



FEDERAL FISCAL YEAR 2022

# ANNUAL REPORT



Utah Developmental  
Disabilities Council.





Dear colleagues and friends,

This year was the first year of our 2022-2026 State Plan and we hit the ground running! We were very encouraged by the collaboration between advocacy groups, disability service administrators, lawmakers, and providers to create some real and lasting improvements in the lives of Utahns. After several difficult and uncertain years, 2022 really demonstrated that we are stronger together and can overcome anything if we focus our united efforts on behalf of the developmental disability community. It was a perfect start to a new State Plan, and we are entering the new year with greater energy and momentum in support of our priorities.

Sadly, 2022 was also the final year of service for several of our UDDC Council members, including our Chairperson, Jared Stewart. As his appointed term comes to an end, he would like to express his deep gratitude and admiration for all of those who work so hard, day-in and day-out, to create a more inclusive, empowering, and accepting world for differently-abled individuals. He is still committed to be a part of our statewide efforts, but we are thrilled to have Bryn Peterson as our new Chair going forward.

Over the next five years, the UDDC will make great strides to improve health outcomes, transportation affordability and accessibility, as well as access to home and community-based services. We will continue to support and train advocates to elevate the voices of our community and to bring awareness to the desires and needs of the thousands of Utahans with developmental disabilities who bring so much value to Utah's cities and towns.

The UDDC began this planning cycle by continuing its work to tirelessly champion equal opportunities for people with intellectual and developmental disabilities- drawing from the strength of our members, partners, and community. We are so thankful for everyone who played a part in creating progress toward our goals, and we are looking forward to working together on new challenges and opportunities in 2023!

With Gratitude,

Jared Stewart and Libby Oseguera

*UDDC Chair*

*UDDC Executive Director*

## WHO WE ARE

Councils on Developmental Disabilities were created through the Developmental Disabilities Assistance and Bill of Rights Act (DD Act) in 1970 and are federally funded through the Administration for Community Living.

The Utah Developmental Disabilities Council (UDDC) is a Governor appointed organization of people with intellectual and developmental disabilities, their families, and agencies that provide support and services to people with disabilities. More than 60 percent of the UDDC membership consists of individuals with developmental disabilities or their family members. The remainder of Council membership includes advocates and state agency representatives. The diverse membership of UDDC creates opportunities to better analyze and improve systems and services within Utah and ensure that the voices of people with intellectual and developmental disabilities as well as their families are heard.

## WHAT WE DO

Together, UDDC members work to promote self-determination, community integration, and inclusion. UDDC uses advocacy, capacity building, and systems change activities to advance equity for people with intellectual and developmental disabilities in the state of Utah and throughout the United States. The UDDC develops and implements a five-year plan that best suit the needs of the community. Plans can address:

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

## 2022-2026 GOALS

### Goal 1: Health and Safety

The UDDC will support physical and mental health and safety outcomes for people with intellectual and developmental disabilities and their families.

### Goal 2: Transportation

The UDDC will support the increase of access and availability of accessible and affordable transportation options throughout the state of Utah.

### Goal 3: Leadership and Advocacy

The UDDC will improve Utah public policy by developing self, community, and policy advocacy skills of people with intellectual and developmental disabilities and their families.

### Goal 4: Community Access and Supports

The UDDC will support community access, as well as formal and informal support, for people with intellectual and developmental disabilities and their families.







UDDC's activities and efforts collectively moved toward realizing our goal to support physical and mental health and safety for people with intellectual and developmental disabilities and their families. The Council works to create systemic change and improve the quality of life and health outcomes for people with developmental disabilities. Notable examples include a Council-funded project that improves training for medical students. The UDDC awarded a grant to the University of Utah School of Medicine to create educational tools to improve healthcare access and outcomes for Utahns with intellectual and developmental disabilities (I/DD). The primary purpose of this project is to amplify the voices of persons with I/DD and their families in rural healthcare settings. The U of U also aims to expand and support medical education for University of Utah School of Medicine (UUSOM) students, preparing them for active roles in both the support and advocacy of patients with significant disabilities living in rural Utah. The Council is also collaborating with several organizations to improve access to education



Staff preparing for a COVID-19 Vaccine clinic for kids

about healthy bodies, sexuality, and mental health for adults with I/DD that expands on previous work of the UDDC and will create new strategies and relationships.

**865** people were directly impacted by UDDC's health and safety efforts in FFY 2022.

**856**



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Our  
**VISION**

"A world where everyone has what they need to get what they want from life."



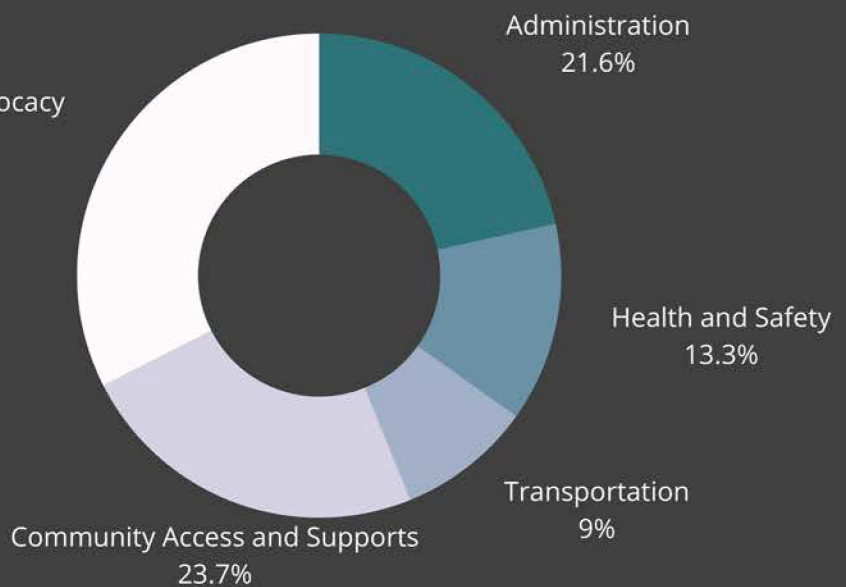


This year UDDC invested efforts into identifying opportunities and building relationships with partners that UDDC can work with and support to expand transportation accessibility more broadly. UDDC inserted the voices of people with I/DD in several transportation infrastructure projects to improve the design and development of roads, bridges and public thoroughfares. The Council supported data collection that will inform future transportation development and improvements. Lastly, UDDC made progress towards increasing stakeholder knowledge about transportation options and availability, as well areas that advocacy and education are required to make improvements to access and affordability in transit. UDDC is exploring a program to support people with I/DD to use public transit safely and confidently. The Council will offer a free transit training program within the next federal fiscal year. The UDDC is excited to support the independence of people with developmental disabilities through the use of public transit!



**Total Federal  
Fiscal Award for  
Reporting Year  
\$646,912**

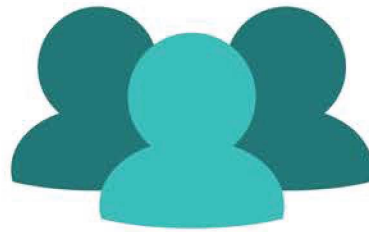
Leadership and Advocacy  
32.5%



The Council is working hard to improve community access and supports for people with developmental disabilities. The Council addressed youth postsecondary outcomes, youth transition to adulthood, and improved access to home and community-based services in FFY 2022. The Council funded multiple innovative projects to advance access to home and community-based services and support positive outcomes for youth transitioning to adulthood. The UDDC funded a three-year grant to create a program that supports families and youth with intellectual and developmental disabilities as they transition to adulthood. This program, "Transition University," developed and operated by the Utah Parent Center, has seen great success since its inception in 2020. The program will see growth next year and has been awarded ongoing funding by other state agencies to continue its support of Utah's young adults with disabilities. The UDDC is also encouraged by our partnership with the Division of Services for People with Disabilities to fund a "waitlist liaison" that will create strategies and identify informal support for individuals and families waiting for formal home and community-based services.

**38,549** people were directly impacted by Community Access and Supports Activities funded by the UDDC.

# 38,549



The 2022  
**Advocacy  
Awards**



**Tom Brownlee**  
Self-Advocate  
of the Year



**Lisa Ridges**  
Family Member  
of the Year



**Gina Pola Money**  
Community Member  
of the Year





The UDDC made collective efforts to improve Utah public policy through developing advocacy and leadership skills of people with intellectual and developmental disabilities and their families. The UDDC convened stakeholders to address and educate lawmakers about the direct-care workforce crisis negatively impacting Utahns with disabilities. The Council's efforts had broad reach and tremendous impact resulting in an unprecedented legislative appropriation for direct-care staff and other disability services during the 2022 Utah legislative session. Council programs also supported people with I/DD, their families and communities, to gain knowledge and understanding about issues that are important to people with disabilities. Participants in UDDC programs gained leadership and advocacy skills that will improve individuals' ability to advocate for one's self, their community and at the legislative level.

**4,542** people were directly impacted by UDDC's leadership and advocacy efforts in FFY 2022.

# 4,542





## 2022 UDDC MEMBERS

Adina Zahradnikova  
Amber Marsh  
Brandy Olsen  
Bryn Peterson  
Carl Whitmore  
Courtney Edgington  
Crystal Pyne  
Deanna Taylor  
Glen Larsen  
Ian Summers  
James Steed

Jared Stewart  
Jaret Winn  
John Crowley  
Ken Gourdin  
Kimberly Jensen  
Kimberly LoCasio  
Krissie Summerhays  
Lisa Wade  
Matthew Huskinson  
Matthew Wappett

Mike Menning  
Nels Holmgren  
Noel Taxin  
Sarah Brenna  
Saska Rajcevic  
Sharon Cook  
Staci Christensen  
Stephanie Hill  
Stephanie Roach  
Tamera Dalton



**The Utah Developmental Disabilities Council supports and empowers people with intellectual and developmental disabilities to achieve inclusive, meaningful, and self-determined lives in their communities through its ongoing support of leadership, education, policy, and advocacy actions.**



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