



Michigan Developmental Disabilities Council

Our Community Includes Everyone

2016

ANNUAL REPORT



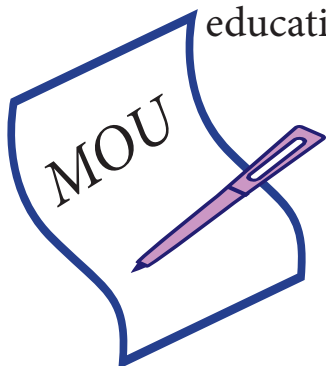
32

There are 32 certified peer mentors in Michigan. Peer mentors provide adults with intellectual and developmental disabilities (I/DD) opportunities to support, mentor and assist them to achieve community inclusion and participation, independence, and productivity. Peer Mentors offer the benefit of their personal experiences, passing along encouragement and support to help others construct their own advocacy. Peer mentoring is now officially a part of the Medicaid Provider Manual for the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services.



6

State government agencies and the Lieutenant Governor signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) on June 21, 2016. The MOU was created to help increase the number of students with disabilities transitioning from school and post-secondary education to employment.



11

Participants had their legislators job shadow them in the Council's 3rd annual "Take Your Legislator To Work" campaign on October 28, 2016. Participants jobs included: a pizza maker, janitorial, basketball coach, and much more.



59

The Council wrote **59** responses to proposed Medicaid Policy changes.

The Council had several successes:

- Prescriptions for rehabilitative and habilitative services would be accepted by physicians' assistants and nurse practitioners the next time this policy is addressed.
- The state agreed to test more than one site for lead for those children who tested positive for lead exposure in Flint.
- Medical Services Administration changed its non-emergency medical transportation policy (NEMTP) to allow people with disabilities to maintain their preferred NEMTP when a different payment structure went into effect January 2017.



The Council worked with the Michigan Department of Transportation, transportation providers from around the state, as well as self-advocates to develop a single application for a universal reduced fare card. The single application will be good for all **81** transportation providers. The Council is working on implementation.

Fast Facts 2016 continued

130

More than **130** advocates and legislators attended the Council's 17th Annual Legislative Event on February 6, 2016. This event was held at the Radison Hotel in Downtown Lansing. Advocates from across the state gathered to meet with their legislator(s) to discuss issues affecting the disability community, such as housing, transportation, and employment.



4

Teenagers participated in a pilot Boys Program through the Council's grant Connections for Community Leadership. This two-day overnight leadership program was designed for male teenagers with disabilities. Participants had the opportunity to learn about disability history, community, and pride.

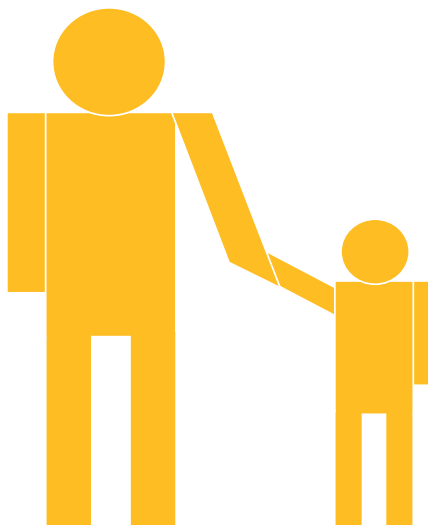
10

People participated in the Individual and Family Supports, Education and Advocacy workgroup's future planning seminar on Estate Planning for Special Needs. Attorney Roxanne Chang gave an overview of the basics of estate planning, including wills and trusts.



30

Michigan Department of Health and Human Services employees participated in the Council's poverty simulation and discussion facilitated by Community Economic Development Association of Michigan. This simulation was designed to help participants begin to understand what it might be like to live in a disabled, low-income family.



Employment

Disability



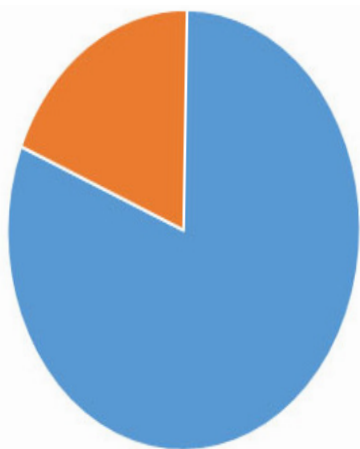
9,922,576

People in Michigan

1 in 5



People are living
with a disability



81%

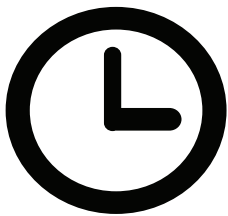
People with a
disability are
unemployed

in Michigan

Employment First

To improve employment outcomes for people I/DD, Michigan received a grant from the Office of Disability Employment Policy (ODEP) in 2015.

Since then...



526 hours of training and consultation about employment were given to Michigan from national experts.



40 providers were trained in customized employment strategies that lead to increased employment outcomes for people with significant disabilities.



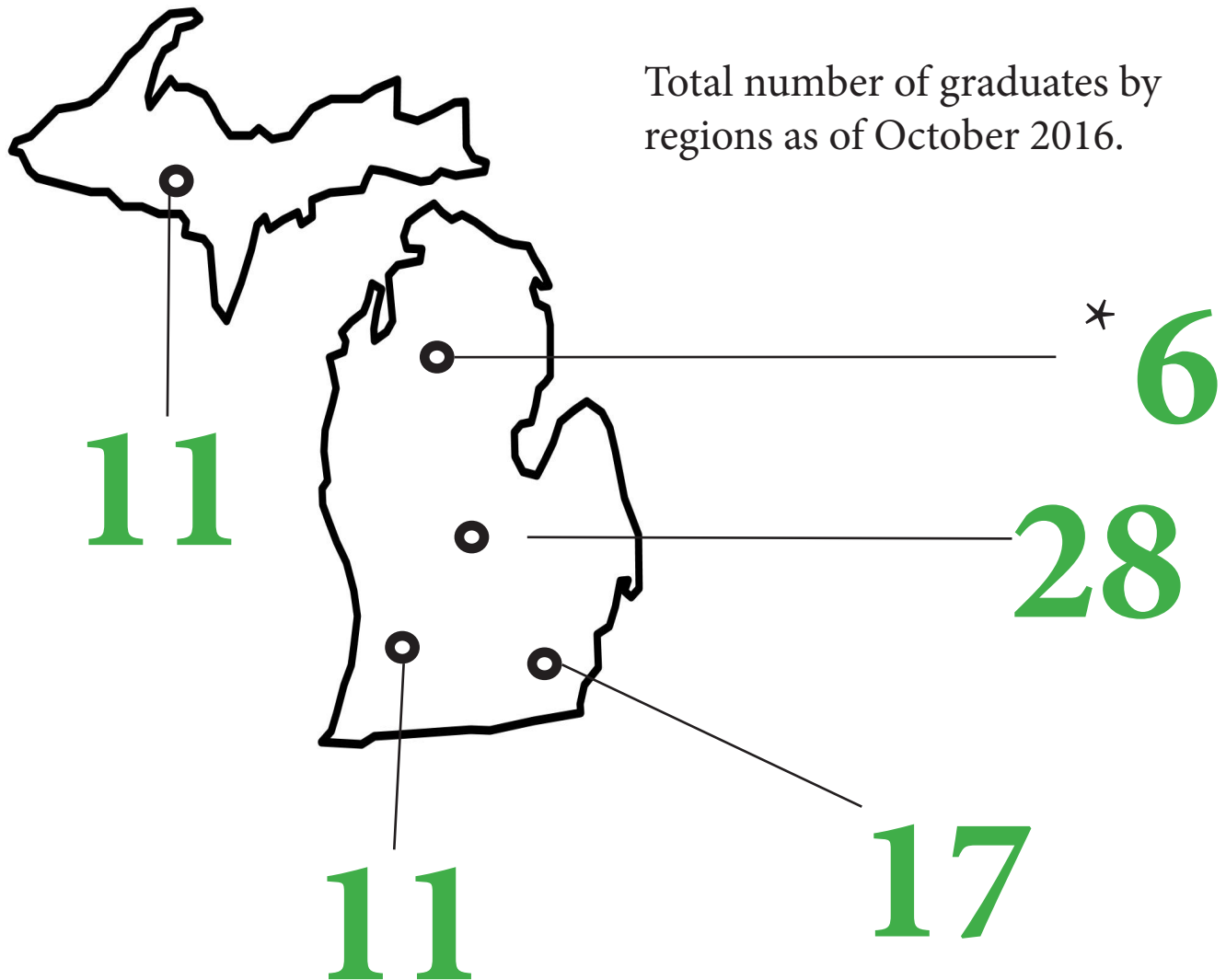
8 provider organizations learned how to create more integrated employment opportunities for people with disabilities.



313 people with significant disabilities were placed in competitive, integrated employment opportunities at minimum wage or higher.

Leaders In Policy Advocacy

Leaders in Policy Advocacy is an intensive leadership training program for adults with I/DD and parents of young children with I/DD. The program held six overnight sessions (in five regions) where participants learned about disability history, inclusive education, assistive technology, self-determination, person-centered planning, social media, systems change, access to employment, housing and recreation.



★

Region 4 cancelled their last meeting and participants were unable to graduate. Participants will complete their training at a later date and graduate. It is anticipated that 6 participants will graduate.

Michigan Partners for Freedom

Michigan Partners for Freedom (MPF) is a grassroots movement of people with disabilities, family members, advocates, and organizations working in the field of disabilities to make self-determination a reality for all of Michigan.



The grant has...

Given presentations across the state on self-determination to approximately 2,000 people. Their presentations have helped people understand what self-determination is and what services and supports they can ask for in person-centered plans.



Participated in the 298 state work group that developed recommendations for the state legislature to improve the delivery of mental health services. MPFs involvement was to make sure that self-determination and person-centered planning were included prominently in any recommendations for a redesign of the mental health service system.



Trained and developed local leaders, which are people with disabilities who give outreach presentations on self-determination in their community. Local leaders held 43 outreach activities in 2016.

Self-Advocates Board

Purpose

To advocate for independence, inclusion, freedom, opportunity, respect and dignity, while making the public aware of the abilities of people with developmental disabilities throughout Michigan.

Mission

To empower people with developmental disabilities to advocate and take ownership of their lives.

Vision

To empower people with developmental disabilities to live fulfilling lives according to their own choices.

Values

Diversity

Respect for and appreciation of differences in ethnicity, gender, gender identity, age, national origin, disability, sexual orientation, education, religion, political affiliation, and other differences. Understanding that each individual is unique, and recognizing our individual differences.

Inclusion

Ensuring that people feel they belong, are engaged, and connected in their community. A state of being valued, respected, and supported. It's about focusing on the needs of every individual and ensuring the right conditions and reasonable accommodations are in place for each person to achieve their full potential.



Todd Koopmans



Sheryl Ann Kuenzer



James Ivey, Jr.



John Taylor

of Michigan Members



Daniel Paul



Sarah Frisch



Shawn Neal



Ryan Brugger



Barbara Valliere



Blake Perry



David Taylor



Angel Irvin

Self-Determination

- Principles of Self-Determination are:
 - *Freedom* – you plan your life with the supports that you need
 - *Authority* – you control the money for the support you receive
 - *Supports* – you arrange resources and supports so you can live in and connect with your community
 - *Responsibility* – you have a valued role in your community and agree to use public dollars wisely
 - *Confirmation* – of the important leadership role that individuals with disabilities must play in a newly re-designed system and support for the self-advocacy movement

Respect the capabilities of people with disabilities

Nothing About Us Without Us

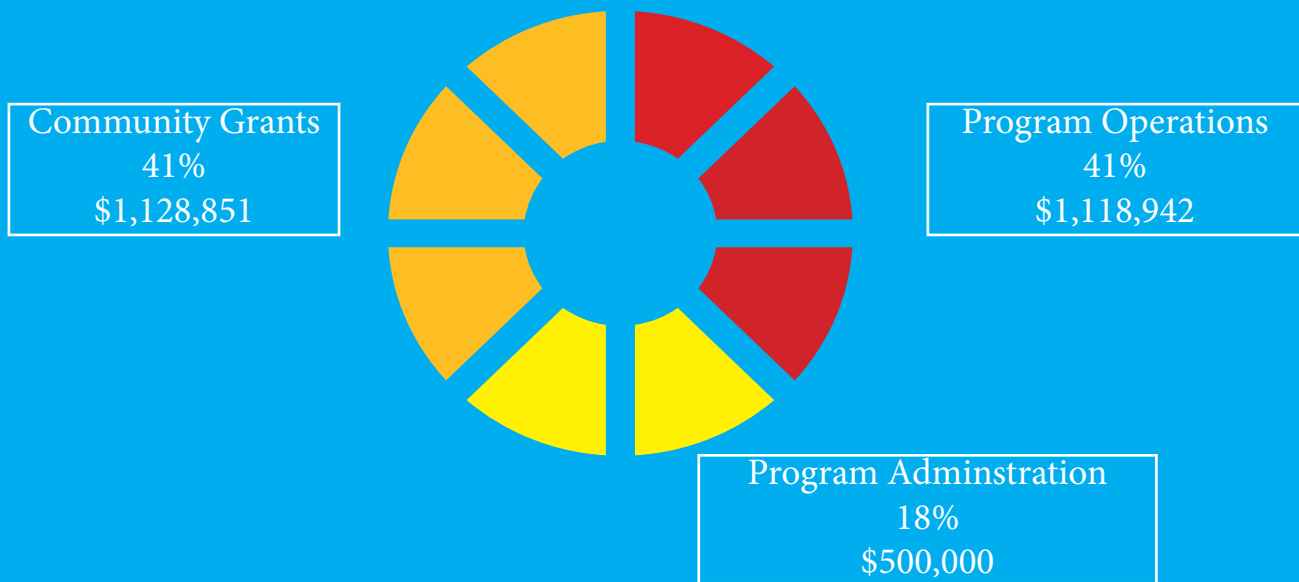
No policy should be decided without direct participation of people whose lives will be affected by that policy/decision.

Equal Rights for People with Disabilities

You have the right to:

- Dignity
- Fairness without discrimination
- Be included in activities
- Be accepted, with or without disabilities, just as you are
- Equal opportunity to reach your full potential
- Accessibility, to enter a public place and not be prevented or refused
- Respect for your ability and to preserve who you are

Financial Review



Council Members:

Chair: Kristen Columbus-*Family Member*
Vice Chair: Justin P. Caine-*Self-Advocate*

Heidi A. DeVries-*Self-Advocate*
Paul Palmer-*Self-Advocate*
Jeremiah J. Prusi-*Self-Advocate*
David J. Taylor-*Self-Advocate*
Jill Barker-*Family Member*
Steven Johnson-*Family Member*
Deborah Rock-*Family Member*
Andrea Sargent- *Family Member*
Richard Suhrheinrich-*Family Member*
Elmer Cerano-*Protection & Advocacy Services*
Jane Reagan-*Michigan Department of Education*
Deborah Wiese- *Michigan Department of Health and Human Services*

Marnie Wills-*Department of Licensing and Regulatory Affairs*

Barbara LeRoy- *DDI-University Centers for Excellence*

David T. Verseput-*Michigan Department of Health and Human Services*

Council Staff:

Vendela M. Collins-*Executive Director*

Yasmina Bouraoui-*Deputy Director*

Tedra Jackson- *Grants Manager*

Dee Florence- *Advocacy Secretary*

Sheila McCulloch-*Executive Secretary*

Meredith Smith- *Communications Representative*

Tracy Vincent- *Resource Analyst*

Brett Williams- *Public Policy Analyst*

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