Vermont Developmental Disabilities Council



100 State Street, suite 342 Montpelier, Vermont 05633-0206 (802) 828-1310 vtddc@vermont.gov www.ddc.vermont.gov

Vermont Draft Plan

VTDDC Seeks Public Comment on 2022-2027 State Plan

The Vermont Developmental Disabilities Council (VTDDC) is seeking public comment on the draft goals and objectives for its 2022-2026 State Plan. This is an opportunity for the public to provide input on the activities and policy work that the DD Council will conduct over the next five years. Anyone interested in disability issues in Vermont — including self-advocates, family members of people with intellectual and developmental disabilities (I/DD), service providers, and others — can participate and share their ideas.

The deadline to provide comments is May 31, 2021

About the State Plan

Every five years, DD Councils develop a State Plan. The State Plan guides how the VTDDC uses its resources to improve the lives of Vermonters with I/DD and their family members. The DD Council's resources include an annual federal appropriation of approximately \$520,000.

The VTDDC engaged Vermont communities in various ways to ensure that the Plan reflects the issues that matter most to people living with I/DD. During the fall, the VTDDC supported a series of 12 focus groups for self-advocates and family members from different regions of the State. Council staff also interviewed key stakeholders and reviewed current policies in 13 different areas where the state or a private entity provide services:

- Home & Community-based SupportHousinHealth & HealthcareEducaEarly Intervention (birth –3 years)EmployAssistive TechnologyTranspRecreationCorrectEconomic ServicesChildoSelf-Advocacy & Family Empowerment
- Housing Education Employment Transportation Corrections Childcare

<u>Council members</u> sorted through all this information. With the help of an independent facilitator, they worked in three (3) small teams to craft a focused and impactful draft plan. The draft plan will be posted here for 45 days as required by the federal Developmental Disabilities Assistance and Bill or Rights Act (2000). Members of the public can comment on any aspect of the Plan while it is posted.

Once the 45-day comment period closes on May 28, 2021, Council members will review all the input received and consider revisions to the Plan. The Council will approve a final version of the Plan at their June 24, 2021 meeting.

The Plan must receive final approved from the Council's federal partners at the <u>Administration for Community Living</u>. Grants and projects relate to the Plan will begin October 1, 2021.

Providing Feedback

The DD Council welcomes feedback in a variety of formats. A fillable survey is posted at this website. You may also provide written feedback electronically or by post mail:

Email: vtddc@vermont.gov

Vermont Developmental Disabilities Council 100 State Street, Unit 342 Montpelier, VT 05633-0206.

If you prefer to share your thoughts by recording a video or audio file, we are happy to receive comments in these formats. Please call our office at 802-828-1310 to discuss submission, as these are often large files that may be difficult to send as an attachment. Finally, if you need assistance in preparing your comments or other accommodations, please call our office so that staff can help you.