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CAC Corner: Looking for Parent Advocate

Center for Persons With Disabilities

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This CAC Corner Blog is written by Gordon Richins, CPD Consumer Liaison and CAC support staff member.

The CPD Consumer Advisory Council (CAC) is in need of another parent advocate to serve on the Council.

The CAC works throughout the year on disability advocacy issues, here at the Center and statewide. CAC members are responsible for participating in the development of the CPD five year plan and for monitoring the CPD five year plan from year to year. They are also involved in other advocacy activities.

In this blog I would like to share some general information about the CAC and its membership for our readers.

To begin with, the CPD wants to thank Mike Wyatt, a parent advocate, who has recently had to resign from the CAC due to his busy schedule as a parent, his employment, and attending Utah State University as a full-time student. We want to thank Mike for all of his hard work and participation on the Council.

The CPD would like to introduce our newest CAC member, Laura Anderson, who is a parent advocate. Laura is very active within the state as an advocate for individuals with Autism Spectrum Disorder, commonly referred to as autism, as well as other disabilities. Welcome, Laura. The CAC membership and the CPD are excited to have you join us.

The CPD is a University Center for Excellence on Developmental Disabilities (UCEDD). UCEDDs are a part of the Association of University Centers on Disabilities (AUCD) network that serves as a bridge between the university and the community, bringing together the resources of both to improve the lives of people with disabilities.

The Developmental Disabilities Act mandates that all UCEDD’s have a Consumer Advisory Council with a membership that consists of individuals with developmental disabilities advocates (self-advocates), parent advocates, and representatives from the UCEDD, the state Developmental Disabilities Council and the state Protection and Advocacy program.

The CPD CAC membership consists of 5 self-advocates, 5 parent advocates, CPD/UCEDD members, and representatives from the DD Council and the Utah Disability Law Center.

We currently have a vacancy for a parent advocate to serve on the Council. If you are interested or know someone who would be interested in representing the CPD as a parent advocate on the CAC, nominations are open until filled.

Interested persons can go to Application link and fill out the nomination application. Return it to Gordon Richins or you can e-mail me and ask for a Word document copy of the application which you can mail or e-mail back. Additional information is provided on the application form.