



# THE GEORGIA COUNCIL ON DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES 2018 LEGISLATIVE PRIORITIES

*GCDD promotes public policy that creates an integrated life within the community for persons with developmental disabilities, their families, and all who love them.  
People with disabilities need...*

## REAL SUPPORTS

### DD Waivers

*We are committed to reducing the waiting list in Georgia for NOW & COMP waivers. These waivers allow individuals with developmental disabilities who qualify for institutional level of care to receive the supports they need in the community.*

## REAL LEARNING

### Inclusive Post-Secondary Education

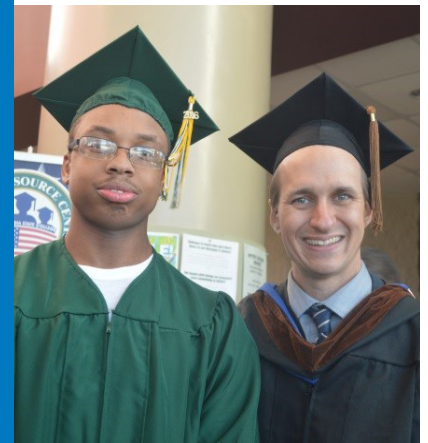
*We believe that all students, regardless of ability, should have access to post-secondary education programs in the state of Georgia. Inclusive Post-Secondary programs provide students with intellectual and developmental disabilities access to education not otherwise available.*



## REAL SUPPORTS

### Medicaid

*We recognize that Medicaid home and community based services are the lifeline that allows people with intellectual and developmental disabilities to access their community. We know that any proposal to cut, cap, or reduce Medicaid funding to Georgia will put the lives of people with disabilities at risk.*



## REAL CAREERS

### Integrated Employment

*GCDD is committed to expanding competitive, integrated employment opportunities for Georgians with disabilities and reducing the barriers to employment people with disabilities encounter.*

## REAL HOMES

### Children's Freedom Initiative

*We believe that all children deserve a permanent loving home. We are committed to removing barriers that result in children growing up in nursing facilities or private institutions.*

# GCDD Supports our Partners

## ***Aging & Disability Resource Centers***

*Finding the right services can be challenging for those unfamiliar with programs in their community. ADRC is a coordinated system of partnering organizations that are dedicated to providing accurate information about publicly and privately financed long-term supports and services. The increase in the older population and the end of two federal grants have created a crisis in funding for the ADRC. The Georgia Council on Aging is advocating for \$4 million to strengthen the ADRC statewide network by adding capacity to meet the growing demand for crucial information.*

## ***Standard of Proof for ID***

*The PAPE (Proof to A Preponderance of the Evidence) coalition is working to lower the standard to prove intellectual disability in capital punishment cases to “preponderance of the evidence,” which is the standard used in most other states.*

## ***Elder & Disabled Abuser Registry***

*Elder and Disabled abuse is an iceberg crime. Most of it is hidden from view, even though estimates are that 10% of Georgia’s elderly and disabled adults are victims of abuse and/or financial exploitation. To fight this rising crime, Georgia has toughened state laws and are training law enforcement on their use. Now it is time for the next step, to identify abusers before they can strike again. The Georgia Council on Aging is advocating for the creation of an Abuser Registry in Georgia to help prevent the hiring of caregivers with a known history of abusing vulnerable adults.*

## ***UNLOCK! Coalition!***

*The Georgia Council on Developmental Disabilities proudly supports the UNLOCK! Coalition’s Legislative Agenda.  
For more information,  
visit [WWW.GCDD.ORG/UNLOCK/](http://WWW.GCDD.ORG/UNLOCK/)*

***The Georgia Council on Developmental Disabilities and our statewide network of advocates are eager to work with legislators on our goals and to fulfill our mission.***

***Please do not hesitate to reach out to us.***

***Contact the GCDD Public Policy Team:***



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