

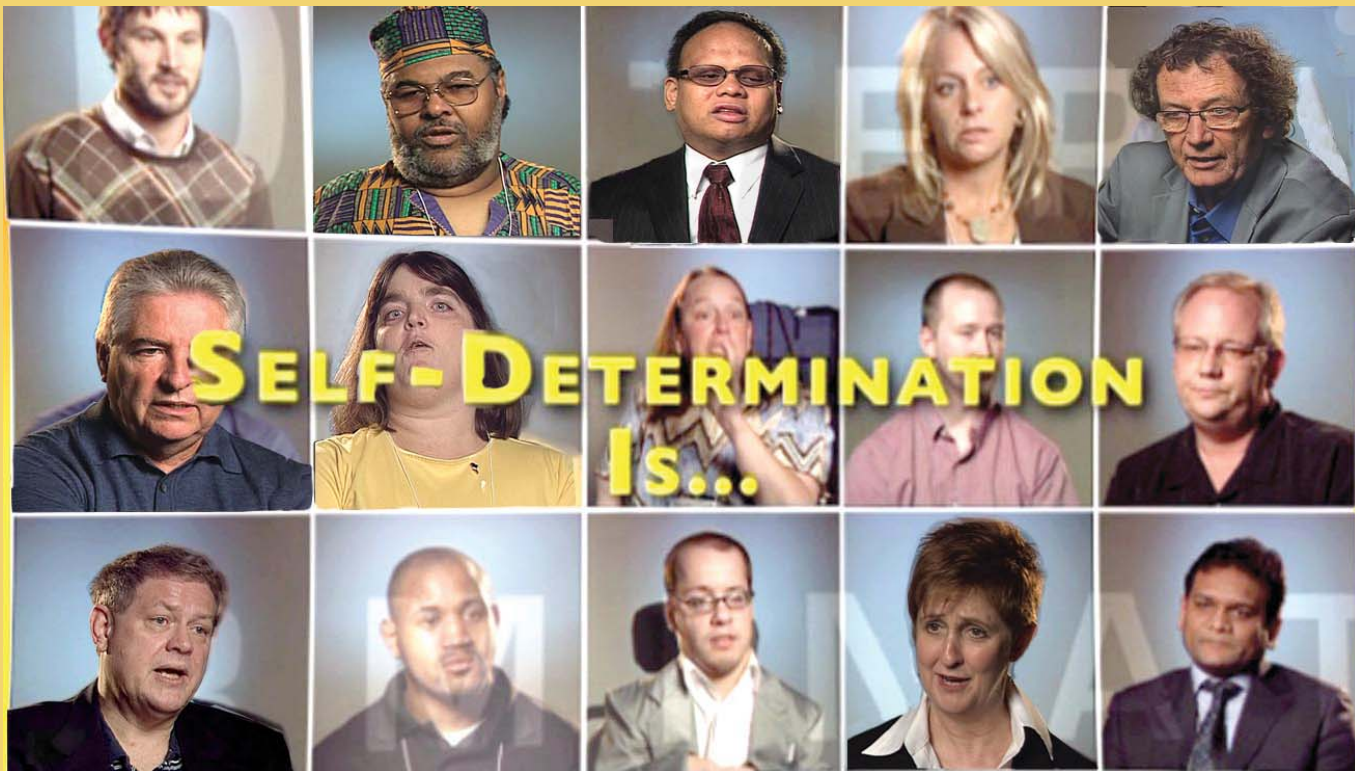
**North Carolina Council
on Developmental Disabilities**



**North
Carolina
Council on
Developmental
Disabilities
2008-2009
Annual Report**

www.nccdd.org

*Toll free number: 1-800-357-6916
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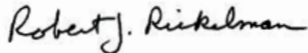
REPORT FROM THE COUNCIL

In 2008-2009, the NC Council on Developmental Disabilities (NCCDD) moved ahead, even in difficult economic times. We looked for wise investments of the NCCDD's funds, to make the kind of change that really matters to people with intellectual and developmental disabilities (I/DD) and their families. We provided information, training and education to our many partners in policymaking, directly and through funded projects. We also managed grants with an eye for making system-wide changes that last.

Through NCCDD's funding to efforts like the **COLLEGE OF DIRECT SUPPORT, BEYOND ACADEMICS**, and **ADVANCING STRONG LEADERS IN DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES**, we promote quality of life across North Carolina. Our support of self-advocacy and the self-determination movement helps bring greater freedom to people to make decisions about their own lives. Our work in the area of asset building lets people know about new ways to "earn money, save it, and watch it grow." In these and many other ways, we continue to "build bridges to community" and to be a "catalyst for change."

Our work, alone, will not solve all of the issues. But in collaboration with our partners, the NCCDD is charting new and cost-effective ways to support the lives people want. Led by self-advocates and families – with the providers, Local Management Entities, and policymakers, who together make up the NC Council on Developmental Disabilities– we are visioning a future in which we all can share.

Respectfully,



Robert J. (Bob) Rickelman, Ph.D.
Chairman



Holly Riddle, J.D., M.Ed.
Executive Director



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A REVIEW OF THE 2008-2009 YEAR

To expand opportunities, promote full community inclusion and better the lives of people with intellectual and developmental disabilities (I/DD), the North Carolina Council on Developmental Disabilities (NCCDD) focused on real, positive and cost-effective change. Councils get the authority to fund systems change activities from the United States Congress, in a law known as the Developmental Disabilities Assistance and Bill of Rights Act (PL 106-402). NCCDD funds systems change activities through grants and contracts.

Grants were awarded to public and private organizations across North Carolina. These were human service organizations, including advocacy groups, government agencies, universities, non-profits, and others. The Council funds ideas that promote people with I/DD to be full participants in their communities.

EDUCATION

BEYOND ACADEMICS offered students with intellectual disabilities an inclusive post-secondary college experience on a college campus. It was launched in 2008 by the University of North Carolina-Greensboro and continues to grow. With funding from the NCCDD, enrollment is expected to increase to 24. An additional fourth year is being added to the **BEYOND ACADEMICS** experience. This effort is part of a national movement that is making the rich experiences of college life available for all.

EMPLOYMENT GOALS

Creating employment opportunities is a major focus for the NCCDD. We are partnering with the North Carolina Developmental Disabilities Consortium to lead the state's **ALLIANCE FOR FULL PARTICIPATION (AFP)**. The AFP, made up of 14 national organizations, is seeking to double the number of people with I/DD who are employed by 2015. The employment rate for people with I/DD is now just 22 percent. NCCDD is committed to full inclusion in the American workplace.

EMPLOYMENT 1ST: SOMETHING FOR EVERYONE was funded by the Council to support a conference focusing on employment in the Carolinas.

The NCCDD is part of NC's federally funded Administration on Developmental Disabilities (ADD) Network, along with Disability Rights North Carolina and the Center for Development and Learning, Carolina Institute on Developmental Disabilities.

ADVANCING STRONG LEADERSHIP



*To build a new generation of informed and effective professionals, the NCCDD is funding **ADVANCING STRONG LEADERSHIP IN DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES**. This is a values-based training program for emerging leaders. Directed by the University of Delaware's National Leadership Consortium in DD, these sessions bring national experts to Raleigh, offering insights and inspiration to tomorrow's leaders.*

Drawn from human service agencies across the state, 26 leaders were selected. Each is committed to carrying out a project benefitting people with I/DD and the broader community. The understanding and knowledge the leaders gained will influence them throughout their careers.



THIS PUBLICATION IS PRODUCED BY THE NORTH CAROLINA COUNCIL ON DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES, ESTABLISHED BY THE DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES ASSISTANCE AND BILL OF RIGHTS ACT (PL 106-402) TO PROMOTE INTERDEPENDENCE, CONTRIBUTION, SELF-DETERMINATION, INTEGRATION AND INCLUSION INTO THE COMMUNITY FOR CITIZENS WITH INTELLECTUAL AND DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES. THE NC DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES DOES NOT DISCRIMINATE ON THE BASIS OF RACE, COLOR, NATIONAL ORIGIN, SEX, RELIGION, AGE OR DISABILITY IN EMPLOYMENT OR THE PROVISION OF SERVICES. ONE THOUSAND COPIES OF THIS PUBLICATION WERE PRINTED AT A COST OF \$ 0.91 PER COPY.

HOUSING OPTIONS

The NCCDD supported new housing opportunities by providing funds to update and reprint the **AFFORDABLE HOUSING PRIMER**. The primer was translated into Spanish and put in large print. Many nonprofit groups, self-advocates and families, and agencies worked together on the project.

HEALTHY LIFESTYLES

Healthy, safe and active lives for people with I/DD is also a goal of the NCCDD. With our funding, **PEER CONNECTIONS** helped people set wellness goals, identified community resources, and shared that information with self-advocates. **HEALTHY LIVES, HEALTHY FUTURE**, a project of the Cabarrus County Department of Aging and the Senior Center, assisted in accessing existing wellness programs, and furthering healthy lifestyles and participation in the community. The **LIVING WELL IN NC** projects informed people with I/DD about health and wellness resources and also encouraged Direct Support Professionals to join self-advocates in wellness activities.

QUALITY ASSURANCE, INDIVIDUAL GROWTH

The availability and quality of supports that enrich lives, a major NCCDD focus, moved forward this year. **SEEING IS BELIEVING** assisted service providers in shifting their services and supports from group settings to individualized supports. **MONEY FOLLOWS THE PERSON** looked for ways to use Medicaid waiver funding to assist individuals in moving out of institutions and into homes in the community.

The **NORTH CAROLINA DISABILITY ACTION NETWORK (NC DAN)** continued to build its voice and to act as a forceful advocate for the grassroots disability community.



PARTNERSHIPS FOR 2009

2008 ASSISTIVE TECHNOLOGY EXPO
Partnerships in Assistive Technology

2008 FALL NC APSE CONFERENCE
NC Association For Persons In Supported Employment

2008 NCCCP ANNUAL CONFERENCE
NC Council of Community Programs

ADA NETWORK & COORDINATOR
Partnerships in Assistive Technology

ADVANCING PHYSICAL FITNESS & WELLNESS
YMCA of Northwest North Carolina

ADVANCING STRONG LEADERSHIP IN DD
Univ. of Delaware Nat'l. Leadership Consortium on DD

AFFORDABLE HOUSING PRIMER
NC Housing Coalition

ASANC TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE
Association of Self-Advocates NC

ASANC ANNUAL CONVENTION 2009
Association of Self-Advocates NC

BEYOND ACADEMICS *University of NC, Greensboro*

CLEAR AND INDEPENDENT VOICES
Disability Rights NC (DRNC)

COLLEGE OF DIRECT SUPPORT, DEMONSTRATION
PROJECT *NC Providers Council*

CONFERENCE ON DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES
ECU Carolyn Freeze Baynes Institute for Social Justice

COMPREHENSIVE COMMUNICATIONS PLAN
The Wallace Group

EVALUATION FOR LIVING WELL IN NORTH
CAROLINA *DD Consultation and Psychological Services*

EMPLOYMENT 1ST IN THE CAROLINAS:
SOMETHING FOR EVERYONE
NC Assoc. for Persons in Supported Employment

FRAGILE X FOUNDATION CONFERENCE
Fragile X Foundation

HEALTHY LIVES, HEALTHY FUTURE
Cabarrus Co. Dept. of Aging & Senior Ctr.

IDA & ASSET BUILDING COLLABORATIVE
MDC, Inc

INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON
SELF-DETERMINATION
Center for Self-Determination

LIVING WELL IN NORTH CAROLINA
Stevens Foundation for Dev. & Enrichment Services

MAKING OUR VOICES HEARD: IMPLEMENTATION
Human Services Research Institute

MONEY FOLLOWS THE PERSON:
PLANNING & TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE
Community Resource Alliance

MOVING FORWARD
Community Resource Alliance

NC DISABILITY ACTION NETWORK
Disability Rights & Resources

NC STATE - KENAN INSTITUTE
Kenan Assistive Technology Fellowship

NC APSE SPRING CONFERENCE 2009
Orange Enterprises

PEER CONNECTIONS
Human Services Research Institute

SEEING IS BELIEVING: BUILDING PROVIDER CAPACITY
Community Resource Alliance

SUMMIT ON DD: IMPLEMENTATION
TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE COLLABORATIVE
Human Services Research Institute

NCCDD was a major funder of the **2009 INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON SELF-DETERMINATION**, held in Winston-Salem. The conference brought together hundreds of self-advocates and leaders, all working for increased freedom of individuals with I/DD to make decisions about their own lives. A video, "Self-Determination Is..." was produced for the Council to make known the views of disability rights advocates and national leaders. The video gained significant recognition and was given to all of the state Councils on Developmental Disabilities in the U.S. and the territories.

COMMUNITY SUPPORTS, BUILDING ASSETS

With input from pilot sites in Winston-Salem and Charlotte, and with the Cape Fear Asset Building Coalition, the **INDIVIDUAL DEVELOPMENT ACCOUNT (IDA)** and **ASSET BUILDING COLLABORATIVE**, together with the National Disability Institute, updated the Asset Building Toolkit. The kit contains information that people with I/DD can use to make the most of each dollar by taking advantage of asset development opportunities in their own communities.

COMMUNICATING EFFECTIVELY

The **COMPREHENSIVE COMMUNICATIONS PLAN** got the NCCDD's message out to the public in 2008-2009. A new website design was developed, making it easier to track Council developments and issues affecting the disability community. A new approach to "people first" language was presented in a widely distributed Council brochure. The Communications initiative led efforts to gather comments on revisions to the Council's five-year plan and produced two issues of the "Catalyst for Change" newsletter, together with the annual report.



2009 MarCom Gold Award for "SELF DETERMINATION Is ..."

COLLEGE OF DIRECT SUPPORT

To further the growth of Direct Support Professionals, the NCCDD funded the **COLLEGE OF DIRECT SUPPORT (CDS)**. CDS is a competency-based, online curriculum offered through the NC Providers Council. CDS enhances the skills, knowledge and overall quality of support services provided to people with I/DD.

The CDS covers topics including the history of the disability movement, service quality standards, and best practices for those whose work is supporting individuals with disabilities. RHA Howell, which operates residential facilities for people with disabilities, has had almost half of its 1,320 employees take the course. "CDS is transforming people's lives," said Roger Jones, the company's director of training.

Supporting its commitment to improving the lives of people with I/DD, the Council is seeking to increase the quality of direct support services and to enhance the training, professionalism and stature of direct support staff. The **COLLEGE OF DIRECT SUPPORT NC DEMONSTRATION PROJECT**, is being carried out by the NC Providers Council, with funding from NCCDD.

Flexible and easy to access, this innovative curriculum allows direct support professionals to complete assignments online. The convenience and cost-effectiveness of the CDS encourages employees to build their knowledge and skills in an empowering and respectful manner.

The quality of the services that people receive is closely related to the competencies and values of those who provide the services.



Above, Deana Newcomb works on a course offered through the College of Direct Support. Below, Kevin Wilt, far right, stands with employees who have completed the course at RHA Howell's Bear Creek residential facility. In 2009, over 600 of RHA Howell's employees completed or were enrolled in CDS.



THE COUNCIL *

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ROSEMARY BERNAUER, ST. GILIAID - PARENT-ADVOCATE

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DISABILITIES AND SUBSTANCE ABUSE SERVICES, DHHS



Council member and
parent-advocate Walter
Ruff at the microphone.



2010 Executive Committee*: from left back row, Tracy Parker Willets, Rusty Bradstock, Adonis Brown, Bob Rickelman, Chair, Mike Whitley; from left front, Jonathan Ellis and Carrie Ambrose.

MARY WATSON - NC DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC INSTRUCTION

MIKE WHITLEY, CHARLOTTE - CHAIRMAN, NCCDD DISABILITY SYSTEMS
CHANGE COMMITTEE, PROVIDER REPRESENTATIVE

TRACY PARKER WILLETS, WILMINGTON - NCCDD SECRETARY/TREASURER,
PARENT-ADVOCATE

LAURA YATES - NC DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS, EX-OFFICIO

Cover artwork: Pictured is the title screen of the North Carolina Council on Developmental Disabilities' new video, "Self-Determination Is..." This video focuses on the growing call for people with I/DD to determine the course of their own lives, with the support they may need to do so. The award-winning video runs 16 minutes. It is being distributed widely throughout the U.S. to provide the values for and context for a world-wide movement.

* Members as of January 2010



Council members Azell Reeves and Sadie Brewington Barbour.