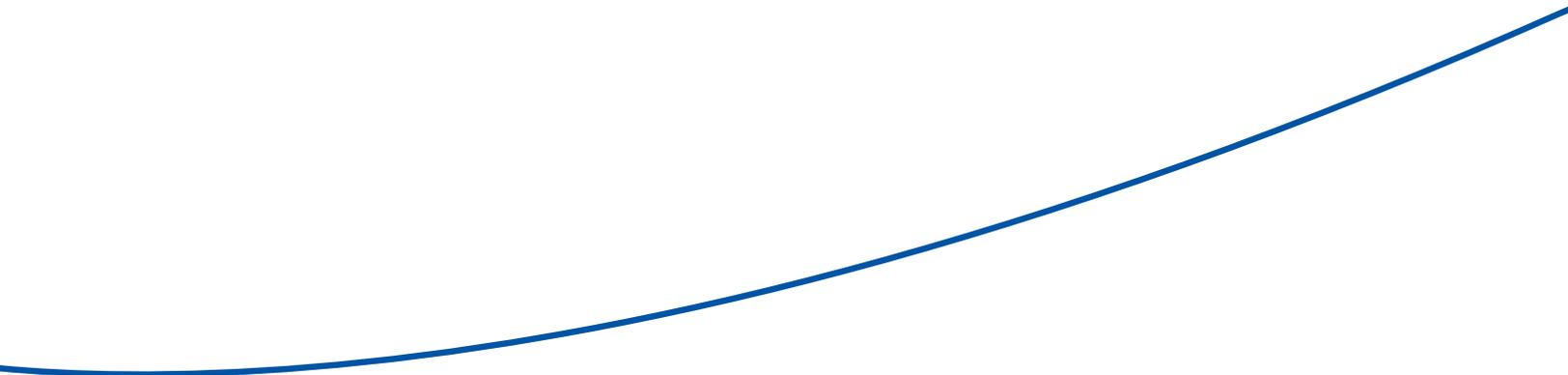


CONNECTICUT COUNCIL ON
DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES

20
05

ANNUAL REPORT





**“How far you go in life depends on you
being tender with the young,
compassionate with the aged,
sympathetic with the striving,
and tolerant of the weak and the strong.**

Because someday in life you will have been all of these.”

~ George Washington Carver





Table of Contents

2 THE CONNECTICUT COUNCIL ON DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES

3 COUNCIL MEMBERS

4 A MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR

5 UN MENSAJE DE LA SILLA

6 PEOPLE WITH DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES

7 2005 HIGHLIGHTS

8 Non-Grant Collaborations

9 Expanding State Services and Supports

10 Child Care

10 Communities

11 Education

12 Housing

12 Recreation

13 Transportation

14 Public Information and Education

16 Self Advocacy, Self Determination and Parent Support

19 Social Role Valorization

20 HOW THE DD DOLLARS WERE SPENT



The Connecticut Council **On Developmental Disabilities**

The Council on Developmental Disabilities is a Governor-appointed body of people with disabilities, family members and professionals who work together to promote the full inclusion of people with disabilities in community life. First established by Governor Thomas Meskill in 1971, the CT Council is currently authorized and funded by the federal Developmental Disabilities Assistance and Bill of Rights Act of 2000. The CT Council receives a fixed amount of federal funds each year and maintains an office with three staff members. The CT Council engages in advocacy, capacity building and systems change activities on behalf of people with developmental disabilities, their families and their communities. The Council speaks out on issues; educates communities, policymakers and service providers; and funds initiatives designed to create opportunities for inclusion in community life, reduce dependence on government services and restore citizen control over programs.

Council Members:

October 1, 2004 to September 30, 2005

Officers

Jousette Caro, Chair
Cathy Adamczyk, Vice Chair

Persons with Developmental Disabilities

Joyce Baker, Wethersfield
Steven Barnwell, New London
Richard Burney, Unionville
Carolyn Cartland, Bloomfield
Jay Lang, Fairfield
Armand Legault, Newington
Thomas McCann, Manchester
Peter Morrissette, East Hartford
Paul Seigel, New Haven
Chad Sinanian, Danbury

Parents

Cathy Adamczyk, Ansonia
William Broadbridge, Cheshire
Jousette Caro, Hartford
Patricia Carrin, Canton
Jennifer Carroll, Glastonbury
Sheila Crocker, Bloomfield
John Flanders, Cromwell
Nancy Taylor, Canton
Anita Tremarche, Manchester
Patricia Vidal, North Haven

Private Agencies

Carolyn Newcombe,
Disabilities Network of Eastern
Connecticut

State Agencies

Art Carey, Department of Education
Lawrence Carlson,
Department of Social Services
Mary Eberle, UCONN Center on Disabilities
Carol Grabbe,
Department of Mental Retardation
(Retired November 21, 2005)
Kathryn duPree,
Department of Mental Retardation
(Appointed November 21, 2005)
Gretchen Knauff,
Office of Protection and Advocacy
(Retired December 27, 2005)
Patricia Tyler,
Office of Protection and Advocacy
(Appointed December 27, 2005)
Martha Okafor,
Department of Public Health
(Resigned September 29, 2005)
Lisa Davis,
Department of Public Health
(Appointed December 27, 2005)

Staff To The Council

Edward T. Preneta, Director
Yvette Johnson, Disability Policy Specialist
Mary-Ann Langton,
Disability Policy Specialist

Webmaster

Judi Sohn, Mom At Home Design, New Jersey

A Message From the Chair

A Message From the Chair

For the first time in a long time, The Council has a full complement of members. Our persons with developmental disabilities, parents, and agency members are working hard to promote systems change. We have had to say goodbye to some very dedicated members, who without their tireless efforts and proactive advocacy skills, we would not have been able to overcome some obstacles and achieve success in promoting our mission of full inclusion. To our new members, welcome! In the few short months of being involved I can see that our best years are yet to come. Our members actively contribute ideas, thoughts, personal insight, experience, and expertise to further our goals and objectives.

This year the Council embarked on some new initiatives. For the first time we put out RFP for mini-grants up to \$ 5,000. With these mini-grants came an influx of applications from all parts of the state. We were able to fund many, with various goals of improving the lives of persons with development disabilities.

As we know some initiatives take time, relationship building, and continuous effort to effectively support real systems change. For example, Transportation issues affect ALL of Connecticut residents. Whether we live in a vibrant city or one of our rural suburbs, transportation needs are a concern for all. Our community members with developmental disabilities need reliable transportation not only for basic daily living, but for attending community and recreational activities as well.

We partnered with CPTV this year and produced two vignettes, one on Birth to Three and the other on Inclusive Education. These short TV messages were aired for approximately 3 months and were not only viewed by CT residents but by MA, NY, and RI as well. In the coming year of 2006 we will be involved in the production of 8-10 half hour segments. These segments will be dealing with developmental disabilities through the lifespan. Our vision is to inform the audience that developmental disabilities isn't just a condition but a fact of life. Anyone at anytime can meet unforeseen circumstances and become disabled and share in the life of the disabled community. That the commonalities of the issues are universal to all. That persons with disability adapt, overcome, and triumph in everyday life. Not only were these segments informational but we were able to inspire viewers to apply to become members of our Council.

As we close out 2005 our members have been working hard. They are involved in various committees and their vigor and enthusiasm leads me to believe that the horizon that lays ahead of us for 2006 is multifaceted and colored with a promise of great things to come.

Thank you,
Jousette Caro
Council Chair

Un Mensaje de la Silla

Un Mensaje de la Silla

Por primera vez en un largo tiempo, el concilio tiene un complemento lleno de miembros. Nuestros miembros con incapacidades del desarrollo, padres, y los miembros de la agencia están trabajando para promover el cambio del sistema. Tuvimos que decir adiós a algunos miembros muy dedicados, que sin sus esfuerzos incansables y las habilidades proactivos de defender los derechos, no habríamos podido superar algunos obstáculos y alcanzar éxito en promover nuestra misión. A nuestros nuevos miembros, bienvenidos! En el poco tiempo de estar con nuestro concilio puedo ver que nuestros mejores años están por llegar. Nuestros miembros contribuyen ideas activamente, inquietudes, sus experiencias personales, y sus especialidades para progresar en nuestras metas y objetivos.

En este año nuestro concilio inicio una serie de nuevas iniciativas. Por primera vez pudimos ofrecer ayuda financiera con un máximo de \$5,000. Con esta ayuda financiera fuimos testigo de un incremento de solicitudes que recibimos de todas partes del Estado de Connecticut. Pudimos a financiar muchos, con varias metas de mejorar las vidas de personas con incapacidades del desarrollo.

Como sabemos algunas iniciativas toman tiempo, para construir la relación, y continuo esfuerzo para apoyar efectivamente el cambio del sistema. Por el ejemplo, problemas de transportación afectan a muchos residentes de Connecticut. No importa si nosotros vivimos en una ciudad vibrante o en unos de nuestros suburbios rurales, las necesidades de transportación son preocupaciones para todos. Nuestros miembros de la comunidad con incapacidades del desarrollo dependen en la transportación puntual y segura no solamente para la vida diaria, pero para asistir actividades en la comunidad y actividades recreativas en general.

En asociación con CPTV produjimos dos vignettes, uno de (Birth to Three) nacimiento a tres y el otro en la educación inclusiva. Estos cortos mensajes fueron transmitidos por aproximadamente 3 meses y vistos no solamente por CT residentes pero por MA, NY, y RI también. En este año del 2006 estaremos produciéndoos entre 8-10 segmentos de media-hora. Estos segmentos trataran los temas de personas con incapacidades del desarrollo durante todas las etapas de sus vida. Nuestra visión es informe al publico en general que las incapacidades del desarrollo no es solamente una condición pero un factor de la vida. Cualquier persona en cualquier momento puede involuntariamente desarrollar incapacidades y en si ser parte de la comunidad de los incapacitados. Es por eso que el tema de personas con incapacidades nos concierne a todos. Las personas con incapacidades se adaptan, superan, y triunfan en la vida diaria. Estos segmentos no solo fueron informativos pero sirvieron como inspiración.

Al cierre del año 2005 nuestros miembros continúan trabajando arduamente. Están involucrados en varios comités, su vigor y entusiasmo me conduce ha creer que el horizonte que pone delante de nosotros el año 2006 es multifacéticos y coloreado con una promesa de grandes cosas por venir.

Gracias,
Jousette Caro
Silla Del Concilio

People With Developmental Disabilities

Developmental disabilities are very severe disabilities that typically are lifelong in duration. The federal Developmental Disabilities Act defines a developmental disability as a severe, chronic disability that -

- is attributable to a mental or physical impairment or a combination of mental or physical impairments;
- is manifested before the individual attains age 22;
- is likely to continue indefinitely;
- results in substantial functional limitations in three or more of the following areas of major life activity:

- ▶ self-care
- ▶ self-direction
- ▶ mobility
- ▶ learning
- ▶ receptive and expressive language
- ▶ capacity for independent living
- ▶ economic self-sufficiency

- reflects the individual's need for a combination and sequence of special, interdisciplinary, or generic services, supports, or other assistance that are of lifelong or extended duration and are individually planned and coordinated
- except that such term, when applied to infants and young children, means individuals from birth to age 9, inclusive, who have substantial developmental delay or specific congenital or acquired conditions with a high probability of resulting in developmental disabilities if services are not provided.



2005 highlights

The Connecticut Developmental Disabilities Network (DD Network) was established to provide leadership for implementation of the federal Developmental Disabilities Assistance and Bill of Rights Act.

The DD Network included the CT Council on Developmental Disabilities, the Office of Protection and Advocacy and the University of Connecticut A.J. Pappanikou Center for Excellence in Developmental Disabilities at the UCONN Health Center. These three organizations have a common goal and purpose: the protection and full integration of individuals with developmental and other disabilities into society in a manner that is consistent with the unique strengths, resources, abilities and capabilities of each individual and his or her family.

The CT Council has had an outstanding collaborative relationship with the Office of Protection and Advocacy (P&A) since its inception in 1978 and the UCONN Center on Disabilities (UCE) since its inception in 1986. The CT Council participated in the design and implementation of state legislation that created P&A and led the state in recruiting a university to host the UCE. The DD Network has routinely collaborated on many issues over the years. In addition to grant funded collaborations, the following are recent non-grant collaborations:

A February 7, 2005 Forum was held on Medicaid waivers and featured a Medicaid workshop by Allan Bergman, President and CEO of the Anixter Center, Chicago, IL.



Non-Grant Collaborations

The DD Network has also been present in the State Capitol during the opening of the General Assembly session. Each Network partner sets up a table of information in the concourse between the Legislative Office Building and the State Capitol and distributes information about each partner and the DD Network. This is an annual Network event.

The DD Network held a “Lessons From Katrina” forum on disaster preparedness on December 6, 2005 at Northeast Utilities designed to influence state and local disaster preparedness planning and coordination. The forum was co-sponsored by the Connecticut Department of Emergency Management and Homeland Security. Presentations were made by Sandee Winchell, Director, Louisiana Council on Developmental Disabilities, and Marcie Roth, Executive Director, National Spinal Cord Injury Association. Panel participants included the northern Connecticut chapter of the American Red Cross, Department of Public Health and people with disabilities. The conference attracted maximum capacity: over 200 people attended and they represented a balanced mix of first responders, municipalities and towns, provider agencies and people with disabilities. Connecticut Public Television and the CT-N, the Connecticut General Assembly’s television station, taped the event. The DD Network and the Department of Emergency Management and Homeland Security are planning a follow-up to the conference to assure that regional disaster planning includes input by people with disabilities and their families. Additional such Network conferences and forums are being planned.

Expanding State Services and Supports

Connecticut is 1 of only 6 states that has a state agency serving only persons with mental retardation labels. No less than 7 separate state entities serve people with other disability labels and each have established eligibility criteria based on diagnostic labels, income limitations, and discrete functional needs. This has led to uneven access to state sponsored services that often denies critical support to citizens with substantial need for assistance, resulting in significant frustration and hardship for individuals and families, and fosters the use of inappropriate, and more expensive, systems of care such as acute care hospitals or long-term care facilities.

In July 2002, a CT General Assembly Advisory Commission on People with Developmental Disabilities (DD) who do not have Mental Retardation, submitted 11 recommendations, including:

- ▶ adopting the federal definition of DD as the basis for service eligibility;
- ▶ designating the Department of Mental Retardation (DMR) as the responsible lead agency for coordinating existing services and developing new services; and
- ▶ establishing an independent Council to advise the lead agency in system design, implementation and quality enhancement.

The Council supported the participation of 4 parents and a self-advocate on the Advisory Commission and, with DMR, staffed the Commission.

On October 1, 2002, the Commissioners of DMR and the Department of Social Services (DSS) submitted an implementation plan to the General Assembly that called for piloting a model demonstration project of expanded service eligibility and delivery with guidance from an Interagency Developmental Disabilities Workgroup (IDDW) of 11 state agencies, including the Council. The Council coordinated a meeting of 17 state and federally required state-administered boards, commissions and Councils addressing people with disabilities to work with the IDDW. Outside of state government, the Council supported the CT Autism Spectrum Resource Center (ASRC) to educate and organize agencies and individuals across all disability groups to promote legislative enactment of the Commission's recommendations. ASRC enabled participation by self-advocates and family members at legislative hearings in 2003. The CT General Assembly found neither the political will nor funding to expand services and supports. In 2004, the CT Council joined with the Office of the Child Advocate and parents who have children with disability labels along the Autism spectrum to resurrect the recommendations of the Advisory Commission. Five bills before the 2005 session of the CT General Assembly proposed to expand services and supports to all people with developmental disabilities. A budget bill was passed that included \$250,000 over 2 years for Department of Mental Retardation to implement its "lead agency" responsibility for people with autism.

Inclusive Child Care

The New Britain YWCA trained 95 Y and New Britain child care program staff on the inclusion of children with developmental disabilities in child care programs. Training was arranged through DD Network partner the A.J. Pappanikou University Center for Excellence (UCE) in Developmental Disabilities at the UCONN Health Center.



Inclusive Communities

In 1986, the CT Council introduced to Connecticut the concepts of building bridges to community associations, circles of support and personal futures planning through a series of workshops with John McKnight, Northwestern University, David Wetherow, Canada and Beth Mount, Capacity Works, New York. During 2005, the Council brought John McKnight back to Connecticut with Rosita De La Rosa from Logan Square, Chicago. The CT Council co-sponsored a presentation on community building by McKnight with the Farmington Village Green and Library Association and supported a presentation in Spanish on community building by De La Rosa for Padres Abriendo Puertas, an organization of Latino parents. In conjunction with these presentations, the CT Council began a multiple year initiative with FAVARH, Canton, to connect people with developmental disabilities to community associations. Connections were made with the Canton Public Library, Canton Historical Museum, Canton Senior Services, Canton Cares, the Canton Bicentennial Committee, Focus on Canton, an arts center and a bank. FAVARH participated in Crop Walk For Hunger and worked with a church to facilitate inclusion and integration of parishioners with developmental disabilities. The Connecticut Assets Network is a partner with FAVARH and the CT Council in promoting community building.

Inclusive Education

In **1987**, the CT Council began to promote systems change for the inclusion of students with disabilities in regular classrooms. With the Office of Protection and Advocacy (P&A), the CT Council helped establish the Connecticut Parent Advocacy Center, which is now funded by the United States Department of Education through the State Department of Education (SDE) as a parent training institute.

In **1989**, The CT Council introduced the concept of inclusive education to Connecticut. The CT Council supported numerous advocacy, capacity building and systems change initiatives over the years, including support for the start-up of the CT Coalition for Inclusive Education (CCIE) in **1990**.

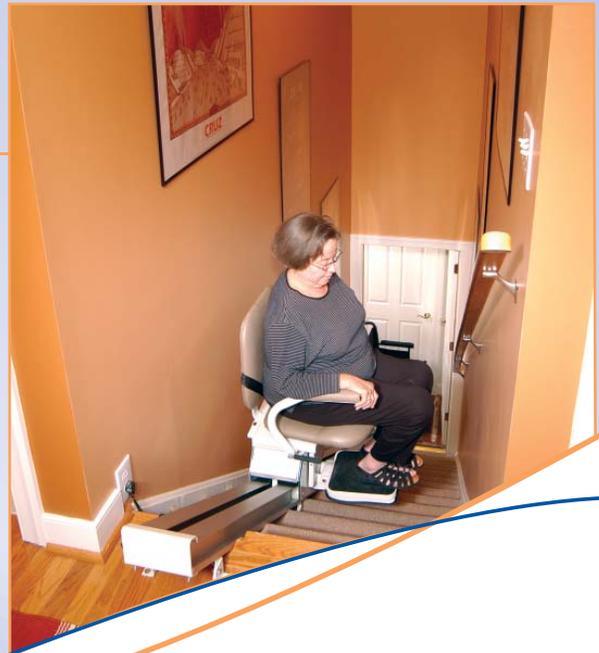
In **1991**, 6 parents, the Arc of CT and CCIE sued the SDE in federal court for failure to enforce federal Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) requirements that require children with disabilities to be educated with non-disabled children to the maximum extent appropriate. The case, known as P.J. et.al. v. State Board of Education et.al., reached a negotiated settlement in May 2002.

In **January 2002**, the CT Council began supporting the UCONN Center on Disabilities to provide training to parents in all of CT's school districts on how to use special education to improve its effectiveness for students with disabilities, with a particular emphasis on inclusive philosophy, policies and practices.

Over a 4 year period, the UCE, in partnership with as many as 10 parent agencies, delivered Understanding Special Education (USE), a 10 hour course to 1,451 parents and educational professionals in 103 school districts, including training in inner cities and 2 trainings in Spanish. The curriculum was revised over time to reflect changes in state regulations. Parents reported feeling better equipped to advocate for their children and to actively participate in planning their children's education program. Educators reported having increased knowledge of special education laws and an improved ability to work collaboratively with families. The CT Council also funded a half-time attorney co-located with CCIE and the Arc of CT to train advocates to assist parents with Pupil Placement Team (PPT) meetings. P&A provided input into the course and curriculum. Nine (9) people were trained and assisted 81 parents with PPTs. Finally, the CT Council funded MARC, Inc., Manchester, to provide enhancements to services provided by state mandated transition services to 10 students.

Inclusive Housing

In 2000, with the Office of Protection and Advocacy (P&A), the Council supported the start-up, incorporation, achievement of not-for-profit status, and creation of a membership base for a Connecticut chapter of ADAPT to organize people with developmental disabilities. In 2005, the CT Council supported ADAPT of CT to compile a town-by-town list of accessible housing units in seventy one of the one hundred sixty nine towns in Connecticut. The list is available from ADAPT of CT in print, on CD and on the Internet.



Inclusive Recreation

The CT Council supported Rammler and Wood Consultants, Ellington, to document successful instances of full inclusion of students with developmental disabilities in extracurricular recreational, leisure and social activities in CT public schools. Rammler and Wood helped three local school districts enable twenty students to participate in their local schools. The CT Council also supported the Americans with Disabilities Act Coalition of CT (ADACC) to explore state park outdoor recreation compliance with the ADA. The Office of Protection and Advocacy (P&A) provides ADACC office space. Ten young people, between the ages of sixteen and twenty, with developmental disabilities were educated about rights and access under the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) with regard to public outdoor recreation areas. The students were trained at Community Park, Wallingford, and assessed Sherwood Island Park, Westport, for compliance with ADA. An eighteen year old man, who lives in an inaccessible house and who has never seen or been to a beach, went on the Sherwood Island beach in a beach wheelchair.

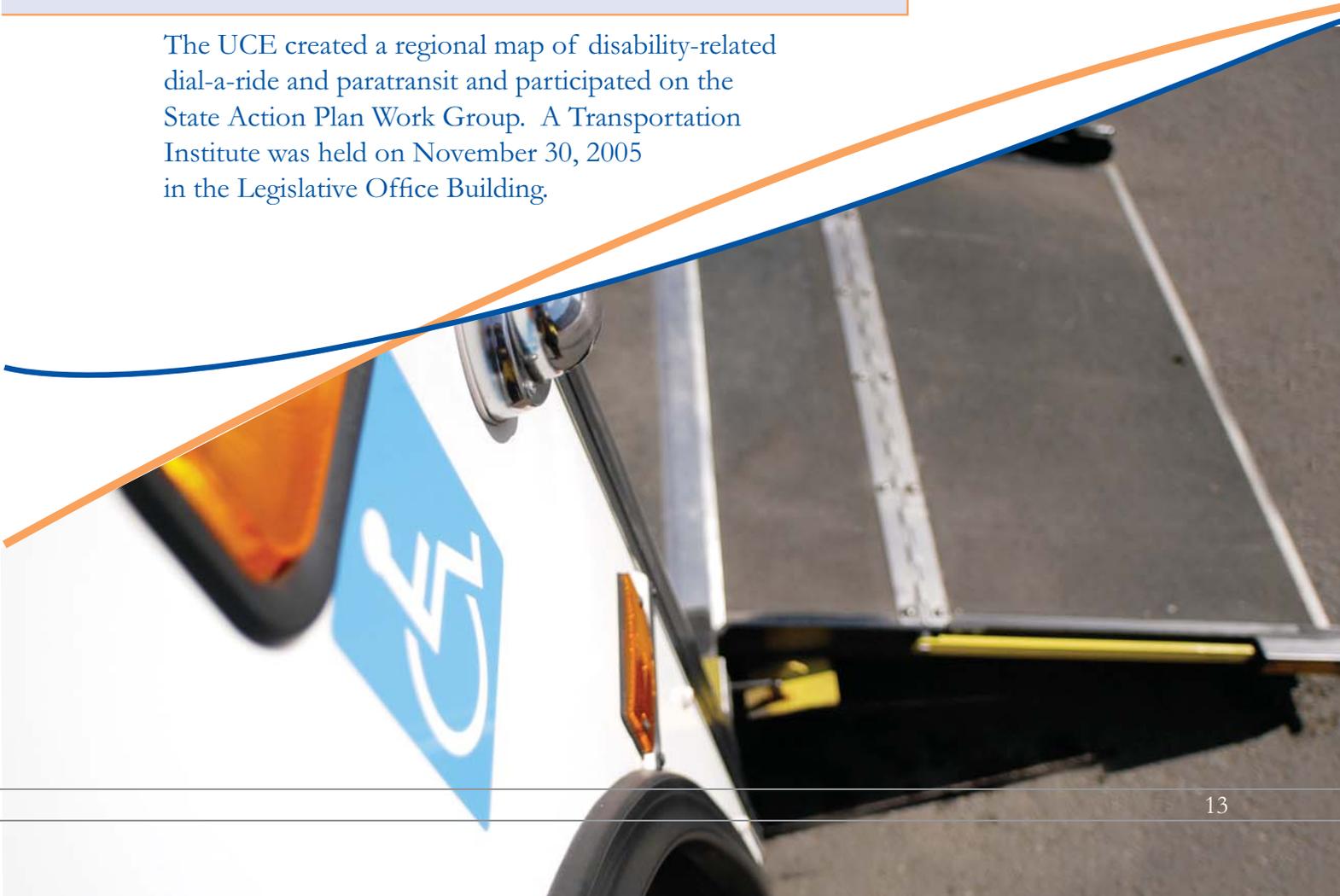
Inclusive Transportation

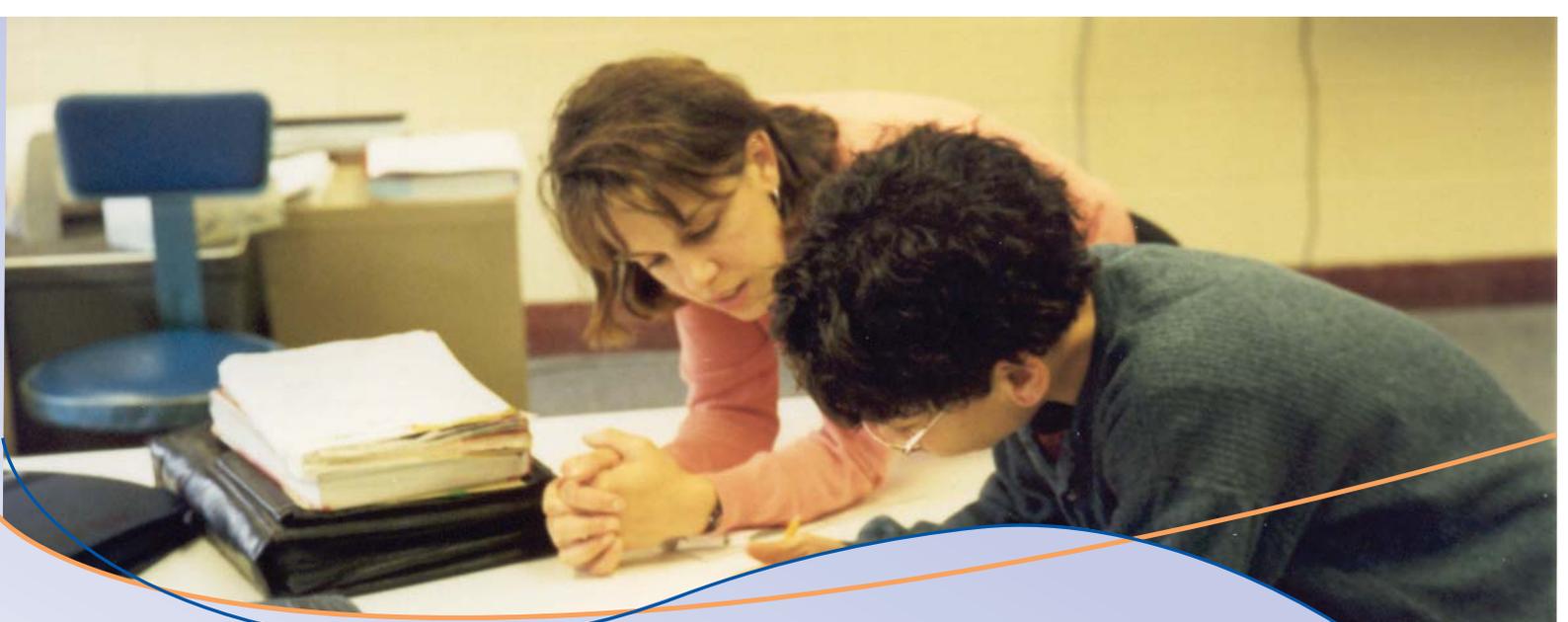
Through the UCONN Center on Disabilities, and in conjunction with the CT Department of Transportation, the CT Council began a multi-year initiative to achieve accessible, affordable and available transportation that addresses the interests of people with developmental disabilities and other transportation dependent people. The initiative is using the federal United We Ride initiative to influence Connecticut's State Action Plan for Coordinating Human Services. Through this initiative, one hundred forty five people from Forty three different towns attended seven transportation forums and ten people provided in-put by phone.

Four major transportation issues were identified:

- ▶ Community Access
- ▶ Collaboration
- ▶ Education and Training
- ▶ Safety

The UCE created a regional map of disability-related dial-a-ride and paratransit and participated on the State Action Plan Work Group. A Transportation Institute was held on November 30, 2005 in the Legislative Office Building.





Public Information and Education

The CT Council began a multiyear initiative with CT Public Television (CPTV) to promote the full inclusion of all people with disabilities in community life. The CT Council began working with CPTV in 1975 on the periodic development, production and broadcast of videos on issues concerning people with developmental disabilities.

“Count Me In,” the CT Council’s first 30 minute video promoting inclusion in the community, won national awards and was acquired by national and international agencies. Rights to “Count Me In” were purchased by a cable TV network which provided the CT Council with royalty income into the 1980s.

In 1992, some of the people included in the everyday lives of their communities were introduced to a larger public in “One Of Us,” a compilation of four video portraits which was produced in conjunction with CPTV and aired during prime-time. Additional documentaries were aired during the 1994/95 television season, including **“A Passion For Justice,” with Bob Perske on people with intellectual disabilities and their encounters with the criminal justice system.**

In 2005, The CT Council supported short television messages on in-home Birth To Three support and inclusive education. CT’s Birth To Three program recruited a family and service provider for the filming of in-home support. UCONN Center on Disabilities recruited students, their families and public schools. **Two :30 and :60 videos on Birth To Three and Inclusive Education aired 156 times over a 13 week period in “kid time” and “prime time” from March 21st through June 19, 2005. An estimated 4.1 million viewers saw the vignettes.**

The CT Council had a link on the CPTV website during the airing period, including streaming of vignettes, and logo-link to the Council and other partner sites. An estimated 10.8 million visitors went to the CPTV website and saw the links. The Council Office received several applications for Council membership and several phone calls for further information. In 2006, the CT Council, Department of Mental Retardation, Birth To Three, Department of Education and other private partners will work with CPTV to produce a series of ½ hour videos on inclusion in the community.

Through a memorandum of understanding with the UCONN Center on Disabilities the CT Council published 500 annual reports and 500 one-page descriptions of Council activities for distribution to policymakers and the public. 807 reports and descriptions were disseminated. In addition, the CT Council enabled the UCE to promote that “disability is a part of the human experience” to elementary school children.

An employee from the UCONN Center on Disabilities, and her service dog, Sassy, made nine presentations in public schools to 545 children in grades 1-4, participated in “Pet Talk” on TV News Channel 12, Norwalk, CT, and published and marketed the book “Sassy Goes To Work.”





Self-Advocacy, Self-Determination, and Parent Support

In 2002, the CT Council funded CT Family Voices to start-up the first state chapter of Kids As Self-Advocates (KASA). KASA is a national, grassroots network of youth with disabilities. The CT Council started KASA to address the need for new and young leaders. In 2003, the CT Council brought KASA in-house as a Council funded and staff supported initiative and the State Department of Education transferred \$10,000 for KASA to the CT Council. In 2004, KASA became a project of the CT Youth Leadership Project (CYLP). The CYLP awarded \$18,410 to the CT Council to support KASA. In 2005, the CT Council provided additional funds and technical assistance and transitioned KASA support from Council staff to a contractor. Two KASA members were paid stipends to serve as organizers of KASA events and meetings. KASA has 37 members from 27 different towns. Average attendance at monthly meetings is 15 to 20 members. KASA members presented at, or participated in, 10 to 12 conferences and events. In 2006, KASA will move from an in-house Council initiative to the Office of Protection and Advocacy (P&A). KASA is a multiyear CT Council initiative.

The CT Council began a multiyear initiative with the African Caribbean American Parents of Children with Disabilities (AFCAMP) to develop an African and Caribbean parent movement in New Haven. Four developing parent leaders in Greater New Haven were provided support and technical assistance. Numerous conferences were

attended and meetings held to share information about Parent Empowerment Through Education, Training and Advocacy (PEETA) and issues facing families raising children with disabilities. Outreach material reached four-hundred parents and community members, including four legislators and community leaders, twenty community and provider agencies, seven schools, and four day care centers. Thirty-seven parents and community members attended workshops and training. Fifty new families with children with disabilities in greater New Haven were provided information and training, sixteen were provided peer support and telephone advocacy and six referrals were made to provider agencies.

The Collaborative is pulling together diverse self-advocacy and parent organizations into a collaborative leading to a Disability Convention to be held September 16, 2006 at the Connecticut Expo Center, Hartford.

The CT Council began a multiyear initiative with the Disability Advocacy Collaborative to revitalize the disability rights movement in Connecticut. The Collaborative is pulling together diverse self-advocacy and parent organizations into a collaborative leading to a Disability Convention to be held September 16, 2006 at the Connecticut Expo Center, Hartford. The Collaborative receives partial salary, office space and a VISTA volunteer from the UCONN Center on Disabilities and fiduciary support from Communitas, Inc. Seven regional groups of advocacy organizations have been formed and a monthly e-mail newsletter is distributed to approximately 1,000 individuals and organizations.

The CT Council became a primary supporter of the 2nd Family Support and Self-Determination conference. The conference was supported by ten sponsors and eleven vendors, including the Department of Mental Retardation, the CT Family Support Council and not-for-profit groups. Two hundred-eighty people attended.

The CT Council supported the CT Family Support Network, South Glastonbury, to develop, in Spanish and English, print and distribute a “How To Make Your Family Supports Work For You” brochure. 20,000 brochures, 12,000 in English and 8,000 in Spanish were distributed through the Birth To Three program and regional Family Support Coordinators.

The CT Council supported the Dispute Settlement Center, Norwalk, to assess the market for providing alternative dispute resolution specifically tailored to persons with developmental disabilities and their families in Fairfield county.

The assessment confirmed a market for conflict resolution intervention and training for

- ▶ individuals who are in conflict with one another (such as in group facilities),
- ▶ disagreements about the level and kind of services and supports (such as individuals with provider agencies),
- ▶ between persons with disabilities and their community (such as landlords) and
- ▶ between families and special education, and between family members.

The CT Council supported Parents Available To Help (PATH), Northford, to purchase a laptop computer and portable multimedia projector for the purpose of providing parent-to-parent outreach, with an emphasis on minority parents. PATH reached inner city parents in Waterbury, predominantly Spanish speaking parents in New Britain and rural parents in northeast Connecticut.

The CT Council supported the Special Education Network of New Canaan (SPED*NET) to create on its web site, and in public libraries, a library of video and digital recordings of speaker presentations to parent organizations in Fairfield County. Six seminars on disability-related topics were recorded and posted on the website and fifteen videos were converted to DVD format and added to the library. Twenty three entities requested copies of DVDs and seventy DVDs were distributed at meetings and conferences. DVDs were available from the New Canaan public schools and several parent groups and provider agencies.

The CT Council supported WeCAHR, Danbury, to train ten veteran parents in greater Danbury to provide parent-to-parent support to parents of newly diagnosed children with disabilities. One hundred-eighty packets of Parent To Parent information, palm cards and rolodex cards were mailed or hand-delivered to medical, allied health and school personnel.



Social Role Valorization

The CT Council's support for social role valorization (SRV) training began in 1986 with support for the CT Training Project for Values-Based Services. The CT Council has periodically supported SRV training since 1986. SRV training is a multiyear initiative with the Social Role Valorization Implementation Project, Worcester, Massachusetts. 2005 was the second consecutive year the CT Council sponsored SRV training. Two hundred-fifty five people were trained. The CT Council supported two separate sets of training. The CT Council first committed to support two consecutive workshops on "Protecting The Lives Of Hospital Patients (Hospital I)" and "Advanced Issues In Protecting Hospital Patients (Hospital II)" and then "An Exploration Of The Use Of Restraints In Human Services." In the latter workshop, the use of restraints was challenged on moral grounds. Some participants planned to re-assess their use of restraints and their policies regarding restraints. The Council then committed to working with the Office of the Child Advocate to support SRV training for people working in the child support and child welfare system. These workshops were "Thoughtful Approaches To Difficult Behavior," "Adaptive Strategies For Families Who Have Children With Impairments For Working With Schools," and "Carrying Big Stick: Issues Of Power And Control That Lead To Human Service Perpetrated Violence." The latter topic was particularly controversial. Some participants reacted negatively to the notion that there is violence in human services. Overall, SRV training generated good discussion, some participants were quite challenged, others were inspired, and most thought deeply about important issues. SRV trained people to enable, establish, enhance, maintain and defend valued social roles in society for people with disabilities.

The CT Council on Developmental Disabilities operates entirely with federal developmental disabilities funds, which are distributed among the states under a formula based on population, per capita income, unemployment rate, and Social Security disability statistics. In 2005, the CT Council received an allotment of \$685,216. The CT Council also carried over \$177,825 of 2004 funds for use during 2005. The Council's total 2005 budget was \$863,041. The Council leveraged \$286,980 in matching funds.

2005 Grantees

ADAPT of Connecticut	\$2,825
WeCAHR	\$3,000
SPED*NET	\$3,560
Americans with Disabilities Act Coalition of Connecticut	\$4,581
YWCA of New Britain	\$4,884
Connecticut Family Support Network	\$5,000
Dispute Settlement Center	\$5,000
Parents Available To Help (PATH)	\$5,000
MARC, Inc.	\$10,575
Social Role Valorization/Implementation Project (SRV)	\$10,900
Staff arranged facility, meals, parking	\$7,085
Disability Advocacy Collaborative	\$27,970
African Caribbean American Parents (AFCAMP)	\$28,732
Connecticut Public Television (CPTV)	\$30,000
Rammler and Wood	\$30,503
Arc of Connecticut	\$45,854
FAVARH	\$72,591
University of Connecticut A.J. Papanikou Center for Excellence in Developmental Disabilities Education, Research and Service	
Elementary School Education	\$4,110
DD Network, Annual Report, Publications	\$7,000
Understanding Special Education (USE)	\$50,000
Transportation – United We Ride	<u>\$56,000</u>

Subtotal **\$415,170**

2005 Council and Staff Initiated Activities

Publications	\$48
CT Kids As Self-Advocates (KASA)	\$15,615
Northrop contract	\$15,000
Family Support and Self-Determination Conference	\$7,500
FAVOR (for Greg Smith follow-up in 2006)	\$6,750
John McKnight/Rosita De La Rosa Community Building	\$4,000

Staff Program Activities:

CT Chapter of Kids As Self-Advocates | DD Network | Department of Education's Continuous Improvement Partnership Team | Parent Work Group | Multicultural Early Childhood Education Planning And Training | CT Family Support Council | Family Voices | Real Choice Model Communities | Connect-to-Work and Nursing Facility Transition Grants | Department of Social Services' Council for Persons with Disabilities | UCE's Advisory Council and Inclusion Think Tank | Testified on bills before the CT General Assembly and served as Project Officers to Council grantees

\$134,773

Subtotal **\$183,686**

Administration - 5% of the federal formula grant goes directly to the CT General Fund **\$34,261**

Council Office and staff **\$198,907**

Subtotal **\$233,168**

Carried over for use in 2006 **\$31,017**

Total **\$863,041**

Contacting the Council

Connecticut Council On Developmental Disabilities

460 Capitol Avenue

Hartford, CT 06106-1308

(860) 418-6160 (voice)

(860) 418-6172 (TTY)

(860) 418-6003 (fax)

1-800-653-1134 (toll free CT only)



www.state.ct.gov/ctcdd