



Connecting to the Disability Community through Priority Setting

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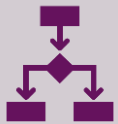
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Learning Objectives



Describe the components of a robust priority-setting process.



Formulate ways to recognize communities not currently part of your priority-setting process.



Identify three strategies you could employ to intentionally include individuals experiencing multiple barriers or marginalization in your process moving forward.

Expectations for Priority Setting

Principles of the P&A System

CLIENT-DIRECTED

LEGALLY BASED

INDEPENDENT ADVOCACY

**MANAGED BY INDIVIDUALS
WITH DISABILITIES**

P&A Mandate

- Implement the federal P&A system for your state
- Congress intends P&A's to be independent, legally based system
- Provide advocacy to protect the rights of people with disabilities
- P&A seek public input about the priorities or issues we address in our work
- PAIMI Council is required to recommend PAIMI program priorities
- Governing Board or Council is required to adopt program priorities

What Is Priority Setting?

Formalizes Client – Direction

Mechanism to hear from community

Understand the needs population that we serve

Understand needs of un-served and multiply marginalized populations

Direct agency resources and activities

Priority Setting v. Strategic Planning



PS - Determines direction of P&A client services in federally-funded programs



SP - Develops a set of mission driven goals and objectives for the organization as a whole, the strategies and resources needed to reach those goals

Ask yourself

- ▶ What do you want to know from your priority setting process?

**How to do it and recognize
communities not part of your process**

What is a Priority?

The issues that we focus on, for the delivery of legal services to people with disabilities

Guides the work we do. Program priorities determine how we allocate our limited resources.

Issue Teams focus on one or more of our current priorities:

- Education
- Employment and return to work
- Community Integration
- Access to public and private services
- Healthcare
- Transportation
- Housing
- Rights and conditions in institutions
- Civil rights
- Voting Rights
- Representation of foster youth
- Disaster & Emergency Response

Steps to setting your priorities

- Involve your Board, PAIMI AC and Staff
- Gather Community Input
- Review and Understand Your Data
- Identify Who Not at the Table and How to Include them
- Seek Staff and PAIMI AC Review & Proposed Recommendations
- Board Deliberates and Adopts Priorities
- Market Your Priorities

Involve your Board, PAC, Staff

Use in	Develop	Help
Use in design of process, information gathering and analysis	Develop role as community representatives and liaisons	Help focus on the mission

Your Board process



Develop shared understanding of goal and end outcome



Agree on process to collect and analyze information



Identify who you want to reach and how you will get to them



Reach out communities to get input



Analyze data and information gathered to develop priorities



Evaluate any potential changes to process that might be necessary

Your PAIMI Council Process

- ▶ Similar process to the Board
- ▶ Review materials
- ▶ Consider reserving a meeting to work on priorities
- ▶ Specific focus on mental health community, especially those facing multiple marginalization
- ▶ Submit recommendations to board



What are your internal data sources?

I&R

Cases – PPRs and other data system

Outreach and trainings

External data systems



Review demographic information of your state/territory service systems relevant to us



Census



Others?

What is your data telling you?

- ▶ Who is requesting and/or seeking services,
- ▶ Who is getting services and who is being denied services
- ▶ What do we know about who is not seeking services

Strategies to intentionally include those missing from your process

Data collection to show multiple marginalization

- ▶ Disability – person with a disability, parent or family member, service provider or other stakeholder
- ▶ Race
- ▶ Ethnicity
- ▶ Sexual orientation
- ▶ Gender identify
- ▶ Primary language used
- ▶ Age (ranges)
- ▶ Zip codes

Explicitly identify who you want to reach

- ▶ Use your data and information gathered at this point to build your picture of who you are reaching and who not reaching
- ▶ Clearly determine who you want to reach and include as part of your priority-setting process keeping in mind:
 - ▶ Your willingness to include and prioritize the communities needs in your work
 - ▶ What you might need to do to make your services accessible to this community

Develop Strategy to Connect

Using Board, PAIMI Council or staff members to:

- Map community connections
- Act as liaison to new communities or deepen community

Interview successful community leaders and influencers

Identify new community partners to engage as stakeholders

Gather Community Input



Client Surveys



Focus Groups



Community Meetings



Listening Sessions

Consider additional ways to gather input

Establish short-term contracts with people with disabilities who are part of communities already to work with us

Engage community partners with strong relationships to participate in gathering responses with key communities

- Homeless
- Specific ethnicities or racial groups
- State and local self-advocacy organizations

Follow up with new communities

Report back	Let them know what you did with their input
Serve	Develop strategy to continue connections to reach and serve the community
Prioritize Issues	Understand and leverage opportunities to collaborate and work on priorities that address intersectional issues
Collaborate	Consider building long-term relationship <ul style="list-style-type: none">• joint events or outreach• PAIMI AC or Board of Directors recruitment• Staff recruitment

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