

Statement from the Arizona Sexual Violence & Intellectual & Developmental Disabilities (I/DD) Response Collaborative

As this year's legislative session came to an unexpected close, the legislation we were tracking also died. That doesn't mean, however, that we stopped working. Sexual assault survivors, people with disabilities, families, state agencies, advocates, and providers launched the Sexual Violence & I/DD Response Collaborative last fall. We launched this Collaborative to ensure that the needs of our people with intellectual and developmental disabilities don't get lost, especially in light of this pandemic.

Enclosed are toolkits released by this Collaborative's Training & Prevention and Trauma-Informed Access workgroups. We want to thank Arizona State University's MSW Interns Sarah Billington and Dallas Goldring for their hard work in conducting the research and drafting of these documents.

- The toolkit from the Training & Prevention workgroup includes trainings the group vetted and recommended for service providers. The workgroup is additionally reviewing trainings for individuals and families, law enforcement, schools, and other key stakeholders.
- The toolkit released by the Trauma-Informed Access workgroup includes a working list of those trauma counselors who stated they provide counseling services to those with I/DD, and this was affirmed when they were presented with an actual case.

We are also tracking more than 50 recommended actions, including those put forward by the Governor's Task Force on Abuse & Neglect, the State House Ad Hoc Legislative Committee on Abuse & Neglect of Vulnerable Adults, and the Justice for Victims of Child Sexual Abuse Task Force.

Only with a diverse group of individuals and organizations committed to a common cause can we begin to make real change. In that spirit this Collaborative includes more than 30 organizations with more than 80 individuals (and growing!) that are devoted to ensuring EVERYONE feels safe in Arizona, regardless of where they live, what their disability is, or who they are.

If you are interested in joining or learning more, please contact addpc@azdes.gov. We continue to meet virtually and telephonically at this time.

Stay tuned for additional actions.