

Want to Learn More?

For more information on this valuable work group, including meeting dates and times, please contact us below:

201 Townsend St.
Lansing, MI 48933
517-335-3158 (voice)
517-335-2751 (fax)
517-335-3171 (TDD)

mdch-dd-council@michigan.gov

www.michigan.gov/ddcouncil

Our Community Includes Everyone



Michigan Developmental
Disabilities Council



Economic Justice Work Group



Michigan Developmental
Disabilities Council



Purpose:

To advance economic justice for people with developmental disabilities and other devalued groups.

What we do:

- Meet monthly to discuss issues, priorities, strategies, and progress
- Meet with other groups that we want to educate
- Provide comments and testify at hearings, assuring that people with disabilities are heard when decisions on economic policy are made
- Address policies and programs that force people with disabilities to remain single and live in poverty; including Social Security and Supplemental Security Income, Medicaid, Programs of the Department of Housing and Urban Development, Food Stamps and other programs that address poverty.

- Identify and address societal and legislative barriers to economic justice; including lack of access to education, income security, a lack of societal safety net and basic rights in the workplace.
- Examine the aspects of impoverishment that are imposed by the systems of service for people with developmental disabilities. These include a person's:
 - Lack of real control over the way dollars for services are spent.
 - Lack of money to spend on personal purchases, relationship-based activities and community membership.
 - Enforced inability to develop capital assets like savings, home or car
- Educate legislators and policymakers about economic justice and how it affects people with developmental disabilities
- Support an Employment Subcommittee based on the principles that people with disabilities of all ages value work, should be fairly compensated for their work, are free to choose their work, and should have broad access to individual integrated employment.

- Review reports from Council grants that relate to economic justice

Statewide Partner Organizations:

- Michigan Department of Community Health
- Michigan Disability Rights Coalition (MDRC)
- United Cerebral Palsy of Michigan

Why you should join:

- Advocate for improved economic conditions for people with disabilities
- Learn about the employment needs of people with disabilities and the resources available to them
- Learn about systemic barriers that impede economic justice for people with disabilities
- Participate in the Developmental Disabilities Council in its work to inform policymakers about what needs to change