



inclusion. integration. independence.

access opportunity Participation **Support** LOVE
 COWORKERS INDEPENDENCE EQUALITY
 abilities ACTIVITIES JOBS FRIENDS
 worship FREEDOM neighbors
INCLUSIVE communities
 ALLIES PLAY
 LIVE work LEARN recreation
 SUCCESS rights RESPECT CHOICES

50
 Governor's Council on
 Developmental Disabilities
 1972 - 2022
 YEARS SERVING
 ARKANSAS

ANNUAL REPORT

FFY2022

10/01/2021-09/30/2022

Governor's Council on Developmental Disabilities ARKANSAS

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TO OUR STAKEHOLDERS

About the Arkansas Council

The Governor's Council on Developmental Disabilities Arkansas (GCDD or the Council) works to improve the independence and productivity of Arkansans with intellectual and developmental disabilities (IDD) and to ensure their inclusion and integration into the community. Key activities include:

- Increasing and strengthening self-advocacy participation across the state
- Supporting programs to identify and remove barriers to information, services, and supports
- Advocating for policy changes to increase competitive, integrated employment
- Developing and supporting coalitions
- Encouraging advocacy to keep policymakers informed about disability issues

The Council consists of 23 members, appointed by the Governor. Members include:

- Individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities
- Family members of individuals with developmental disabilities
- Directors of state agencies that serve people with disabilities
- Representatives from nonprofit and private organizations that provide services and support for people with disabilities

In 2022, the Council celebrated 50 years of service to the Arkansas IDD community. Founded in 1972 and still advocating!

GCDD is supported by an administrative staff including an Executive Director, a Deputy Director, a Program Coordinator, a Finance & Operations Coordinator, and an Administrative Assistant. Staff carries out the day-to-day operations to implement the state plan.

State councils on developmental disabilities, such as GCDD, are federally funded, self-governing organizations. GCDD is funded by a grant from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services Administration on Community Living (ACL) through the Administration on Disability's Office of Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities (OIDD).

From the Director



May 23, 2023

On behalf of the Arkansas Governor's Council on Developmental Disabilities (GCDD) I am pleased to present our Annual Report for the Fiscal Year ending June 30, 2022. It shares the multiple achievements of the Council, Council Staff, and our valued Sub Grantee partners.

Fiscal Year 2022 is GCDD's first full year of work post-COVID, and the long-term impacts of the pandemic are still being measured. However, COVID taught us many lessons as well. One of the biggest lessons learned in FY22 was the power of in-person connections. While virtual communication has become common, the most significant progress came from person-to-person meetings. Of those meetings, the Disability Policy Workgroup was the one most productive.

The Disability Policy Workgroup was composed of Council members, Council staff, and other stakeholders in the Arkansas disability community. It was assembled to discuss, explore, and prioritize issues with the greatest impact to Arkansans with disabilities, as well as the families and caregivers who support them. Ultimately, the group decided on five priorities that were endorsed by the Arkansas Disability Policy Consortium. Those priorities became the Arkansans Disability Policy Platform.

Arkansas Disability Policy Platform

People with disabilities have the right to live, learn, work, and play freely in Arkansas. For that to happen our State must commit to providing quality, inclusive home and community-based services that address:

- The catastrophic workforce shortage.
- Individual's right to make decisions about one's own life.
- Safe, affordable, and accessible housing.
- Opportunities for real work for real pay.
- Safe, comprehensive, and inclusive education for every student.

Resolving these issues will empower Arkansans with disabilities to fully participate in life in the Natural State.

These five principles help guide the work of the Council as we continue to work towards an Arkansas where people with disabilities can build a life where they feel included, integrated, and independent.

As Executive Director of the GCDD, I am grateful for the privilege of serving the Council and people of Arkansas. And on behalf of the Council, we are all grateful to continue working towards the inclusion, integration, and independence of Arkansans with disabilities.

Respectfully,

Jonathan Taylor

Executive Director

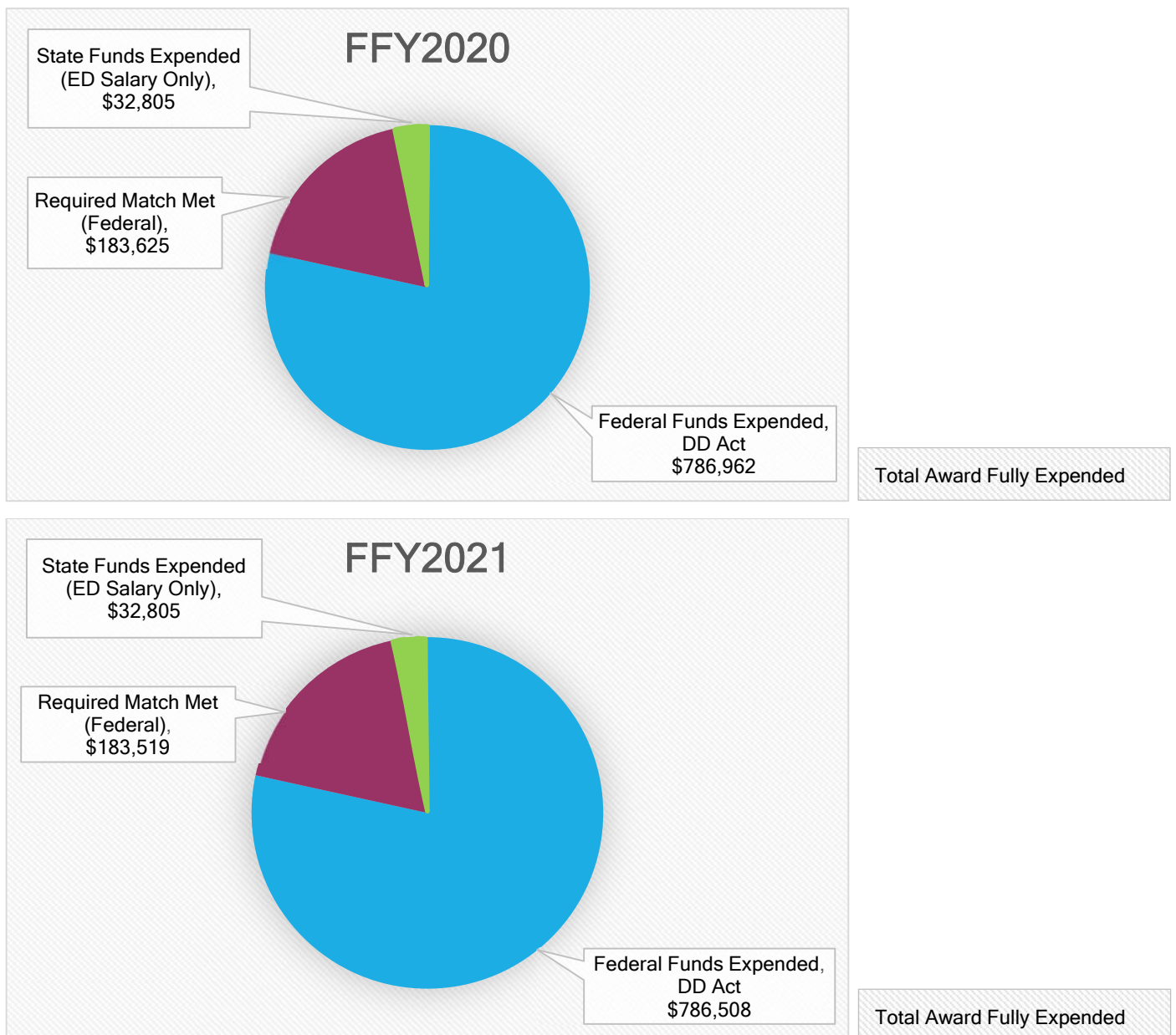
Governor's Council on Developmental Disabilities Arkansas

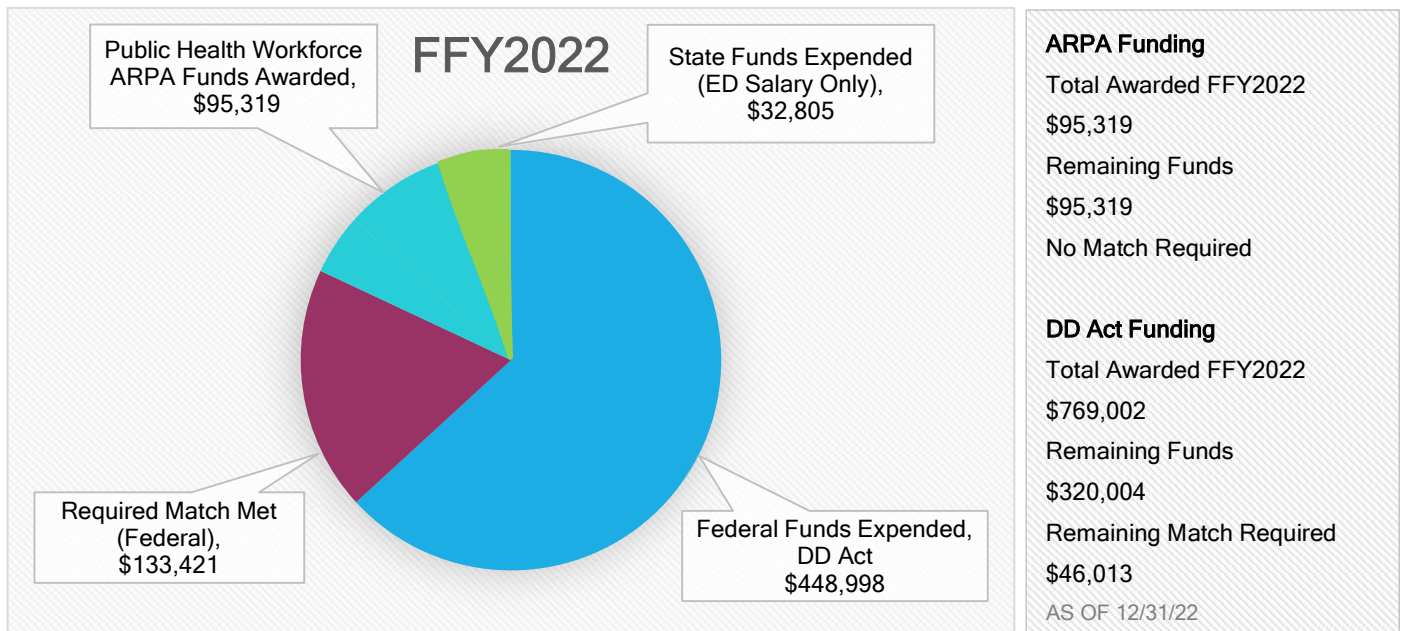
FINANCIALS

Council Financial Information

The GCDD is funded under the Developmental Disabilities Assistance and Bill of Rights Act, known as the DD Act, (Public Law 106-402). GCDD's DD Act funding is administered through the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services by the ACL and is accessed through our designated state agency (DSA), the Arkansas Department of Finance and Administration.

The Council reports annually, on three (3) fiscal years of finances, in the PPR.





Federal Source of Funds

CFDA # 93.630

Funding Source: U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES/Administration for Community Living

Title of Program: (SCDD) DD Act State Councils on Developmental Disabilities

Award Authority: P.L. 106-402 (DD Act)

Title of Program: (SCPH) Expanding the Public Health Workforce within the Disability Network: DD Councils

Award Authority: P.L. 117-2 and P.L. 116-131 (ARPA)

Grantee: Arkansas Department of Finance and Administration (GCDD's DSA)

Council Subgrant Funding

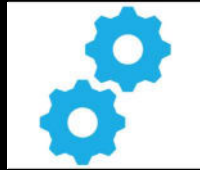
DESCRIPTION	GRANTED	EXPENDED
Marshallese Interpreting for Community Inclusion	93,750.00	84,880.45
Reducing Barriers Northwest Arkansas	93,246.98	83,034.58
Arkansas Alliance for Disability Advocacy	364,615.35	303,033.50

These subgrants completed project spending during this federal reporting period.

NOTABLE PERFORMANCE INDICATORS

Program Performance Report

The Program Performance Report (PPR) is the required annual federal report DD Councils submit to the Administration on Disability (AOD)/Office of Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities (OIDD) that describes the DD Council's progress toward achieving the goals and objectives within the DD Council 5-year plan. The purpose of the PPR is to document DD Council results, outcomes, and impacts of Council work that occurred during the previous federal fiscal year.



Federal Performance Measures - Indicators

The Administration on Disability's Office of Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities (OIDD) sets the federal performance measures (PMs) for state councils on DD. These are reported in the PPR (see PPR to view all PMs). Notable indicators for this reporting period are:

Indicator

Number of English-speaking people with developmental disabilities & their family members who participated in Council supported activities to increase their knowledge of how to take part in decisions that affect their lives, others, and/or systems.

322

Indicator

Number of people trained/educated through council supported initiatives.

400**32****Indicator**

Number of systems change activities: policy/procedures created/changed, promising practices created / supported, best practices created / supported.

Indicator

The number of Marshallese and Hispanic/Latino family members who participated in Council supported activities designed to increase their knowledge of how to take part in decisions that affect the family, the lives of others, and how to access services.

428**Indicator****5**

The number of people with disabilities who are now on cross disability coalitions, policy boards, advisory boards, governing bodies and/or serving in leadership positions.

STATE PLAN

The state plan required no amendments during the FY22 reporting period.

FUNDED PROJECTS FFY2022

The Council supported a variety of projects across the state in the 2021-2022 reporting period through our grant programs.

- The Marshallese Interpreting for Community Inclusion (MICI) Project - To provide information/training on available community resources & reach under-served individuals & families. This project is a collaboration of Partners for Inclusive Communities, the Marshallese Educational Initiative (MEI), and SeSo, Inc. to provide interpreter training for bilingual adults who are fluent in Marshallese and English, as well as provide intercultural trainings for disability service providers. CONTINUATION (COMPETITIVE)
- The Reducing Barriers NWA Project - To serve & support Marshallese & Latino/Hispanic families who have limited English proficiency, have intellectual & developmental disabilities (IDD) or have youth with IDD overcome challenging barriers to information & services within the community. CONTINUATION (COMPETITIVE)
- The DD Network New Advocacy Initiative - To create an active alliance of advocacy programs that work together to give self-advocates, parents and peer advocates and state leaders the tools they need to be active within the disability advocacy movement; the project will provide leadership training, organizational training & support and disability advocacy education. Disability Rights Arkansas and the GCDD Arkansas will work with the Arkansas Alliance for Disability Advocacy (AADA) to operate and manage the Self-Advocacy Network Development Program, the Community of Champions Program and the Partners in Policymaking Arkansas Program. NEW (SOLICITED)

“One of the biggest lessons learned during FY22 was the power of in-person connections. While virtual communication has become common, the most significant progress came from person-to-person meetings”

2022-2026 STATE PLAN - ARKANSAS

(10/01/2021-09/30/2026)

The Council's federally approved Five-year State Plan includes the following Areas of Emphasis and Goals:

1

Quality Assurance/ Advocacy

Goal One: People with developmental disabilities and their families will be active in advocacy activities that improve their lives, and the lives of others and the service system.

2

Informal and Formal Services and Supports

Goal Two: People with developmental disabilities and their families will have improved access to community supports and services.

3

Employment:

Goal Three: *The Council will work to improve competitive, integrated employment of Arkansans with developmental disabilities.*

FFY2022 (10/01/2021-09/30/2022) was the first year of the current five-year plan. Visit our webpage to see more state plan details.

