

**WYOMING
PROTECTION & ADVOCACY FOR DEVELOPMENTAL
DISABILITIES PROGRAM (PADD)
STATEMENT OF OBJECTIVES AND PRIORITIES**

FISCAL YEAR 2011 PLAN

QUALITY ASSURANCE

Priority 1: Persons eligible under the PADD Act will live as independently as possible in safe, healthy environments free from abuse, neglect, seclusion, restraint, financial and sexual exploitation, or other violations of their human and legal rights (“rights violations”).

Objective 1: Review, enforce access rights, investigate, refer to appropriate authorities, provide advocacy services, or seek legal relief resulting from reports of rights violations.

Specific population to be served: Persons eligible for the PADD program who are or may be subject to rights violations.

Indicator of success: This objective is exceeded if greater than 800 reports are reviewed and appropriate action taken.
This objective is met if 600 - 800 reports are reviewed and appropriate action taken.
This objective is not met if fewer than 600 reports are reviewed.

Expected outcome: Persons eligible for the PADD program will receive advocacy and representation to live free of rights violations.

Objective 2: Provide advocacy services, investigate, review, or refer rights violations to responsible authorities such as the Department of Family Services, law enforcement, or the Department of Health.

Specific population to be served: Persons eligible for the PADD program who are or may be subject to rights violations.

Indicator of success: The objective is exceeded if greater than 55 persons are assisted or if systemic change occurs.
The objective is met if 45 - 55 persons are assisted.
The objective is not met if fewer than 45 persons are assisted.

Expected outcome: Persons eligible for the PADD program will no longer be subjected to rights violations.

Objective 3: Promote advocacy, public awareness, and understanding of developmental disabilities issues as follows:

- a. Provide 15 presentations on Protection & Advocacy System, Inc. (P&A)
- b. Provide 10 training sessions pertaining to Clients' Rights and Responsibilities, encouraging self advocacy skills
- c. Distribute 1500 publications
- d. Attend at least 75% of the meetings of the Governor's Planning Council on Developmental Disabilities and the Advocacy, Membership, and Budget Committees, as assigned
- e. Collaborate with the Governor's Planning Council on Developmental Disabilities and the University Center on Developmental Disabilities to address developmental disabilities issues
- f. Collaborate, educate, and inform Legislative standing and select committees on issues relating to persons with disabilities
- g. Attend at least 50% of the meetings of the Developmental Disabilities Division Advisory Council
- h. Attend at least 50% of the Wyoming INstitute on Disabilities Advisory Council meetings
- i. Attend at least 50% of the Consumer Program Advisory Council meetings
- j. Collaborate with the Department of Family Services and the Department of Health on adult and child protective services
- k. Attend at least 75% of the Mega Conference Planning Committee meetings and co-sponsor the Mega Conference on Disabilities
- l. Promote public awareness and advocate for the reduction of seclusion and restraint
- m. Coordinate with state officials in addressing systemic concerns
- n. Support the P&A Board of Trustees and staff to attend 15 training sessions
- o. Participate or collaborate with at least 7 disability related entities to promote and improve services and enhance advocacy development
- p. Provide information or referral services to 175 persons
- q. Provide PADD publications in alternative formats
- r. Advocate for case management independent of provider organizations
- s. Participate up to 6 times annually with Wind River Reservation agencies to provide training, information, and assistance

- t. Collaborate with Crisis Intervention Teams and emergency responders to include state, county, and local law enforcement agencies in recognizing and interacting with individuals with developmental disabilities
- u. Update P&A website

Specific population to be served: Persons eligible for the PADD program who are or may be subject to rights violations.

Indicator of success: This objective is exceeded if greater than 85% of the subparts are accomplished or if systemic change occurs.
This objective is met if 75% - 85% of the subparts are accomplished.
This objective is not met if fewer than 75% of the subparts are accomplished.

Expected outcome: Persons eligible for the PADD program will gain knowledge of their rights.

EDUCATION AND EARLY INTERVENTION

Introduction: Consistent with P&A's federal mandate to address abuse and neglect in institutional and community settings, P&A's policy on non-duplication of services, and significant resource limitations, Priority 2 shall focus on the following service provisions.

Priority 2: Persons eligible under the PADD Act will gain the knowledge or assistance necessary to have appropriate educational services or accommodations.

Objective 1: Provide short-term assistance to parents or students to help them gain the knowledge or assistance necessary to have appropriate educational services or accommodations.

Comment: Short-term assistance will not include contact with schools or attendance at IEP or Section 504 or other similar meetings.

Objective 2: Provide representation or advocacy within the following specific priority areas and only when short-term assistance cannot resolve the issues.

Subject Area A: Initial Eligibility

Our vision is that students will have access to appropriate educational services, consisting of initial evaluations to determine eligibility for students not yet identified as eligible for services or accommodations. P&A may advocate for students to receive timely and appropriate initial evaluations to determine eligibility in cases in which school districts have not conducted appropriate evaluations.

Subject Area B: Early Childhood Education

Our vision is that children from birth through transition to Kindergarten will receive appropriate early intervention and educational services or accommodations. P&A may advocate for appropriate early intervention and educational services or accommodations for children from birth through transition to Kindergarten.

Subject Area C: Restraint and Seclusion

Our vision is that students will not be abused or neglected or receive injuries resulting from inappropriate seclusion or restraint in educational settings. P&A may advocate for the elimination of inappropriate restraint or seclusion of students.

Subject Area D: Discipline

Our vision is that students will not be subjected to inappropriate long-term suspension or expulsion. P&A may advocate for the elimination of inappropriate long-term suspension or expulsion.

Subject Area E: Extended School Year

Our vision is that students will be considered for and receive appropriate extended school year services. P&A may advocate for appropriate extended school year consideration and services.

Subject Area F: Transition

Our vision is that students will receive appropriate transition planning to assist them in living independently, working, and succeeding as adults. P&A may advocate for appropriate school-to-work transition planning.

Subject Area G: Assistive Technology

Our vision is that students will have access to assistive technology, including assistive technology evaluations. P&A may advocate for access to assistive technology, including assistive technology evaluations.

Subject Area H: Accessibility

Our vision is that students will have reasonable accommodations required to gain physical access to buildings or educational facilities or programming. P&A may advocate for reasonable accommodations required for students to gain physical access to buildings or educational facilities or programming.

Subject Area I: Systemic: Policy, Procedure, Practice

Our vision is that significant systemic changes may benefit substantially more students than addressing issues on a case-by-case basis, and that selectively addressing systemic issues is consistent with P&A's policies and funding limitations. Solely within its discretion, P&A may advocate for educational issues having significant legal merit that are likely to produce systemic changes in school districts or statewide.

Specific population to be served: Persons eligible for the PADD Program, who need advocacy for one or more of the educational services described above, and who do not have access to other representation or assistance.

Indicator of success: The priority is exceeded if greater than 30 persons are assisted or if systemic change occurs.
The priority is met if between 20 to 30 persons are assisted.
The priority is not met if fewer than 20 persons are assisted.

Expected outcome: Persons eligible for the PADD Program who reside in Wyoming gain the knowledge or assistance necessary to receive free and appropriate educational services or accommodations.