



Utah Developmental Disabilities Council™

Fifty Years of Serving Utah
1971-2021

Guiding Principles

We believe:

- all people can contribute to society
- all people rely on and need the support of each other
- all people are accountable for their actions, including the right to risk success or failure
- all people are responsible to become a contributing member of their community
- all people are valuable and worthy of dignity and respect
- there is richness is diversity
- all people have the right to have their voice heard

Vision Statement

“A world where everyone has access to what they need to get what they want from life.”

Mission Statement

The Utah Developmental Disabilities Council will advocate, build capacity and encourage systems change to support people with disabilities and their families to fully and independently participate in their communities

-Adopted September 8, 2015

Their History is Our Future: Fifty Years of Impact



1970s

1970 Congress creates Developmental Disabilities Services and Facilities Construction Amendments, introducing the term “developmental disabilities” into law and including more individuals with disabilities

1971 Governor Calvin Rampton establishes the Governor’s Advisory Council for Handicapped and Developmentally Disabled Children

1971 Disability agencies propose the Council create an organization to accept state aid (DDSA).

1972 Ineda Roe appointed as Executive Director of the Council

1975 UDDC leads advocacy efforts against a set of proposed fees to access disability services

Council Executive Director Ineda Roe (center) at a community event, 1985



1977 The Task Force on Institutional Options and Community Alternatives is created to propose plans to move institutionalized individuals into community supports



Young boys in their classroom at the New Life Training Center in Vernal, ca. 1971.

“In the word ‘disability’ there is always ‘ability.’”

LaMar Kap
Council Member,
1977

1976 Council is renamed as Utah Council for Handicapped and Developmentally Disabled Persons

1980 The Council and Utah Transit Authority work together to make accessible transit

1980 Carmen B Pingree—educator, community advocate, and namesake of the Carmen Pingree Autism Center for Learning—is elected as Council Chair

1985 Council creates Legislative Coalition for People with Disabilities to advocate at legislative level for systems change

1986 Dr. Fran Morse appointed as Executive Director of the Council

1993 Council helps form the Uintah Basin Disabilities Council in Vernal, to serve rural individuals

1992 The Council begins managing the Access Utah Network, a referral network of services for all disabilities. It was later used during the 2002 Salt Lake City Olympic Winter Games.

1990 The DD Act is amended to include language supporting interdependence, inclusion, and recognition of contributions of individuals with disabilities

1990s

1990 President George H.W. Bush signs the Americans with Disabilities Act

1993 Council and ARC of Salt Lake City form People First of Utah as a social network for self-advocates

1994 Council funds Partners in Policymaking Advocacy Training Program for families and self-advocates to learn how to impact legislation

1994 The DD Act is amended again to include an emphasis on individual dignity, personal preferences, and cultural differences

1995 Council and ARC of Cache County form first People First group in rural Utah

1995 Council is renamed as Governor's Council for People with Disabilities (GCPD)

“We should promote independence.”

Catherine Chambless,
Executive Director,
1992

1996 Catherine Chambless is named Executive Director of the Council



Students at a new school for children with autism, later named the Carmen Pingree Autism Center for Learning, 1998.

1998 SLC Olympic Organizing Committee forms advisory committee, including Council Director Catherine Chambless, to ensure people with disabilities are welcome at and able to enjoy the 2002 Olympic Games

2000s

2000 An updated version of the DD Act (PL 106-402) is created, including language that requires "provision of care that is free of abuse, neglect, sexual and financial exploitation, and violations of legal and human rights and that subject individuals with developmental disabilities to no greater risk of harm than others in the general population" and required greater network cooperation



Kim Yeoman during her historic mountain climb in 2005. Yeoman joined the UDDC as staff in 2007 as outreach specialist.

2020 UDDC revives the Partners in Policymaking program

2018 Libby Oseguera is named Executive Director of the Council

2016 The UDDC is recognized with the Utah Ethical Leadership Award

2005 Student and self-advocate Kim Yeoman visits a black bear den in central Utah with support from BYU's newly named University Accessibility Center and the GCPD.



Council and Staff after receiving the Utah Ethical Leadership Award, 2016

2006 The GCPD is renamed the Utah Developmental Disabilities Council (UDDC)

2015 Southwest Applied Technology College (SWATC) and the UDDC work together with legislative support to create an employment program for individuals with disabilities in southern Utah

2006 Claire Montanya is named the Executive Director of the Council

2010s

2008 Governor Huntsman declares March at Developmental Disabilities Month in response to advocacy efforts from the UDDC



Council Members stand with Rep. Becky Edwards to advocate for employment programs, 2015

"Children belong with families, [and] we should provide support to families to help them keep their children ... That's what is best for children."

Christine Fraizer

LCPD Advocate, 2005

2001 Alison Lozano is named Executive Director of the Council



Self-advocates enjoy an activity hosted by People First of Utah, 2005