

North Dakota Partners In Policymaking

...making a difference for North Dakotans who have disabilities

Change Doesn't Happen By Itself

Effective change takes people, united as one, working together. Partners in Policymaking is a program that prepares individuals to be effective leaders and advocates for the rights of people with disabilities. The goal is to achieve a productive partnership between people needing and using services and those delivering services or making policy or law. The rewards are boundless.

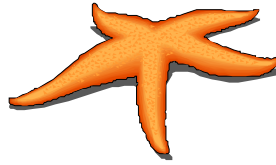
**Imagine...increasing personal empowerment,
strengthening advocacy skills and successfully obtaining
state-of-the-art services for yourself and/or others.**

Training For Excellence

Selected participants attend eight two-day training sessions, usually from October through April, with a Friday night stay-over at the motel (for those traveling from outside of the training site area). Training sessions and accommodations are provided at no cost to participants, including travel and needed supports. The sessions explore current disability issues, best practices and the policymaking and legislative processes at the local, state and federal levels. Partners also complete assignments between sessions and commit to one major project after graduation.

We Need You

Partners in Policymaking invites adults with disabilities and parents of children with disabilities to fill out an application. Partners are highly motivated men and women who represent a variety of backgrounds, geographic regions of the state, and different types of disabilities. Those who are not already active in advocacy organizations are especially encouraged to apply.



Session Topics Include:

- ✓ History of the Disability Movement
- ✓ People First Language
- ✓ Inclusive Education
- ✓ Communicating Effectively in Meetings
- ✓ Supported/Inter-dependent Living
- ✓ Personal-Futures Planning
- ✓ Supported Employment
- ✓ Assistive Technology
- ✓ Strategies for Effective Advocacy
- ✓ Positive Behavioral Supports
- ✓ State Legislative Process
- ✓ Federal Policy & Legislative Process
- ✓ Vision Building
- ✓ Community Organizing & Alliance Building
- ✓ And More!

For more information, an application form, or to inquire about upcoming session dates and the training site, please contact Joyce at:

The Arc of Bismarck	1-888-258-7949	Toll free in-state
1211 Park Avenue	1-701-258-7949	Voice
Bismarck, ND 58504	1-701-258-7949	Fax
	711	TDD Relay

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<http://www.thearcofbismarck.org/partners>

In the event of any schedule changes, selected participants will be advised by September of the current year.

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