



2024 Illinois Council on Developmental Disabilities Investment Description Report

The Illinois Council on Developmental Disabilities

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Our investments and initiatives are based on the Council's Five-Year State Plan to ensure that people with developmental disabilities and their families have a part in the design of and access to culturally competent services, supports and other assistance and opportunities that promote independence, productivity and integration and inclusion into the community.

ILLINOIS COUNCIL ON DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES: WHO WE ARE & WHAT WE DO

The **Illinois Council on Developmental Disabilities (ICDD)** was created under a federal mandate in 1974 as an amendment to the Developmental Disabilities Assistance and Bill of Rights Act (DD Act) and is administered by the federal Administration of Developmental Disabilities.

Our mission is to help lead change in Illinois so all people with developmental disabilities exercise their right to equal opportunity and freedom ICDD works to promote the independence, productivity, integration, and inclusion of those with disabilities into the community, ensuring that those individuals with developmental disabilities have the same opportunities as others in the community.

Moreover, the purpose of ICDD is to ensure that people with developmental disabilities participate and be included in everyday life, and be able to choose the services and supports that best fit their needs. To accomplish this, ICDD makes investments in people and organizations that serve people with disabilities throughout the State of Illinois. The Council follows the federal definition of developmental disability, which is a severe, chronic disability of an individual that:

- is attributable to a mental or physical impairment or combination of mental and physical impairments;
- is manifested before the person attains age twenty two;
- is likely to continue indefinitely;
- results in substantial functional limitations in three or more of the following areas of major life activity: self-care, receptive and expressive language, learning, mobility, self-direction, capacity for independent living and economic self-sufficiency; and
- reflects the individual's need for a combination and sequence of special, interdisciplinary, or generic services, individualized supports, or other forms of assistance that are of life long or extended duration and are individually planned and coordinated; except that such term, when applied to infants and young children means an individual from birth to age 9, inclusive, who has a substantial developmental delay or specific congenital or acquired condition may be considered to have a developmental disability without meeting three or more of the criteria described above if the individual, without services and supports, has a high probability of meeting those criteria later in life.

Meet the Council



Membership consists of **60%** people with DD and family members. Members:

Stephanie Brown (Jackson), Tyson Bedford, (Quad Cities), Diana Braun (Sangamon), Lisa Cesal (DuPage), Diane Compton, (DuPage), Adam Cooper (Madison), Natasha Croff (Cook), Ana Cruz (Madison), Curtis Harris (Cook), Nathan Joerndt (Livingston), Carl Nave (Macon), Teresa Parks (Woodford), Zoubida Pasha (Cook), Robert (Bob) Peterson (DuPage), Consuelo Puente (DuPage), Jeff Stauter (Lee), Julie Stover (Lawrence), Julie Tracy (Cook).

Interested in applying to the Council?

These are Governor appointed positions with a two (2)-part application process:

Step 1 --- [Apply Here](#)

Step 2 --- [Apply Here](#)

Staff Members

1. Kimberly Mercer-Schleider, *Director*
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2. Janinna Hendricks, *Associate Director of Finance and Operations*
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State Agency Representatives

1. Department of Disability and Human Development, University of Illinois at Chicago
2. Department on Aging
3. Office of Management and Budget
4. Department of Children & Family Services
5. Illinois State Board of Education
6. Department of Healthcare and Family Services
7. Equip for Equality
8. Department of Human Services, Division of Rehabilitation Services
9. Department of Human Services, Division of Developmental Disabilities
10. Department of Human Services, Bureau of Maternal and Infant Health

Join the ICDD Listserv

Join the ICDD listserv by emailing

ICDDInfo@illinois.gov



5-Year State Plan

(Federal Fiscal Year 2022 – 2026)

Every five years, the DD Council develops a state plan with goals and objectives to address new ways of improving the lives of Iowans with developmental disabilities. Self-advocates, families, state agencies, providers, educators, and other stakeholders provide input into the development of the state plan.

GOAL 1: By September 30, 2026, a minimum of 1000 Individuals with developmental disabilities and their families knowledgeably advocate and take part in decisions that affect their lives, the lives of others, and/or systems.

Objective 1: By September 30, 2026, ICDD will strengthen a program for the direct funding of a State self-advocacy organization led by individuals with developmental disabilities; will support opportunities for individuals with developmental disabilities who are considered leaders to provide leadership training to individuals with developmental disabilities who may become leaders; and will support and expand participation of individuals with developmental disabilities in cross-disability and culturally diverse leadership coalitions.

Objective 2: By September 30, 2026, individuals with developmental disabilities, their families, and other stakeholders will increase their knowledge and access to coordinated, streamlined information about services and supports, and will increase opportunities to advocate for their priorities among accessible and effective service systems.

Objective 3: By September 30, 2026, in collaboration with community partners, ICDD will reduce service access barriers and decrease the disparity in available information for linguistically diverse communities (inclusive of but, not limited to: Spanish & Polish) and increase the cultural competency of the DD service delivery system by providing information in languages other than English to increase inclusion of linguistically diverse individuals with DD and their families in at least 3 aspects of the service delivery system.

GOAL 2: By September 30, 2026, support systems will be optimized to increase stakeholder capacity, improve employment systems, community housing options, and post-secondary outcomes for youth in transition (ages 14 - 26). There will be 3 identified issues impacted and support provided to racial or language minority communities in at least 3 disparate geographic locations.

Objective 1: By September 30, 2026, ICDD will promote participation of people with developmental disabilities in Employment First activities, increase stakeholder capacity, and advocate for legislative and policy changes to increase competitive integrated employment.

Objective 2: By September 30, 2026, through interagency collaboration, a minimum of one (1) systemic change will be achieved in the area of housing / community living resulting in increased access for people with developmental disabilities to housing of their choice.

Objective 3: By September 30, 2026, ICDD will address any unanticipated emerging needs (e.g., natural disasters, pandemics, etc.) for individuals with developmental disabilities and families.

Objective 4: By September 30, 2026, ICDD will assist/facilitate three (3) or more individualized, flexible, and/or responsive services and supports for individuals with developmental disabilities.

Objective 5: By September 30, 2026, ICDD collaborates with other state agencies, advocacy groups, and/ or researchers to improve state systems for individuals with developmental disabilities.

Objective 6: By September 30, 2026, ICDD, Equip for Equality (EFE) and the Institute on Disability and Human Development (IDHD) at the University of Illinois Chicago will facilitate at least one policy and/or programmatic initiative to increase successful post-secondary outcomes for transition age youth (ages 14-26) in the area of employment, post-secondary education, and/or post-secondary training, and independent living.

Objective 7: By September 30, 2026, ICDD will support at least three (3) regionally significant racial or language minority communities in at least three (3) disparate geographic locations in Illinois to enable people with developmental disabilities to access a life like any other by increasing their inclusion in educational systems and related social settings.

Investment State Plan Alignment

INVESTMENTS (BY SHORT NAME)	STATE PLAN ALIGNMENT (2022-2026)
(1) The IL Self-Advocacy Alliance	Goal 1 / Objective 1
(2) Speak Up & Speak Out Summit	Goal 1 / Objective 1
(3) Financial Wellness	Goal 1 / Objective 2
(4) Economic Justice Initiative	Goal 1 / Objective 2
(5) NLC Virtual Leadership Institute	Goal 1 / Objective 2
(6) Policy Project	Goal 1 / Objective 2
(7) Better Communication Better Health Care	Goal 1 / Objective 2
(8) Consumer Stipend Project	Goal 1 / Objective 2
(9) Partners in Policymaking	Goal 1 / Objective 2
(10) Customized Employment Technical Assistance	Goal 2 / Objective 1
(11) Supportive Housing Pilot Project	Goal 2 / Objective 2
(12) Supportive Housing Transition Assistance Fund	Goal 2 / Objective 2
(13) Increasing the IL Supportive Housing Pipeline	Goal 2 / Objective 2
(14) Supportive Housing Evaluation Project	Goal 2 / Objective 2
(15) SCOOT App.	Goal 2 / Objective 4
(16) Life Choices Technical Assistance	Goal 2 / Objective 4
(17) Project Initiate	Goal 2 / Objective 4

Our investments and initiatives are based on the Council's Five-Year State Plan to ensure that people with developmental disabilities and their families have a part in the design of and access to culturally competent services, supports and other assistance and opportunities that promote independence, productivity and integration and inclusion into the community.



Investment Descriptions



2024 ICDD Annual Investment Descriptions for Report

Goal 1 Investment Descriptions

Goal 1: By September 30, 2026, a minimum of 1000 Individuals with developmental disabilities and their families knowledgeably advocate and take part in decisions that affect their lives, the lives of others, and/or systems.

Objective 1: By September 30, 2026, ICDD will strengthen a program for the direct funding of a State self-advocacy organization led by individuals with developmental disabilities; will support opportunities for individuals with developmental disabilities who are considered leaders to provide leadership training to individuals with developmental disabilities who may become leaders; and will support and expand participation of individuals with developmental disabilities in cross-disability and culturally diverse leadership coalitions.

Investment Name:	The IL Self-Advocacy Alliance
Subgrantee:	The IL Self-Advocacy Alliance
Start & End Date:	5/1/22 - 4/30/27
Synopsis	The Alliance will develop and empower self-advocates across the state in the areas of personal, statewide, and national self-advocacy. There will be a minimum of 30 actively advocating member groups, 20 individually supported Advocate Bureau members, and 8 self-advocates assuming leadership of The Alliance as paid staff. As a result of the work of The Alliance, there will be a broadened (geographic, LGBTQ+, transition-age) increase in self-advocate involvement and active participation in systems change advocacy through training of self-advocates, support of advisors and allies, communication of advocacy opportunities, and partnerships and inclusion in coalitions with disability and non-disability entities. Having a seat at the table where the decisions are being made and having a voice in the decisions affecting one's life and the lives of others provides for self-advocates to be part of the decision-making process and not simply be on the receiving end of decisions made by others. Having a seat and a voice will help equalize the power dynamics that currently exist between people with DD and systems that support them.
Links to resources:	http://selfadvocacyalliance.org/ https://www.facebook.com/IllinoisSelfAdvocacyAlliance (47) Illinois Self-Advocacy Alliance, Inc. - YouTube

Investment Name:	Speak Up & Speak Out (SUSO) Summit
Subgrantee:	The Arc of Illinois
Start & End Date	1/3/22 - 12/31/27
Synopsis	The Arc of Illinois will host annual Hybrid (i.e., in-person and virtual participation) or Virtual (i.e., online participation only) SUSO Summits in years 2023 – 2027. In addition, they will host an additional webinar series on Legislative Meetings leading up to March of each year which is Developmental Disabilities Awareness Month. The goal of the webinar series is to prepare self-advocates to schedule and

	<p>participate in meetings with their legislators.</p> <p>The summit provides an opportunity for self-advocates to come together from throughout the state and share activities and training designed to help each achieve the highest level of independence and self-direction in their life as possible. Self-advocates will learn to advocate about what is important to them and how to work on making changes in their lives. Self-advocates will have the opportunity in this type of setting to feel comfortable enough to speak what they feel which helps staff and families understand better as well as helps each self-advocate learn more about what they themselves want. The project will follow up with attendees to document how self-advocates are using their advocacy skills and to connect them to local advocacy groups if they desire.</p>
Links to resources:	https://www.speakupsppeakoutsummit.org/

Objective 2: By September 30, 2026, individuals with developmental disabilities, their families, and other stakeholders will increase their knowledge and access to coordinated, streamlined information about services and supports, and will increase opportunities to advocate for their priorities among accessible and effective service systems.

Investment Name:	Financial Wellness
Subgrantee:	National Disability Institute (NDI)
Start & End Date	1/03/19 - 1/30/24
Synopsis	<p>NDI brought resources to Illinois that are effective in addressing the unique needs of the developmental disability community in achieving financial wellness. Financial Wellness Trainers were equipped to provide extensive training statewide to people with DD and family members. NDI updated their “Upward to Financial Stability Train the Trainer Curriculum” to be specific for Illinois and retitled the curriculum to “Financial Wellness for Persons with Disabilities Trainer Curriculum.” Partners in Policymaking members, Vocational Rehabilitation counselors, Med-waiver providers, disability organizations, and self-advocates were trained to offer pieces of the curriculum to their organization. NDI offered a Financial Wellness webinar series to the community at large during each year of the project. A Trainer Support Network (TSN) was established to provide continued support to the trainers after the initial training. NDI created a video series called Faces of Financial Wellness featuring Illinois trainers and participants that rolled out in November 2022. The videos have been captioned and a series in Spanish was rolled out in January 2024.</p>
Links to resources:	<p>https://wthe.ww.nationaldisabilityinstitute.org/</p> <p>https://www.nationaldisabilityinstitute.org/downloads/</p> <p>https://www.nationaldisabilityinstitute.org/blog/meet-the-faces-of-financial-wellness/</p> <p>https://www.nationaldisabilityinstitute.org/illinois/protecting-yourself-from-identity-theft/</p>

	https://www.nationaldisabilityinstitute.org/illinois/housing-opportunities-for-people-with-disabilities/ https://www.nationaldisabilityinstitute.org/webinars/extra-costs-of-living-with-a-disability-icdd/ https://www.nationaldisabilityinstitute.org/webinars/identity-theft-and-online-shopping/ https://www.nationaldisabilityinstitute.org/illinois/five-key-strategies-to-financial-wellness/ https://www.nationaldisabilityinstitute.org/illinois/financial-inclusion-101/ https://www.nationaldisabilityinstitute.org/webinars/november-14-illinois-cdd-webinar/ https://www.nationaldisabilityinstitute.org/webinars/five-key-strategies/ https://www.nationaldisabilityinstitute.org/webinars/icdd/september-12-financial-inclusion-101/
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Investment Name:	Economic Justice Initiative
Subgrantee:	National Disability Institute (NDI)
Start & End Date	Planned for 3/1/24 - 9/30/25
Synopsis	<p>This new NDI project will build upon the previous project to create new opportunities to move individuals up the rungs of the economic ladder. NDI proposes to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Host 4 Financial Wellness Train the Trainer Sessions 2. Review and update the Illinois Financial Wellness curriculum each year based on new policy or programmatic changes 3. Host a training on the Community Reinvestment Act and Housing Initiatives 4. Create an economic Justice Working Group that will focus on both policy and programmatic solutions to assure that financial wellness is achievable 5. Create a Financial Wellness Resource Map (Chicagoland) 6. Create visual stories and testimonial videos
Links to resources:	See NDI links above in Financial Wellness project.

Investment Name:	NLC Virtual Leadership Institute
Subgrantee:	National Leadership Consortium (NLC)
Start & End Date	1/10/22 - 9/30/24
Synopsis	<p>The National Leadership Consortium on Developmental Disabilities offered leadership development training, future of the field training, and staff development to Illinois disability service sector leaders, IL Partners in Policymaking alumni, and Council members. The Consortium is dedicated to building a corps of quality leaders and to the promotion of sound, values-based leadership practices. The components will promote the development and efforts of disabilities service sector leaders as they continue the shift towards individualized, person-</p>

	directed, inclusive supports in Illinois. Components include two (2) Virtual Illinois Leadership Institutes for current and emerging agency leaders, One (1) Future of the Field Training for varied stakeholders, ICDD Council Member Development, and Partners in Policymaking Alumni Engagement Sessions. The goal of the National Leadership Consortium is to assure the quality and commitment of the next generation of leaders for government and nonprofit organizations serving people with developmental disabilities.
Links to resources:	https://natleadership.org/why.html https://natleadership.org/pdfs/Final IDD Provider Survey on Self-Directed Services and Supports Report.pdf

Investment Name:	Policy Project
Subgrantee:	Phil Milsk Consulting
Start & End Date	3/15/21 – 6/31/24
Synopsis	<p>Policy Project activities for Phil Milsk include (but are not limited to):</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Analyzing state and federal legislation and design plain language communications to be made available to community partners 2. Determining the benefits and drawbacks of existing state and federal policies and share those findings with ICDD staff and community partners to promote advocacy and awareness 3. Identifying legal flaws in state and federal policies and recommend amendments to the DD Network and community partners 4. Liaising with stakeholders to determine needs and goals of state and federal policies 5. Gathering data and produce reports on the qualitative and quantitative analysis of the impact of policies, legislation, laws, etc. impacting people with DD and families 6. Providing expertise and recommendations regarding state and federal policy topics/issues 7. Providing monitoring of state and federal policies, legislation, etc. and track impact to people with DD and families
Links to resources:	NA

Investment Name:	Better Communication Better Healthcare Campaign
Subgrantee:	Ray Graham
Start & End Date	6/1/19 – 2/28/24

Synopsis	<p>Ray Graham developed a health resume tool to facilitate people being better able to self-advocate for healthcare personalized to them. The document is in paper and electronic form, and an app has been developed. The Health Resume can be presented to a medical provider on each visit to ensure the most up to date medical information is used. All 250 Individuals served by Ray Graham have a Health Resume and were trained in its use.</p> <p>The project made unanticipated systems impact. Edward-Elmhurst Hospital approved the health resume being included in its EPIC medical record system. EPIC is used by the majority of hospitals. Current work is development of an app interface compatible with the EPIC records system.</p> <p>Systems change impacts:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Local hospital (Edward Elmhurst) became aware that practitioners such as ER docs need to be aware of both medical and communication needs of persons 2. Pictorial Health Resumes were developed for persons/families desiring those 3. Paper and pencil format is available for Health Resume 4. Fillable PDF is available 5. App is available for completing the Health Resume 5. HSMS, the State of Illinois required software for all CILA providers now has the same Health Resume available and populated with information from that data base 6. [to be completed] EPIC software can import the information from the Health Resume to the electronic file. This allows hospital doctors/nurses to have current health information available electronically
Links to resources:	https://icdd.illinois.gov/investments/investment.better-communication-better-health-care-campaign.html

Investment Name:	Consumer Stipend Project
Subgrantee:	Arc of Illinois
Start & End Date	9/1/23- 9/30/24
Synopsis	<p>The Consumer Stipend is available to individuals with developmental disabilities, their family members or guardians, and personal support workers who could not otherwise afford the costs associated with attending a conference, workshop, or seminar. The conference or training must be informational and/or educational and not for the use of entertainment purposes. The goal of this program is to provide participants with opportunities, experiences, resources, and information at conferences and empower them to actively participate in decisions being made that affect their lives. Participants will be able to make a change in their life, connect with others and gain knowledge that will help them become better advocates.</p>
Links to resources:	https://www.thearcofil.org/about-us/programs/financial-assistance-for-trainings/

	Application: https://www.thearcofil.org/about-us/programs/
Investment Name:	Partners in Policymaking
Subgrantee:	High Impact Mission Based Consulting and Training
Start & End Date	1/16/23 – 1/1/26
Synopsis	High Impact resumes IL Partners in Policymaking, building upon its successful three years of fidelity to Minnesota Model documented in an evaluation by National Louis University. This new three-year project partners with seven local and state organizations and will graduate 24 graduates per class (3) of family members, professionals, supporters and adults with DD with ethnic, socioeconomic, age and disability diversity from across Illinois to develop advocacy leadership skills/competencies for systems change in public policy, using Universal Design for Learning and requested accommodations and assigned faculty support for each person to achieve success. High Impact is a Chicago-based entity with a long history of project management and training on disability issues in Illinois and the United States. CEO Allan Bergman will be Director with a team of equally passionate, skilled and diverse persons. Productivity, Integration and Inclusion.
Links to resources:	Partners in Policymaking (mn.gov)

Objective 3: By September 30, 2026, in collaboration with community partners, ICDD will reduce service access barriers and decrease the disparity in available information for linguistically diverse communities (inclusive of but, not limited to: Spanish & Polish) and increase the cultural competency of the DD service delivery system by providing information in languages other than English to increase inclusion of linguistically diverse individuals with DD and their families

No funded projects. Addressed through other ICDD state plan work.

Goal 2 Investment Descriptions

Goal 2: By September 30, 2026, support systems will be optimized to increase stakeholder capacity, improve employment systems, community housing options, and post-secondary outcomes for youth in transition (ages 14 - 26). There will be 3 identified issues impacted and support provided to racial or language minority communities in at least 3 disparate geographic locations.

Objective 1: By September 30, 2026, ICDD will promote participation of people with developmental disabilities in Employment First activities, increase stakeholder capacity, and advocate for legislative and policy changes to increase competitive integrated employment.

Investment Name:	Customized Employment (CE) Technical Assistance
Subgrantee:	Marc Gold & Associates
Start & End Date	12/1/23 - 9/30/24
Synopsis	The project goal is to facilitate the continued implementation and expansion of quality CE services and employment outcomes in Illinois so that more individuals with developmental disabilities can

	successfully obtain Customized and Competitive Integrated Employment. One focus is the CE Pilot Project currently underway through the DRS. DRS Division leadership will be provided technical assistance to ensure that CE contract grantees are implementing CE in fidelity to national standards. Technical assistance will be provided to DRS to ensure the pilot is completed as intended and is evaluated. Additionally, DRS will be assisted in gathering and analyzing data to continue to monitor and evaluate CE services. A second focus is transition-aged students with developmental disabilities who can benefit from the unique insights offered through Discovery and Customization to support and broaden their transition plans and IEPs. Discovery and Customized Employment training will be offered to teachers, education professionals, and parents of students with developmental disabilities. The third focus is to increase vocational staff capacity to implement quality CE services. Training, competency-based certification and technical assistance will be offered to provider staff and leadership. Provider staff and leadership will be assisted with gathering data on CE services.
Links to resources:	https://www.marcgold.com/ https://www.marcgold.com/mgapresentations https://www.marcgold.com/forms

Staff Activity – Workgroups attending

- **Employment and Economic Opportunity Taskforce (EEOPD) & Subcommittees**
 - Subcommittees**
 1. **Workforce Development Subcommittee**
 2. **Transition Subcommittee**
 3. **Provider Subcommittee**
 4. **Legislative Subcommittee**
- **Division of Rehabilitation Services Career Counseling Collaboration**
- **Illinois Committee for Employees with Disabilities**
 - a. **Outreach and Recruitment Subcommittee**
- **Dignity of Pay Collaboration**

Objective 2: By September 30, 2026, through interagency collaboration, a minimum of one (1) systemic change will be achieved in the area of housing / community living resulting in increased access for people with developmental disabilities to housing of their choice.

Investment Name:	Supportive Housing Pilot Project
Subgrantee:	Higher Ground Partners LLC
Start & End Date	11/1/21 – 10/31/26
Synopsis	This project is designed to directly support a Supportive Housing pilot project that is an unprecedented partnership and combination of Department of Human Services and ICDD funds. Technical assistance and oversight to the pilot implementation and will be provided in a multi-faceted approach that includes program

	development, coaching, multi-site coordination, cross-system collaboration, and access to relevant training opportunities. The technical assistance structure will evolve in tandem with the overall statewide initiative and will be responsive to the needs of ICDD, IDHS-DDD, and the Independent Service Coordination grantees. The project goals will be implemented in three phases: 1) Planning, Award and On-Boarding, 2) Year 1- Ramp Up, 3) Years 2-5 - Scaling, Refinement and Sustainability.
Links to resources:	NA

Investment Name:	Supportive Housing Transition Assistance Fund
Subgrantees:	All 8 Illinois Independent Service Coordination Agencies
Start & End Date	10/1/22 – 10/31/26
Synopsis	<p>ICDD and the Division of Developmental Disabilities (DDD) in partnership have begun a pilot program in which housing navigators at all Independent Service Coordination (ISC) providers assist individuals from home, CILA, or ICFDD to move into a supportive housing residence. Transition Assistance Funds made available to Independent Service Coordination (ISC) Agencies will provide the support needed to assist people with Developmental Disabilities with the essentials required to establish and maintain their household in the community.</p> <p>Each participant entering supportive housing has access to up to \$2,000 in Transition Assistance Funds to assist with lease and utility fees and to purchase essential items to set up a household, based on an individual need assessment.</p>
Links to resources:	NA

Investment Name:	Increasing the Illinois Supportive Housing Pipeline
Subgrantee:	The Corporation for Supportive Housing (CSH)
Start & End Date	6/1/23 - 5/31/26
Synopsis	<p>The project will increase the number of supportive housing units available for IL residents with DD. The Corporation for Supportive Housing (CSH) is providing a training, peer learning, and technical assistance (TA) program targeted to DD services providers that prepares them to successfully partner with, become, or amplify their roles as supportive housing developers.</p> <p>The program is divided into two parts, one focused on DD providers very new to the development process, and a second focused on providers who have experience with development already. Less experienced providers will receive a robust introduction to supportive housing and the development process, financing mechanisms, and key stakeholders/partners. More experienced providers will receive individualized TA to help them work through specific challenges and barriers. CSH hosted a peer learning session to provide a forum to share learnings and best practices. All provider participants will have opportunities to network and hear from key government stakeholders</p>

	as they begin or continue their development journey.
Links to resources:	NA

Investment Name:	Supportive Housing Evaluation Project
Subgrantee:	Institute of Disability and Human Development at University of Illinois at Chicago
Start & End Date	12/12/22 - 8/31/25
Synopsis	In collaboration with ICDD, the Institute on Disability and Human Development, University of Illinois at Chicago will conduct a thorough program evaluation focusing on the process and outcomes of the Housing Navigation Pilot projects. The purpose of evaluation is to document the successes, challenges, costs, and recommendations for improved future housing navigation services. The evaluation is based on CDC's framework for program evaluation including 6 steps: engage stakeholders, describe the program, focus the evaluation design, gather credible evidence, justify the conclusion, and ensure and share lessons learned. Surveys for housing navigators and housing seekers have been developed and are being sent, collected, and analyzed.
Links to resources:	NA

Objective 3: By September 30, 2026, ICDD will address any unanticipated emerging needs (e.g., natural disasters, pandemics, etc.) for individuals with developmental disabilities and families.

No funded projects. Addressed through other ICDD state plan work.

Objective 4: By September 30, 2026, ICDD will assist/facilitate three (3) or more individualized, flexible, and/or responsive services and supports for individuals with developmental disabilities.

Investment Name:	SCOOT App
Subgrantee:	New Star Services
Start & End Date	11/1/22 - 3/31/24
Synopsis	<p>Transportation is a significant barrier for people with developmental disabilities to fully participate in their community. This is especially true in areas outside of Chicago where public transportation is more limited.</p> <p>To address this barrier, ICDD has invested with New Star (Sertoma Star post- merger) to finish the development of the ridesharing SCOOT app (Stronger Community Opportunities through Organized Transportation). The application is approximately 90% complete. The Content Management System (CMS) is developed and has been tested. The CMS has a hierarchy of accounts for New Star, agency licensees, riders, and drivers. It has been approved by the Apple and Android app stores for free download. A licensee agreement has been drafted to allow other nonprofits to use it. Adjustments made to update the SCOOT app include updating the financial transaction component, adding visual mapping, and allowing for the addition of</p>

	<p>consumer and driver pictures. Application for drivers and marketing materials are currently being created and solicitation of drivers and marketing materials are being drafted.</p> <p>This project provides funding to test the SCOOT App as a transportation option for people associated with New Star with a database to track utilization. Sustainability plans will allow other nonprofits to be licensed for SCOOT to be used under their brand name and execute licensing agreements to allow for the expansion of SCOOT within Illinois and other states.</p>
Links to resources:	NA

Investment Name:	Life Choices Technical Assistance
Subgrantee:	NASDDD
Start & End Date	8/17/15 to 6/30/24
Synopsis	In late 2012, the Council initiated three major projects to improve the design and delivery of services in the developmental disabilities system. The goals of these projects included improve Individual Service Planning, Implementation and Monitoring and Evaluate the Prioritization of Urgency of Need for Services (PUNS); build and strengthen the capacity of the 18 Independent Service Coordination (ISC) agencies to plan for individuals living in private Intermediate Care Facilities for Individuals with DD.
Links to resources:	NA

Investment Name:	Project INITIATE
Subgrantee:	Lurie
Start & End Date	11/15/21 - 9/30/24
Synopsis	<p>Project INITIATE began with \$25,000 from the Patrick M. Magoon Institute for Healthy Communities. ICDD chose to join as a funder to expand the project. Project INITIATE is a research project at Neonatal Intensive Care Units (NICUs) at three large teaching hospitals. The project began at Northwestern's Lurie Hospital to provide home physical therapy to infants at discharge until they were served by Early Intervention. ICDD funding allowed expanding the Lurie participant pool at Lurie and expanding to the University of Chicago and University of Illinois Medical Centers. Data is being gathered to determine if uninterrupted therapy produces better outcomes for the infants. If so, the intent is to use the data to advocate for expansion of this project and legislative inclusion of support in the budget. Recommendations for the project final report are being developed by a steering committee.</p> <p>Through 2023, 44 infants agreed to intervention and 14 are in the control group. Parents have been extremely positive about the in-home intervention sessions. Physical therapy has started for infants in the intervention group within weeks after discharge and families are assisted to apply for Early Intervention services.</p>
Links to resources:	NA

Objective 5: By September 30, 2026, ICDD collaborates with other state agencies, advocacy groups, and/ or researchers to improve state systems for individuals with developmental disabilities.

No funded projects. Addressed through workgroup and coalition work.

Staff Activity – Workgroups attending

- **Medicaid Advisory Committee**
- **UIC Consumer Advisory Committee**
- **Sex Education Law Implementation**
- **Money Follows the Person Operational Protocol Advisory Committee**
- **Early Intervention Program Advisory Committee**
- **Raising Illinois**
- **Autism Taskforce**
- **Electronic Visit Verification Advocacy Partnership**
- **Statewide Transition Conference Planning Committee**
- **Going Home Coalition**

Statewide Independent Living Centers Workgroups

- a. **Transportation**
- b. **Housing**
- c. **Advocacy**
- d. **Employment**

Objective 6: By September 30, 2026, ICDD, Equip for Equality (EFE) and the Institute on Disability and Human Development (IDHD) at the University of Illinois Chicago will facilitate at least one policy and/or programmatic initiative to increase successful post-secondary outcomes for transition age youth (ages 14-26) in the area of employment, post-secondary education, and/or post-secondary training, and independent living.

No funded projects. Addressed through other ICDD, Equip for Equality, and UIC Institute on Disability and Human Development state plan work.

Objective 7: By September 30, 2026, ICDD will support at least three (3) regionally significant racial or language minority communities in at least three (3) disparate geographic locations in Illinois to enable people with developmental disabilities to access a life like any other by increasing their inclusion in educational systems and related social settings.

No funded projects. Addressed through other ICDD state plan work.

Other: Funding through U.S. Department of Aging

Investment Name:	Vax for All 2
Subgrantee:	InfiniTeach
Start & End Date	5/1/23 to 4/15/24
Synopsis	Vaccinations: The project held vaccine clinics at disability-focused events and a site -based clinic at Esperanza Services in the summer and fall of 2023. They partnered with CIMPAP, a medical association

	<p>funded by the Cook County Health Department, to offer COVID and flu vaccinations.</p> <p>Education and Outreach: The project maintained and is improving VaxforAll.com, a custom-developed website that includes vaccination resources for individuals with DD and Autism, as well as resources for families and providers. To promote the website, outreach connects directly with advocacy organizations, social service providers, doctor's offices, and others who serve the DD and Autism communities.</p> <p>Supportive Services: Paid Peer Coaches - individuals from the DD and Autism communities - support outreach efforts and attend vaccination events. The Peer Coaches provided information, resources, and direct support to event attendees who are interested in receiving a vaccine. The project also is working with CIMPARG to boost efforts around in-home vaccination registration via VaxforAll.com.</p>
Links to resources:	http://www.VaxforAll.com

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