

Plan Vocabulary

Advocacy – An action taken by a person or a group to make a wanted change or to stop an unwanted change.

Areas of Emphasis – (from the Developmental Disabilities Assistance and Bill of Rights Act 42 USC 15002 [2]) “The term ‘areas of emphasis’ means the areas related to quality assurance activities, education activities and early intervention activities, child care-related activities, health-related activities, employment-related activities, housing-related activities, transportation-related activities, recreation-related activities, and other services available or offered to individuals in a community, including formal and informal community supports, that affect their quality of life.”

Belonging – Feeling comfortable enough to be yourself when involved with a person, group, or place.

Capacity Building—A process for supporting individuals, groups, or communities to learn skills and strengthen abilities to resolve issues over time.

Competitive, Integrated Employment— When people with intellectual and developmental disabilities are employed, in individual positions, earning minimum wage or more, in workplaces where people with and without disabilities are peers who interact regularly while meeting the business needs of the employer.

Employment for All – The concept that anyone who wants to work, who has the right supports and services, can meet an employer’s business needs.

Inclusion – (from the Developmental Disabilities Assistance and Bill of Rights Act 42 USC 15002 [15]) “The term ‘inclusion’, used with respect to individuals with developmental disabilities, means the acceptance and encouragement of the presence and participation of individuals with developmental disabilities, by individuals without disabilities, in social, educational, work, and community activities, that enables individuals with developmental disabilities to— (A) have friendships and relationships with individuals and families of their own choice; (B) live in homes close to community resources, with regular contact with individuals without disabilities in their communities; (C) enjoy full access to and active participation in the same community activities and types of employment as individuals without disabilities; and (D) take full advantage of their integration into the same community resources as individuals without disabilities, living, learning, working, and enjoying life in regular contact with individuals without disabilities.”

Individualized Supports – from the Developmental Disabilities Assistance and Bill of Rights Act 42 USC 15002 [16]) “The term ‘individualized supports’ means supports that— (A) enable an individual with a developmental disability to exercise self-determination, be independent, be productive, and be integrated and included in all facets of community life; (B) are designed to— (i) enable such individual to control such individual’s environment, permitting the most independent life possible; (ii) prevent placement into a more restrictive living arrangement than is necessary; and (iii) enable such individual to live, learn, work, and enjoy life in the community;

and (C) include— (i) early intervention services; (ii) respite care; (iii) personal assistance services; (iv) family support services; (v) supported employment services; (vi) support services for families headed by aging caregivers of individuals with developmental disabilities; and (vii) provision of rehabilitation technology and assistive technology, and assistive technology services.”

Integration – (from the Developmental Disabilities Assistance and Bill of Rights Act 42 USC 15002 [17]) “The term ‘integration’, used with respect to individuals with developmental disabilities, means exercising the equal right of individuals with developmental disabilities to access and use the same community resources as are used by and available to other individuals.”

Lifelong Learning – Opportunities in and out of a classroom with appropriate support, to gain knowledge from childhood through adulthood.

Meaningful – Having a serious, satisfying, or useful quality or purpose.

Olmstead Decision – The U.S. Supreme Court’s 1999 landmark decision in *Olmstead v. L.C.* (*Olmstead*) found the unjustified segregation of people with disabilities is a form of unlawful discrimination under the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA).

Self Determination Activities—(from the Developmental Disabilities Assistance and Bill of Rights Act 42 USC 15002 [27]) “The term ‘self-determination activities’ means activities that result in individuals with developmental disabilities, with appropriate assistance, having— (A) the ability and opportunity to communicate and make personal decisions; (B) the ability and opportunity to communicate choices and exercise control over the type and intensity of services, supports, and other assistance the individuals receive; (C) the authority to control resources to obtain needed services, supports, and other assistance; (D) opportunities to participate in, and contribute to, their communities; and (E) support, including financial support, to advocate for themselves and others, to develop leadership skills, through training in self-advocacy, to participate in coalitions, to educate policymakers, and to play a role in the development of public policies that affect individuals with developmental disabilities.”

Self-Direction – When someone decides what to do, how to do it, and with whom.

Targeted Disparity—When a Developmental Disabilities Council identify particular people with intellectual and developmental disabilities and their families with less access to information, resources, and opportunities than their peers, and include activities in the plan to address inequity for the particular people identified. See the example below.

Example: *Many parents of K-12 students with intellectual and developmental disabilities express a need for good information advocating for effective Individual Education Plans and their implementation. Of parents expressing this need, those who speak languages other than English have less access to information. A Developmental Disabilities Council, funds activities to increase available information in a selection of languages other than English.*

Well-being— A state of contentment, health, and comfort.