



**JOB ANNOUNCEMENT:**

**COMMUNITY ORGANIZING COORDINATOR  
GEORGIA COUNCIL ON DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES  
Atlanta, Georgia**

The Georgia Council on Developmental Disabilities (GCDD) works to bring about social and policy changes that promote opportunities for persons with developmental disabilities and their families to live, learn, work, play and worship in Georgia communities. GCDD is one of 55 entities of its type in the United States and territories that report to the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Administration on Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities. It is authorized under Public Law 106-402, the Developmental Disabilities Assistance and Bill of Rights Act Amendments of 2000.

Our activities are governed by a 27-member board, appointed by the Governor and comprised of at least 60 percent individuals with developmental disabilities and family members. Other members include policymakers that represent various agencies and organizations having a vested interest in persons with developmental disabilities.

Today, the GCDD continues to serve as an advocate for all persons with developmental disabilities. We are charged with creating systems change for people with developmental disabilities and their families by increasing opportunities for independence, inclusion, integration, productivity and self-determination. Activities include public policy research and analysis, reform, project demonstrations, education and training.

Since our inception in 1971, we have been a powerful advocate for more than 1.7 million Georgians with developmental disabilities and their families.

The GCDD's strategic plan focuses on the idea that people with developmental disabilities need to live in communities that recognize all people's value. The Real Communities Initiative priority is to work in local communities with all people including those with developmental disabilities and other people on the margin to create places that value, recognize gifts and welcome all people. The GCDD seeks to hire an Organizing Coordinator who will work with the Real Communities Director to identify

and support local communities involved in the Real Communities Initiative. The coordinator is a valued member of the GCDD team and is responsible providing support to current and new communities that become a part of this initiative. This position requires superb written and verbal communication skills, experience working with local, communities and bringing people together for the purposes of improving the quality of life in a community, and significant computer skills. The successful candidate must be a well-organized problem solver who is self directed as well as a committed team player and leader.

The Organizing Coordinator will bring expertise and passion for promoting changing communities and creating social justice efforts that result in people with developmental disabilities and their families being more independent, productive, included and integrated in their community and self determined in their lives. The Organizing Coordinator will:

1. **Provide support to current and new community using person centered, community centered and purposeful learning.** The Real Communities Director will assign communities that the Coordinator will provide oversight of assigned communities. The successful candidate will work community builders to bring together people with and without disabilities to support activities and identify and arrange for appropriate consultation and technical assistance. The successful candidate will work with communities to develop strategies that build and strengthen projects to address issues through asset based community development and other community development principles. .
2. **Fosters community development and civic engagement among people with developmental disabilities and others in local communities.** The successful candidate will collaborate with staff members and local community builders to develop relationships with community churches, social service agencies, schools, parks, government officials, business organizations, media, etc. based in and serving communities to work in arenas of public opinion, community organizing, coalition building as needed.
3. **Performs administrative and general program monitoring functions in the area of community building.** The Coordinator will be responsible for coordinating and supporting the Real Communities Initiating that provides oversight to this effort. The successful candidate will organize regular meetings of the group, identify learning opportunities and provide updates on what is taking place in local communities.
4. **Participates on state and national workgroups that address community building and bridging efforts between people with and without disabilities.** The Coordinator may be asked to conduct training and technical assistance those interested in the Real Communities Initiative. The successful candidate will coordinate or participates in special Council-related initiatives or task forces and work closely with stakeholders to develop products and to manage such initiatives in a timely and accurate manner.

## Qualifications

The best candidates for the Organizing Coordinator's position will have completed a bachelor's degree in community development, social work or a related field and have at least three (3) year experience working on community organizing or community development people with developmental disabilities. The candidate will have significant experience and knowledge of person centered approaches, asset based community development and other approaches to creating communities that recognize all people's gifts and talents. The ideal candidate will have:

- Strong working knowledge of community organizing/community development techniques and tools
- Experience using community organizing/community development in working to improve the lives of people with developmental disabilities or other marginalized people.
- Strong written and oral communication skills with the ability to understand and communicate effectively with people who have developmental disabilities, their families, members of faith based organizations, and other non-profits that work with local communities.

To apply:

Please complete the attached state application and include a resume, two writing samples, cover letter, names and contact information of three references, and salary requirements to:

Executive Director  
Georgia Council on Developmental Disabilities  
2 Peachtree Street, N.E. Suite 26-200  
Atlanta, Georgia 30303 or by e-mail to [eejacobson@dhr.state.ga.us](mailto:eejacobson@dhr.state.ga.us)

GCDD is an equal opportunity employer and does not discriminate on the basis of race, creed, color, sex, national origin, marital status, sexual orientation, religious or political affiliation, disability, and any other classification considered discriminatory under applicable law.