

## **FAMILY CARE COUNCIL AREA 2 FAMILY SUPPORT PLAN 2009-2010**

### **MISSION**

The Area 2 Family Care Council will promote collaboration between the Agency for Persons with Disabilities staff, consumers and their families/caregivers to enhance the availability and quality of services to citizens with developmental disabilities.

### **GOAL 1: Develop a plan to promote awareness of, membership and participation in the Area 2 Family Care Council**

#### **Objective 1: Increase awareness of the council**

- Annual letters to all persons eligible for APD services
- Quarterly meetings with persons on the waitlist
- Update current FCC brochure
- Identify other service network groups to provide FCC info
- Identify opportunities for promoting FCC through partner websites, sponsored activities, etc.
- Update database of email addresses to increase distribution of information regarding notices of trainings/meetings

#### **Objective 2: Build membership**

- Maintain contact with APD central office FCC liaison to expedite membership applications through the Governor's office
- Work with local provider agencies to promote opportunities for self-advocates to attend meetings and increase self-advocate memberships
- Commit to building council membership by finding new eligible members committed to attendance and service on the council

### **GOAL 2: Educate the community including all persons eligible for APD services and their families on issues relevant to persons with disabilities**

#### **Objective 1: Educate community on policy issues at APD and legal issues at local, state and federal level**

- Communicate important news and information from APD to the community on policy issues affecting services to eligible persons
- Communicate important news and information concerning changes in law or policy at the local, state, and federal levels

**Objective 2: Educate community on topics of interest and availability of resources**

- Hold educational workshops
- Sponsor guest speakers at Council meetings
- Make use of technology to help educate and communicate information, utilizing tools such as websites, email and listservs
- Build awareness of social and support networks
- Present information on available community services at quarterly waitlist meetings
- Widely disseminate information on services available from the community
- Partner with local APD office on identifying educational workshop needs and identifying speakers
- Work with Area 2 Steering Committee to jointly conduct training for families on APD services
- Identify members from other disability groups to pursue opportunities to co-sponsor training events

**GOAL 3: Work with important stakeholder groups to improve quality of life**

**Objective 1: Work with key stakeholder groups to capitalize on our advocacy efforts**

- Attend bi-monthly FCCF meetings to exchange information with other area Councils
- Share information with other groups and arrange regular meetings to build and maintain relationships
- Partner with Area 2 Steering Committee to improve quality of services

**Objective 2: Identify legal and policy priorities on which to advocate and lobby for change**

- Interact with APD to exchange information, express consumer point of view, and help shape policy on issues such as waitlist reprioritization, iBudget development, and fair distribution of IFS dollars
- Educate and advocate with the legislature to advise on the consequences of law and potential outcomes
- Take public positions on important issues that affect persons with disabilities

**GOAL 4: Provide for Strategic planning**

- Conduct yearly strategic planning retreat meeting

- Incorporate strategic planning into meetings throughout the fiscal year