

Family Care Council - Area 7 2011-2012 Family Action Plan

The mission of the Family Care Council Florida is to advocate, educate, and empower individuals with developmental disabilities and their families, partnering with the Agency for Persons with Disabilities (APD), to bring quality services to individuals for dignity and choice.

The Mission of the Area Seven Family Care Council (FCC7) is to encourage all individuals with developmental disabilities to ensure personal choice, well-being, self-determination, free and appropriate public education, and community inclusion.

Our mission includes helping families find resources for person-centered, consumer driven services and supports.

Long term goals:

1. Assist in providing information, education and out reach to families in Area 7;

Objectives:

- Recruit new members and develop alliances with other support groups that are concerned with the needs of individuals with developmental disabilities.
- Maintain mail and e-mail contact lists and social media to send out notices, alerts, and information. Use social media to provide a forum for public inquiries, questions and answers, and event notices, particularly events or meetings sponsored by APD.
- Maintain a web page to provide access to Family Care Council documents and information resources.
- Collaborate with other public agencies (Education, Health, Vocational Rehabilitation, etc.) in outreach programs.
- Sponsor outreach events on topics of special interest, such as transition, guardianship, iBudget, changes in services, programs and resources, etc.

2. Review and make recommendations as to the effectiveness of the delivery of supports and services;

Objectives:

- Seek input of families and individuals on their needs and their ideas for improvement.
- Attend conferences, meetings, conference calls and information sessions held by APD.
- Attend conferences, workshops, meetings and events of other agencies, reporting back to FCC7 to provide a basis for recommendations to APD.
- Meet with legislators to educate on legislation regarding issues of importance to the developmental disabilities community.

3. Advise local administrators with respect to particular community and family needs;

Objectives:

- Respond to referrals and requests by constituent families and individuals for assistance in navigating developmental disabilities services.
- Build network relationships with other Area 7 agencies, support groups and organizations in order to improve communication and build collaboration opportunities.
- Work with Area 7 APD Area Administrator and FCC Liaison to contact families on the confidential APD client mail and e-mail lists with FCC7 notices and information.
- Work with Area 7 Administrator and Liaison to clarify issues of concern to individuals and families on a community basis.
- Work with staff designated by Area 7 Administrator to resolve specific issues for individuals, ensuring protection of confidential private health and family information.

4. Meet and share information with other Family Care Councils

Objectives:

- Area 7 FCC representatives will attend each meeting of the Family Care Council Florida and report back to the FCC7.
- Attend regional and state meetings and events that provide networking opportunities with FCCF members.