

Community of Practice Advocacy  
March 13, 2024  
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Continuing Education Credit

- 1.0 CEU credit for this presentation
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CEU Trainings



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Advocacy

- Advocacy is the individual or system that is acting with or on behalf of an individual or group to ensure an issue.
- Obtain a needed support or service or
- prevent a change in the practices, policies and/or behaviors of that system.
- Advocacy is essential for promoting and protecting the civil and human rights of people with intellectual and/or developmental disabilities and for establishing, maintaining or improving their quality of life. The six levels of advocacy are:

Strong Advocacy

# Community of Practice Advocacy

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- 3 CQI Trainings
- 4 Advocacy
  - Advocacy is the individual or systemic level in using self or on behalf of an individual or group to resolve an issue.
  - ensure a needed support or service is
  - promote a change in the practice, policy and/or behavior of third parties.
  - Advocacy is essential for protecting and promoting the civil and human rights of people with intellectual and/or developmental disabilities and for establishing, maintaining or restoring their quality of life. The Arc Position Statement 2015.
- 5 Strong Advocacy
  - Advocacy on behalf of people with intellectual and/or developmental disabilities may not have sufficient financial resources or other opportunities to exercise inherent civil and human rights.
  - Advocates may be required to present and/or address abuse, neglect and exploitation that people with intellectual and/or developmental disabilities may experience.
  - People with intellectual and/or developmental disabilities may need the support of advocates to become effective self-advocates. The Arc Position Statement 2015.
- 6 System Advocacy
  - The goal of system advocacy is to enhance public awareness of the rights, strengths, needs, and concerns of people with intellectual and/or developmental disabilities, and influence laws and policies to support public and professional support and services.
  - System advocates and self-advocates need a conceptual understanding of systems change. Systems change requires a coordinated, multi-level approach to system change that addresses the needs of all for all individuals, whether supported by the system or not. The Arc Position Statement 2015.
- 7 Current Legislation

# Strong Advocacy

Without strong advocacy at all levels, people with intellectual and/or developmental disabilities may not have access to needed supports as well as opportunities to exercise inherent civil and human rights.

Additionally, strong advocacy may be required to prevent and/or address abuse, neglect and exploitation that people with intellectual and/or developmental disabilities may experience.

Persons with intellectual and/or developmental disabilities may need the support of advocates to become effective self-advocates. **The Arc Position Statement 2015**



# System Advocacy


The goal of systems advocacy is to enhance public awareness of the rights, strengths, needs, and interests of people with intellectual and/or developmental disabilities and influence law and policy to improve public and private systems of support and services.

Service Providers and self-advocates should play a meaningful role in systems change. Agencies providing supports to individuals should also advocate for system change that will improve the quality of life for all individuals, whether supported by the agency or not. **The Arc Position Statement 2015**

- 3 CQL Trainings
- 4 Advocacy
  - Advocacy is the individual or system level in acting self or on behalf of an individual or group to create or cause.
  - advocate a needed support or service to
  - provide a change in the practices, policies and/or behavior of third parties.
  - Advocacy is essential for promoting and protecting the civil and human rights of people with intellectual and/or developmental disabilities and for ensuring, maintaining or improving their quality of life. The Arc Position Statement 2015.
- 5 Strong Advocacy
  - Advocacy is an activity or process that seeks to influence public awareness of the rights, strengths, needs, and interests of people with intellectual and/or developmental disabilities and influence law and policy to improve public and private systems of support and services.
  - Advocacy is the individual or system level in acting self or on behalf of an individual or group to create or cause.
  - advocate a needed support or service to
  - provide a change in the practices, policies and/or behavior of third parties.
  - Advocacy is essential for promoting and protecting the civil and human rights of people with intellectual and/or developmental disabilities and for ensuring, maintaining or improving their quality of life. The Arc Position Statement 2015.
- 6 System Advocacy
  - The goal of systems advocacy is to enhance public awareness of the rights, strengths, needs, and interests of people with intellectual and/or developmental disabilities and influence law and policy to improve public and private systems of support and services.
  - Service Providers and self-advocates should play a meaningful role in systems change. Agencies providing supports to individuals should also advocate for system change that will improve the quality of life for all individuals, whether supported by the agency or not. The Arc Position Statement 2015.
- 7 Current Legislation

- 5 Strong Advocacy
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- 7 Current Legislation
- 8 Self-Advocacy and Leadership
- 9 Types of Advocacy

# Current Legislation

 **AB 1914 Certification program for Direct Support Professionals:** The bill would require the Chancellor of the California Community Colleges office to develop a model curriculum for a certification program for providers of care for individuals with developmental disabilities, designed to be offered at community college campuses where there is sufficient student interest and a properly qualified faculty to sustain a certification program

 **AB 2510 Dental care for people with developmental disabilities:** This bill would require the State Department of Developmental Services to contract with California Northstate University (CNU), no later than \_\_\_\_, to establish a statewide program centered in the state's regional centers, to improve the provision of dental care services to people with developmental and intellectual disabilities, and specifically to prevent or reduce the need for developmental services consumers to receive dental treatment using sedation and general anesthesia.



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# Self-Advocacy and Leadership



“People with intellectual and/or developmental disabilities<sup>1</sup> (IDD) have the right to advocate and/or be supported to act as self-advocates.

Self-advocates exercise their rights as citizens by communicating for and representing themselves and others, with whatever supports they need.

Self-advocates must have a meaningful role in decision-making in all areas of their daily lives and in public policy decisions that affect people with IDD.” **The Arc Position Statement**

# Challenges to Advocacy



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### Current Legislation

- The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) prohibits discrimination against people with disabilities in all areas of public life, including jobs, schools, transportation, and all public and private places that are open to the general public.
- The Rehabilitation Act of 1973 prohibits discrimination against people with disabilities in federal government, state and local government, and private organizations that receive federal financial assistance.

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### Self-Advocacy and Leadership

- People with intellectual and developmental disabilities (IDD) have the right to advocate and/or be supported to act as self-advocates.
- Self-advocates exercise their rights as citizens by communicating for and representing themselves and others, with relevant supports they need.
- Self-advocates should have a meaningful role in decision-making in all areas of their daily lives and in public policy decisions that affect people with IDD. The Arc Position Statement.

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### Types of Advocacy

- Personal
- Issues
- Funding

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### Challenges to Advocacy

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### Political

9 Types of Advocacy

- Political
- Services
- Funding

10 Challenges to Advocacy

11 Political

- American with Disabilities Act
- Rehabilitation Act
- Individuals with Disabilities Education Act
- Lanterman Act

12 Services

- Health Care
- Employment/Education
- Services and Supports
- Housing Assistance
- Community Services
- Benefits

13 Funding

Political

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American with Disabilities Act

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Rehabilitation Act

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Individuals with Disabilities Education Act

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Lanterman Act





Types of Advocacy

- Political
- Service
- Funding



Challenges to Advocacy



Political

- American with Disabilities Act
- Rehabilitation Act
- Individuals with Disabilities Education Act
- Lanterman Act



Services

- Health Care
- Employment/Education
- Services and Supports
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Funding



# Services

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## Health Care

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## Employment/Education

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## Services and Supports

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## Housing Assistance

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## Community Services

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## Benefits

