

Goals and Objectives

Draft 2.4 (3/25/21) for public comment



Goal 1, Empowering People

Vermonters with developmental disabilities and their family caregivers are empowered to make personally meaningful choices about their services, education, employment, guardianship status, healthcare, living situation, and relationships.

Objective 1.1, Leadership Development

- The VTDDC will support self-advocates and family members to become leaders in the disability rights movement.

Objective 1.2, Support for Self-Advocacy

- The VTDDC will support the long-term sustainability of the self-advocacy movement in Vermont.

Objective 1.3, Guardianship

- In collaboration with stakeholders, the VTDDC will promote the widespread understanding of alternatives to full guardianship, including supported decision making, so that individuals with developmental disabilities can make meaningful choices about their lives.

Objective 1.4, Peer Support

- The VTDDC will ensure that trained self-advocates are available to support and assist peers in creating and delivering person-centered plans.

Objective 1.5, Family Caregivers of Adults

- The VTDDC will promote access to high quality information, especially regarding adult services, and help build a supportive network for family caregivers.



Goal 2, Gaps in Services

The VTDDC will develop plans and advocate that the State address three gaps in critical services for people with developmental disabilities and their family members.

Objective 2.1, ADA Accessibility

- In collaboration with community partners, the VTDDC will advocate that spaces used by the public for recreation, health, and wellness are fully accessible in Vermont.

Objective 2.2, Housing

- In collaboration with community partners, the VTDDC will develop and promote a housing model that meets the need for adult living options that are affordable, promote independence, ensure necessary support, and assist in the development of friendships and other community connections.

Objective 2.3, Transportation

- The VTDDC will work with the Agency of Transportation and other partners to develop and/or promote a transportation option for people with disabilities that is statewide, affordable, convenient, and flexible.



GOAL 3, Addressing the Needs of an Underserved Group

VTDDC will advocate that individuals with complex disabilities and high support needs have equitable access to opportunities for employment, social engagement, and personal development.

Objective 3.1, Customized Employment

- In collaboration with community partners, the VTDDC will develop and promote a model for customized, integrated employment opportunities for individuals with high support needs.

Objective 3.2, Continuing Education

- In collaboration with community partners, the VTDDC will develop and promote a continuing education opportunity for individuals with high support needs that focuses on employment skills, greater social engagement, and increased independence.
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Goal 4, Systems Change

The VTDDC will support policies and practices that promote self-determination, full community inclusion, and equitable access to high quality services and supports.

Objective 4.1, Raise Awareness

- The VTDDC will conduct outreach and public awareness campaigns that change perceptions about the abilities and contributions of people with developmental disabilities.

Objective 4.2, Ongoing Policy Advocacy

- The VTDDC will monitor state and federal legislation and policy, educating decision-makers as needed. Working through its Policy Committee, the VTDDC will be able to address issue that were not foreseen or that have grown to be a priority.

Objective 4.3, System of Care

- The VTDDC will advocate that Vermont adequately fund Home and Community-Based Services (HCBS). Vermont will have a stable and strong system to deliver HCBS that emphasizes long-term wellbeing over crisis care, and individualized, flexible supports over adherence to rigid service categories.

Objective 4.4, Direct Support Workforce

- The VTDDC will advocate for the professionalization and stabilization of the direct care workforce through rate increases, value-based payments, increases to the minimum wage, and the creation of training opportunities that lead to career advancement.