

## **PADD Statement of Goals and Priorities for FY 2023 (Oct 2022 – Sept 2023)**

**PADD Goal 1:** Advocate for and with persons with developmental disabilities to advance their rights to self-determination and to be fully included in their communities.

**Priority 1.1:** Educate and advocate for the rights of people with developmental disabilities to receive individualized supports and services and any medically necessary services in the most integrated setting according to their preferences, with particular attention to individuals in underserved populations, including those residing in institutions.

**Priority 1.2:** Expand the knowledge and use of less restrictive alternatives to guardianship, in particular supported-decision making. Advocate for reform of the guardianship and court system to enhance people with developmental disabilities' right to self-determination.

**Priority 1.3:** Advocate for effective communication for persons with developmental disabilities in places of public accommodation and when utilizing state funded services.

**Priority 1.4:** As a systemic issue, investigate and advocate to address overreliance on nursing facilities, hospitals, and emergency rooms as placements for people with developmental disabilities in lieu of home and community-based services.

**Priority 1.5:** Educate attorneys, judges, and other professionals within the criminal justice system about people with developmental disabilities to prevent institutionalization and incarceration.

**PADD Goal 2:** Monitor abuse, neglect and rights violations of people with developmental disabilities, especially cases of serious harm or injury, in state funded services to assist people to live safely and with dignity.

**Priority 2.1:** Investigate individual reports of abuse, neglect, and other rights violations.

**Priority 2.2:** Advocate for individuals subject to abuse, neglect, or other rights violations to receive appropriate remedies, including access to proper care, treatment, and services, with particular attention to individuals in underserved populations, including those residing in institutions.

**PADD Goal 3:** Protect the rights of children with developmental disabilities to equity and inclusion in education.

**Priority 3.1:** Advance the rights of children with developmental disabilities to receive equal access to early child care and education and school-based services in the least restrictive environment.

**Priority 3.2:** Investigate and resolve cases of students with developmental disabilities who have been subject to inappropriate discipline, school removal or use of restraint or seclusion.

**PADD Goal 4:** Mitigate the impact of COVID-19 on people with developmental disabilities.

**Priority 4.1:** Advocate to ensure the health, welfare, and rights of persons with developmental disabilities are protected during the COVID-19 pandemic and other outbreaks of the virus and variants, including monitoring responses by health care entities.

**Priority 4.2:** Educate people with developmental disabilities about their rights during the COVID-19 pandemic and monitor efforts to prevent transmission of COVID-19.