EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

5-YEAR PLAN-OF-ACTION
GOALS, OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES
FOR OCTOBER 2017 – SEPTEMBER 2021
**INTRODUCTION**

The Montana Council on Developmental Disabilities is enabled and funded through a formula grant authorized under Subtitle B of PL106-402, the Developmental Disabilities Assistance and Bill of Rights Act of 2000.

The Council was created in state statute in 1971 and housed in state government from 1971 to 2003. In the 2003 the Council received federal and state legislative approval to take the form of a private, non-profit corporation, becoming the first, documented non-profit Council in the Country.

The mandate of the Council per federal law is to engage in advocacy, capacity building and systemic change activities that contribute to a coordinated, consumer and family centered, consumer and family directed, comprehensive system of community services, individualized supports and other forms of assistance that enable individuals with developmental disabilities to exercise self-determination, be independent, be productive, and be integrated and included in all facets of community life.

**FUNDING**

Each Council receives funds from the federal Administration on Developmental Disabilities, Administration on Children and Families, Department of Health and Human Services in the form of a basic grant calculated on the population of the state. Montana is a “minimum allotment state” based on the current formula and receives approximately $480,000 to support all Council functions. The Council has never received state funding in its existence.

**QUESTIONS OR COMMENTS**

The Council welcomes your questions or comments on the plan. You can share your comments by calling Council offices by calling 443-4332 or 1/866-443-4332 (toll-free); emailing your comments to deborah@mtcdd.org or by mail to: MCDD, 2714 Billings
Avenue, Helena, MT 59601. Comments will be accepted through May 20, 2016.

5-YEAR PLAN-OF-ACTION

Each Council is required to submit a 5-year plan to the Administration on Developmental Disabilities outlining the intended use of federal funding allocated for its basic operational grant. Federal law requires the plan address some or all of the Areas of Emphasis identified in the Developmental Disabilities Assistance and Bill of Rights Act, PL106-402. The Areas of Emphasis are as follows:

Child Care	Health Related
Community Supports	Housing
Early Intervention	Quality Assurance
Education	Recreation
Employment	Transportation

The Council conducted a series of focus groups, in-person interviews and received telephone and email input from across the state. Accessible formats and accommodations were provided as needed. A total of 140 responses were received with the following percentage breakdown:

Self-Advocates	34%
Parent/Family Advocates	29%
Provider Administration	25%
Case Mgr/State agency	6%
Native American Nations	6%

Trends identified through this process are:

- Information Needs – local, regional and statewide
- Training Needs – both for families and providers
- Access to services, Crisis access to services
- Limited Employment opportunities
- Limited transportation options
- Housing
- Dual Diagnosis
Each 5-year plan is reviewed and updated annually. The Council submits an Annual Program Performance Report which shows activities and progress toward each identified goal.

GOAL 1: Increase and strengthen knowledge of families of persons with I/DD about the service delivery system and service options to promote/encourage informed decision making with their family member including education and training necessary to participate in advocacy and policy making objectives.

Objectives:

1. Partner with Montana communities for the development of 5 community based events and activities to be held one per region of the state, to educate and inform individuals with I/DD, their families and professionals about important and emerging disability related issues, services and supports available in their communities and statewide.

Activities:
   a) Engage in outreach within each Region identify the information needs of that Region.
   b) Provide technical assistance regionally as needed to create information sharing opportunities.
   c) Provide support in holding the information gathering opportunities.

2. Revise and update a user friendly guide to accessing Montana’s Developmental Disabilities Service System.

Activities:
   a) Identify collaboration partners for revision of guide, both private and state entities.
   b) Verify accuracy of current service options and eligibility requirements.
   c) Engage in outreach statewide to announce and distribute the revised user friendly guide.
d) Provide the guide in alternative formats and languages based upon identified statewide need.

3. Annually revise and publish the Directory of Services for Montana’s service system.

Activities:
   a) Engage in outreach statewide to gather current information from each entity identified in the Directory.
   b) Annually publish and disseminate a hard-copy version of the Directory to all providers, state entities, policy-makers,
   c) Maintain and revise a web-based version of the Directory on the Council’s website.

1.4 Establish or strengthen a minimum of one State self-advocacy organization lead by individuals with I/DD

Activities:
   a) Outreach to other advocacy organizations to collaborate on existing advocacy activities, i.e., the Montana Youth Leadership Forum to strengthen community self-advocacy organizations.
   b) Convene regular meeting with sister programs, UCED and Protection and Advocacy to promote relationship building, information and resource sharing to achieve objective.

1.5 Support opportunities annually for up to 5 individuals with I/DD to participate on state and national boards, commissions and councils.

Activities:
   a) Support travel and per diem costs for self-advocate to serve on national SABE Board.
   b) Encourage and support self-advocate participation in leadership training opportunities at the Council, community and state level.
GOAL 2: Increase and strengthen the knowledge of direct support professionals working in Montana’s service delivery system through the opportunity to identify and hold in-person training events in their individual regions.

Objective:

2.1 Provide Posture 24/7 training to individual’s w/IDD and their families on a Region by Region basis.

Activities:

a) Partner with Regional Managers to identify potential participants for regional trainings.
b) Hold information meetings in each region to provide education and outreach on the program.

c) Seek applications from interested parties in each region.
d) Identify participants and their support team for each region.

e) Provide in-home training for participants and perform follow-up at 3, 6 and 9 month intervals.

f) Develop curriculum for intensive 2-day workshop
g) Develop portfolio for pre and post workshop knowledge

h) Confirm CEU’s for participants

i) Provide program certification