

## Our Commitment

Provide information on best practices from national and state experts in the field of developmental disabilities.

Reimburse participants for travel costs to training sessions, respite services, personal assistance services, and child care services.

Provide lodging and meals during all training sessions.

## Your Commitment

Attend and participate in all eight two-day training sessions in Charleston, WV.

Advocate for policies, services and supports that enable people with developmental disabilities to be independent, productive and included in the communities of their choice.

Motivate others to participate in Partners in Policymaking training to become more effective advocates.



West Virginia Developmental Disabilities Council  
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Sponsored  
by the



**A Leadership Training Program  
for adults with developmental  
disabilities and parents of young  
children with developmental disabilities**

## Partners in Policymaking is Designed for

- Parents of children with developmental disabilities.
- Adults with developmental disabilities.



## Our Goal

- To help participants better understand the history of developmental disabilities and the disability movement.
- To educate participants about the legislative process at the local, state and federal levels.
- To educate participants on how to contact and develop positive and lasting relationships with policymakers.
- To educate participants on how to advocate for system changes that will increase opportunities as well as independence, productivity, and inclusion for people with developmental disabilities.
- To assist participants in becoming knowledgeable, confident, and effective advocates.

## Topics Presented

- History of Services
- Inclusive Education
- State/Federal Legislative Process
- Person Centered Planning
- Building Inclusive Communities
- Self-Determination
- Employment
- Housing/Supported Living
- Developmental Disabilities Bill of Rights Act
- Americans with Disabilities Act and Federal Policies
- Community Organizing and Media
- Parliamentary Procedures

## Graduate Skills

Graduates will be able to:

Describe;  
History of services,

Significance of the parent, self-advocate, and independent living movements,

Importance of futures planning, self determination, supported and competitive employment opportunities,

Understand;  
Importance of home ownership and basic strategies used to support people with developmental disabilities in their homes,

How a bill becomes a law at the state and federal levels,

How to use the media to effectively promote issues,

How to draft and deliver testimony for legislative hearings,

Identify;  
Strategies to achieve inclusion and quality education,

Critical federal issues and the process to personally address those concerns,

Strategies for beginning and sustaining grass roots level of organizing,

Utilize;  
Successful techniques for advocating for services to meet the needs of unserved and underserved individuals,

Proper procedure for conducting a meeting.

## Becoming a Partner

- Request an application.
- Complete and mail or fax application to the WVDDC office by June 30th.
- Commit to eight life changing training sessions (1 weekend per month between September and May).
- Graduate with experience and knowledge to better advocate for yourself, your family and others with developmental disabilities.

## To Learn More or Request an Application

[www.wvddc.org](http://www.wvddc.org)

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