



Reform the Community Protection Program

Problem:

The CPP is the most restrictive community program administered by Developmental Disabilities Administration (DDA). The DD Ombuds wrote a report focused on five areas of concern with the CPP:

1. People are referred to the program at a young age before they have access to other supports and services.
2. Individuals must comply with DDA's CPP recommendations or risk losing access to other services.
3. The program has a low graduation rate.
4. DDA responded slowly to DD Ombuds' request for the information needed to produce this report.
5. The documents produced at DD Ombuds' request showed lax adherence to policies that protect the rights of people with disabilities.

Proposal:

DDA establish a workgroup to reform the Community Protection Program. The workgroup must look at issues identified in the DD Ombuds report "[No Way Out - An Introduction to the Community Protection Program.](#)" The workgroup creates policy recommendations for the 2023 legislative session.

- a. DDA provide resources to meet the needs of young people with developmental disabilities who are identified as having possible "community protection issues," diverting them from the restrictive CPP.
- b. Individuals should not be restricted from other DDA services or hours if they choose not to be in CPP.
- c. Create a clear path to graduation from CPP using a person-centered planning process.
- d. Improve DDA response time to DD Ombuds' requests for documents within a set time frame, and DD Ombuds should have the ability to directly obtain information through electronic access.
- e. Improve DDA's CPP documentation and assure that requirements are met and rights are protected.

For more information contact:

Betty Schwieterman, State DD Ombuds betty@ddombuds.org or 833.727.8900 ext. 209

Noah Seidel, Regional DD Ombuds noah@ddombuds.org or 833.727.8900 ext. 116

