



Administration on Developmental Disabilities



Quality Assurance

FY 2008 Performance Highlights

Part of ADD's mission is to promote independence by ensuring that individuals with developmental disabilities have access to services that allow them to lead full and self-sufficient lives as a member of an integrated community. Grantees support this mission through programs that allow individuals with disabilities to participate in recreational and cultural activities, advocate for their personal rights, live where they choose, and otherwise exercise choice and control over their lives. Grantees work to protect the rights of individuals with developmental disabilities, and to improve the quality, accessibility, and flexibility of the services available to them. Through these efforts, individuals are helped in the short and long term, and ineffective systems are changed, eliminating a source of problems for future generations. Promoting system change is an important part of quality assurance activities performed by ADD's grantees.

- In FY 2008, 56 UCEDDs helped 214,328 individuals in the community to increase the ability of individuals with developmental disabilities to practice greater self-determination and exert greater choice and control in their lives.
- Through the work of 46 Councils, quality assurance activities reached 92,344 people with developmental disabilities, increasing their safety and maintaining their personal authority through training in self advocacy, information dissemination and public awareness.
- In FY 2008, 57 P&As secured or maintained assistance for 5,241 people with developmental disabilities, increasing their safety or personal welfare, and maintaining their personal authority.

The Maine P&A worked with Paco, a twenty-five-year-old male with a cognitive disability who contacted the P&A because he was not able to run his own Person Centered Planning (PCP) meeting or choose his own goals. The P&A's advocate provided training in self-advocacy and attended two PCP meetings with Paco. Paco took an active role in advocating for himself to design his goals for his home and community support. He asked the P&A to help bring more consumer training to the agency so more people can benefit from knowing about their rights. The P&A, working with the self-advocacy group "Speaking Up For Us" provided the requested training, and the P&A's advocate continues to work collaboratively with "Speaking Up for Us" in developing and providing training for self-advocates on a number of issues related to self-advocacy: speaking up, exploitation, rights, housing, and the grievance procedure.