

**South Carolina Developmental Disabilities
2007-2011 State Plan**

Employment

Goal 1: People with disabilities who want to work, work in places of their own choosing.

Objective 1: Increase the number of people who are employed competitively by 10 percent.

Strategy 1: Hold conference featuring state of the art employers.

Strategy 2: Hold regional follow-up sessions targeting services coordinators, individuals from Vocational Rehabilitation, and school districts.

Strategy 3: Develop innovative successful programs that increase the number and types of employers who hire and retain people with disabilities.

Strategy 4: Develop public awareness campaign about successful programs identified.

Formal/Informal Community Supports

Goal 1: Individuals will have access to services they need to exercise choice.

Objective 1: Support people with developmental disabilities and/or spinal cord injuries, their families and caregivers to have information to make informed choices.

Strategy 1: Promote inclusion of children, youth and adults with developmental disabilities in year round recreational activities statewide.

Strategy 2: Research and compile a directory of available summer recreational opportunities for children, youth and adults with developmental disabilities.

Strategy 3: Develop a collaboration with South Carolina Colleges and Universities to develop and expand the inclusion and recreation opportunities for those with Developmental Disabilities.

Goal 2: Individuals and their families know and understand their rights to make informed choices.

Objective 1: Increase the number of individuals who are able to make their own choices.

Strategy 1: Develop resources for distribution to families and parents about how persons with Developmental Disabilities can make their own choices.

Strategy 2: Locate resources and materials that are state specific.

Quality Assurance

Goal 1: People with developmental disabilities and their families are strong advocates for themselves, their families, and all individuals with disabilities.

Objective 1: To maintain a comprehensive advocacy training program for self advocates and family members.

Strategy 1: Fund training for self advocates.

Objective 2: Assist self advocacy organizations to develop a stronger network.

Goal 2: Increase opportunities for social capital, financially supporting advocacy organizations.

Objective 1: Increase the percentage of individuals and family members to be in roles of leadership.

Strategy 1: Increase the understanding of influence individuals with Developmental Disabilities can have on boards.

Strategy 2: Collaborate with advocacy organizations throughout the state.

Goal 3: Council funded projects include consumer participation in the planning, design and implementation of the project.

Strategy 1: Every project will be evaluated to ensure each has a quality assurance component.

Strategy 2: Each council committee will be trained to evaluate this component.

Goal 4: People have the information, skills, opportunities, and support to live free of abuse, neglect, financial and sexual exploitation, and violation of their human and legal rights.

Objective 1: Address the strategies of meeting the needs of high behavioral and dually diagnosis.

Strategy 1: Ensure that innovative approaches are available to meet the comprehensive needs of people with Developmental Disabilities.

Strategy 2: Support statewide training for direct care/direct support personnel.

Objective 2: Educate individuals with Developmental Disabilities and their family members about abuse and neglect and ways to report it.

Strategy 1: Hold regional meetings to train consumers, family, and staff to understand to look at ways to report abuse and neglect.

Health

Goal 1: Improve the wellness of people with developmental disabilities in South Carolina and prevent the occurrence of secondary debilitating conditions.

Objective 1: South Carolina DD Council to serve as advisory/oversight body for CDC-funded “South Carolina Disabilities and Health Project” implemented by USC School of Medicine and subsequent projects.

Strategy 1: Monitor activities of the “South Carolina Disabilities and Health Project” at least quarterly.

Strategy 2: Routinely review national/state information and data related to health disparity of people with developmental disabilities and successful health promotion activities and strategies.

Objective 2: Assist collaborative efforts in the state to improve the health status of people with disabilities using evidence-based approaches to wellness promotion and prevention of secondary conditions, and incorporating and sustaining these within existing programs/services and available funding sources.

Strategy 1: Competitive DD Grant(s) awarded on an annual basis to support systems change efforts of service providers and consumer organizations; projects may be conducted independently or in conjunction with “South Carolina Disabilities and Health Project”, but must include evidence-based approaches.

Strategy 2: Monitor and assist DD Grant projects; insure appropriate evaluation and quality enhancement activities.

Goal 2: Promote primary prevention of developmental disabilities.

Objective 1: Continue to reduce the incidence of Neural Tube Defects (NTDs) in South Carolina at a rate below the national average of .9 per 1000 live births/fetal deaths.

Strategy 1: Routinely review national and state NTD surveillance data, information on the health and prevention benefits of folic acid, and actual use of folic acid by women of childbearing age.

Strategy 2: Review NTD surveillance efforts and data of Greenwood Genetic Center (GGC) and South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control (SCDHEC) and research findings concerning the health and prevention benefits of folic acid and actual use.

Objective 2: Assist collaborative efforts in the state to promote knowledge of the prevention benefits of folic acid and to increase folic acid use by women of childbearing age.

Strategy 1: Solicited DD Grant awarded to Greenwood Genetic Center on an annual basis to continue partial support of the “South Carolina NTD Prevention Awareness Campaign”; this project includes a variety of educational outreach efforts, distribution of printed materials, and a GGC representative who visits physician offices, medical clinics, and community health programs..

Strategy 2: Monitor activities of “South Carolina NTD Prevention Awareness Campaign,” including surveys of actual use of folic acid by women of childbearing age in South Carolina.