



Please Join the Council in Supporting The Developmental Disabilities Shared Vision Bill

WHAT IS IT?

For over a year, Alaskans have come together to develop a Developmental Disabilities Shared Vision for Alaska. This has included individuals with disabilities, family members, service providers, state agency staff, and community members. The Council supports enshrining the Shared Vision, through aspirational language, in statute.

Alaskans share a vision of a flexible system in which each person directs their own supports, based on their strengths and abilities, toward a meaningful life in their home, their job and their community. Our vision includes supported families, professional staff and services available throughout the state now and into the future.

WHY IS IT NEEDED?

Once written into statute, the Shared Vision will provide a solid platform for how services are provided throughout the state. This ensures that individuals with developmental disabilities will receive services that lead to meaningful lives, for current and future generations of Alaskans. It will solidify a spirit of self-determination for individuals with

developmental disabilities within the Alaskan service system. The Shared Vision clearly establishes that individuals with disabilities should receive support to lead the way in directing their own lives which is crucial to having fully inclusive communities within Alaska and results in a much richer and more diverse state. Autonomy derived from self-direction enhances quality of life by increasing independence and confidence which can support skills to better protect individuals from abuse.

HOW WILL IT WORK?

With aspirational language added to AS 44.29 relating to the Shared Vision, there will be a solid platform for the State of Alaska as it moves through major system transformation associated with SB 74 as well as other future changes. The Shared Vision is anchored in person-centered thinking, self-determination, and individualization. The Shared Vision will guide our state in times of strong fiscal resources as well as in times of fiscal shortfalls thus the Shared Vision statement is absent any fiscal language. Regardless of the particular level of fiscal resources, the Shared Vision will guide decision-making in a manner that supports meaningful lives for Alaskans with developmental disabilities.

An Alaska Developmental Disability Collaborative has been created through the Shared Vision process and is working through six unique project teams to make the vision a reality.

Project Teams:

1. Person-Directed Culture Change
2. Direct Support Professional Workforce Development
3. Community Awareness and Engagement
4. Legislative Engagement
5. Measuring Success
6. Advocate Advisors

RESOURCES:

- For the Alaska's Developmental Disabilities System in 2018 Infographic, visit:
 - <http://dhss.alaska.gov/gcdse/Documents/calendar/201801/DD-Systems.pdf>
- To learn more about the Shared DD Vision Process through a video update, visit:
 - [Alaska DD Vision Update January 2018](#)
 - [Alaska DD Vision Update January 2018 with Reader](#)

**Please support putting the DD Shared Vision into
statute**