



## **The Arizona Developmental Disabilities Planning Council continues our profile series to help community members get to know the people who represent Arizonans with disabilities**

**Council Member Mary Slaughter**



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Mary Slaughter is a native of Omaha, Nebraska. She moved to Arizona in 1976 to help build community programs and move people with disabilities out of state-operated institutions. This was following the resolution of a lawsuit filed by The Arc of Arizona in the late 1970s. After working at the state level in the Division of Developmental Disabilities (DDD), she wanted to be closer to families and children, so she moved on to direct DDD's services for them in Maricopa County, helping to develop integrated preschools.

In this capacity, Mary was a founder of Raising Special Kids, Arizona's Parent-to-Parent and Training and Information Center and was employed as its Executive Director from 1985 to 2000. Disability advocacy continues to be Mary's passion. She cannot believe she has been able to get paid for something that is so much fun. Mary has also served on the boards of Arizona Center for Disability Law (ACDL), Ability360, and Diverse Ability Incorporated.

[Read more](#)

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## **Check out the cool things that our Grantees are doing with Council funding**

**Arizona Coalition to End Sexual and Domestic Violence (ACESDV)**



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The Arizona Coalition to End Sexual and Domestic Violence (ACESDV) is proud to collaborate with the Arizona Developmental Disabilities Planning Council (ADDPC). This partnership is made possible through crucial funding that enables us to address sexual violence within Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities (IDD) communities.

Our mission at ACESDV is to dismantle oppression and promote equity among all people. We primarily serve providers of direct services to victims and survivors of sexual and domestic violence, with a focus on those who benefit directly from our initiatives.

[Read more](#)

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## Parents as Paid Caregivers of Minor Children

The Arizona Health Care Cost Containment System (AHCCCS) has received a temporary extension of federal approval to pay parents for providing direct care to their minor children enrolled in the Arizona Long Term Care System (ALTCS).

The Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) granted the temporary extension of the State’s existing COVID-19 Appendix K authority to allow the State and CMS to continue negotiations over the demonstration amendment application submitted on September 27, 2023, that proposes to allow AHCCCS to continue the program permanently.

[More Information](#)

## National Disability Employment Awareness Month (NDEAM) Update



The Arizona Developmental Disabilities Network, Association of People Supporting Employment First (APSE) Arizona Chapter, and Arizona Employment First Initiative today announced their participation in National Disability Employment Awareness Month (NDEAM), an annual awareness campaign that takes place each October. NDEAM educates individuals, employers, and communities on disability employment issues and celebrates the diverse contributions of American workers with disabilities. This year's theme is Advancing Access and Equity, which included a series of training webinars on October 11th, 18th, and 25th, hosted by Employment First, Vocational Rehabilitation, and Assistive Technology for Employment and Independence (ATEI). Access the recordings of each webinar below.

October 11 Webinar

October 18 Webinar

October 25 Webinar

## Upcoming events

## VACCINE EQUITY EXPERT PANEL

Learn about seasonal fall vaccines from leaders and experts from our community during this special virtual panel discussion for people with disabilities, their loved ones, and caretakers.

Monday, November 20, at 12:00 pm MST

More Information



# HEALTH CARE ADVOCACY CLASS

Join our virtual class on Health Care Advocacy related to individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities, aging, and dementia.

Monday, Nov. 20th  
9:00 - 11:00 am  
Virtual via Zoom

[More Information](#)

[More events](#)



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