

The Agency

Rhode Island Developmental Disabilities Council

Agency Operations

The Rhode Island Developmental Disabilities Council is the official planning and advisory body created to promote and increase opportunities and alternatives for persons with developmental disabilities and their families. The overall purpose of the council is to advocate on behalf of persons with developmental disabilities so that they have access to a comprehensive, coordinated system that offers a variety of services. Through a comprehensive planning process, the council develops a five-year state plan with annual goals and objectives. The activities of the council are designed to improve the quality of life of individuals, thus enabling them to become more independent, productive, and integrated into community life. The council is made up of 24 voting members who are appointed by the Governor and serve three-year terms. The majority of the members are individuals with developmental disabilities, their relatives or guardians. Other members include representatives of state and private service agencies. Each state and territory has a council. Councils are fully funded each year by a grant from the federal government, Administration on Developmental Disabilities, and U.S. Department of Health and Human Services.

Agency Objectives

Develop and initiate methods to identify needs and to analyze the effectiveness and efficiency of the service system for persons with developmental disabilities and their families; and develop policy and/or program design recommendations based on needs assessment information and service system analyses/evaluation.

Develop and implement public education activities that illustrate and promote valued social roles for persons with developmental disabilities; and provide and evaluate human rights training, employment training, leadership training, and educational opportunities for persons with disabilities and their families so that they will become effective advocates in influencing public policy at the state and national level.

Promote paid work opportunities with appropriate support within community businesses and organizations to reduce reliance on segregated vocational options; and develop opportunities for inclusion and interdependent relationships between people with disabilities and their neighbors, co-workers and schoolmates to reduce social isolation.

Statutory History

Title 40.1, Chapter 1 of the Rhode Island General Laws charges the council with sole responsibility for developing a plan which addresses the care, treatment, diagnosis, rehabilitation, training or related services for individuals with developmental disabilities. The plan is now or may hereafter be required as a condition to eligibility for benefits pursuant to the provisions of an act entitled "Developmental Disabilities Assistance and Bill of Rights Act" (42 U.S.C. section 6000 et seq.).

The Budget

Rhode Island Developmental Disabilities Council

	FY 2003 Actual	FY 2004 Actual	FY 2005 Revised	FY 2006 Recommended
Expenditures By Object				
Personnel	193,573	200,250	209,869	220,737
Other State Operations	35,548	34,704	34,814	36,278
Aid To Local Units Of Government	-	-	-	-
Assistance, Grants and Benefits	270,249	246,458	265,630	254,909
Subtotal: Operating Expenditures	\$499,370	\$481,412	\$510,313	\$511,924
Capital Improvements	-	-	-	-
Capital Debt Service	-	-	-	-
Total Expenditures	\$499,370	\$481,412	\$510,313	\$511,924
Expenditures By Funds				
Federal Funds	499,370	481,412	510,313	511,924
Total Expenditures	\$499,370	\$481,412	\$510,313	\$511,924
FTE Authorization	2.0	2.0	2.0	2.0
Agency Measures				
Minorities as a Percentage of the Workforce	-	-	-	-
Females as a Percentage of the Workforce	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%
Persons with Disabilities as a Percentage of the Workforce	-	-	-	-
Program Measures				
Cumulative Percentage Increase in the Number of Persons or Organizations Receiving Council Newsletter from FY 1997 Levels	51.4%	54.9%	58.9%	62.9%