



The Collaboration to Promote Self-Determination (CPSD), founded in 2007, is an advocacy coalition of organizations representing people with intellectual, developmental and other disabilities and their families, disability service agencies and individuals who have come together to bring about a significant modernization of the federal adult system of services and supports for persons with disabilities.

Mission

The mission of CPSD is to push for major systemic reform of the nation's disability laws and programs to advance economic security, enhance integrated community participation, and increase opportunities for people with disabilities so that they are able to lead self-determined lives. To that end, CPSD advocates for comprehensive, innovative public policy reform that prioritizes:

1. Access to health and long-term services and supports that people need to work;
2. Ensuring quality transition services from school to adult life through modernized education policies and practices;
3. Working to eliminate Section 14(c) of the Fair Labor Standards Act, together with capacity building of service systems that lead to competitive integrated employment (CIE) and economic advancement;
4. Improving implementation and coordination of the federal and state work force programs to ensure individuals with disabilities have the education, training, services, and supports necessary to participate in CIE; and
5. Ensuring individuals who provide services and supports to people with disabilities have the opportunities to improve their skills through higher education, workforce training, career pathways, work-based learning, and appropriately defined or redefined industry-approved credentials.

Vision

CPSD envisions a world where every person with disabilities, particularly intellectual and developmental disabilities, has the opportunity, encouragement, and support required to lead an independent, productive life through self-direction and self-determination.

CPSD believes there is a need for a clear focus in federal and state policy leadership that affirms high expectations of persons with intellectual, developmental, and other disabilities, to live and work independently in typical community settings. This focus includes an emphasis on public resources that center on assisting individuals with disabilities in attaining meaningful employment in integrated settings at competitive wages with commensurate benefits. Employment is a means to economic advancement of these individuals through income generation, asset building, and savings. CPSD seeks to promote opportunities and eliminate barriers to working and saving while ensuring the continuation of individualized supports (as necessary).

Recent CPSD Successes

CPSD is comprised of a bipartisan group of advocacy and policy experts who have decades of expertise and have helped to achieve many milestones. Recent activities include:

- Held Congressional briefings on competitive integrated employment of people with disabilities,

including briefings on successful transitions from segregated work to CIE (October 2019), youth transitioning from school to employment (October 2018) and on the recommendations of the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) Advisory Committee Report to Congress (September 2017).

- Worked closely with members of Congress to develop legislation to expand opportunities for competitive integrated employment and phase out subminimum wages for people with disabilities, including the **Transformation to Competitive Employment Act of 2019** (H.R. 873; S. 260) and the **CAPABILITY Act** (H.R. 3070).
- Created and continue to lead the **Coalition to Advance Competitive Integrated Employment**, (www.integratedemploymentnow.org) comprised of over 20 national organizations working together to expand opportunities for competitive integrated employment, including by supporting federal legislation, advocating to protect regulations implementing WIOA, and working with federal agencies on initiatives around disability employment.

Current Members

Applied Self-Direction

Association of People Supporting Employment First

Autism Society of America

Autistic Self-Advocacy Network

Community Options, Inc.

Marc Gold & Associates

National Association of State Directors of Developmental Disabilities Services

National Disability Institute

National Disability Rights Network

National Down Syndrome Congress

National Organization on Disability

National Rehabilitation Association

TASH

Williams Syndrome Association

CPSD continues to work to implement systems reform and to promote public awareness through a comprehensive strategy that focuses on the need for public policy innovation. To join in our efforts or for more information, please go to www.thecpsd.org or email us at thecpsd@gmail.com.

Social Media:

Facebook @thecspd

Twitter @CPSDAdvocacy