantial functional limitations in 3 or more of the following major life activities:
 - Self-care
 - Receptive and expressive language
 - Mobility
 - Self-direction
 - Capacity for independent living
 - Economic self-sufficiency

WHO

Are the members of the MCDD?

At least 60% of the members are:

- ◆ Individuals with developmental disabilities
- ◆ Parents or family members of persons with developmental disabilities
- ◆ Relatives or guardians of adults with developmental disabilities who cannot advocate for themselves.

Other Members Include:

- ◆ Representatives of state agencies that administer funds provided under federal law related to people with developmental disabilities
 - ◆ Representatives of local and non-governmental agencies concerned with services for individuals with developmental disabilities
 - ◆ A member of the Montana State Senate
 - ◆ A member of the Montana House of Representatives
- All Members are appointed by the Governor

WHAT

Does the MCDD Do?

Every state and territory has a Council on Developmental Disability.

Council members and a small staff work on ways to improve the quality of life for people with developmental disabilities and their families.

MCDD advocates with and for people with developmental disabilities and their families by:

- ◆ Speaking out on issues affecting people with developmental disabilities
- ◆ Advising agencies (including private, tribal and governmental) regarding the needs of persons with developmental disabilities and their families.
- ◆ Developing a long range plan for Council activities
- ◆ Building coalitions for long range planning
- ◆ Funding a variety of projects to improve the quality of life of persons with developmental disabilities

HOW

Can You Help?

- ✓ Get to know your council members and share your ideas
- ✓ Attend a council meeting
- ✓ Participate in a public forum in your area or complete a survey
- ✓ Talk to your legislators about the issues affecting people with developmental disabilities and their families



Councils are funded by the Administration on Developmental Disabilities through the Developmental Disabilities Assistance and Bill of Rights Act.