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Strategic Plan Announced for Disability Rights Iowa

Disability Rights Iowa spent the last year building a community-driven three-year strategic plan. This plan will advance DRI's mission, vision, and core advocacy values.

IOWA – “Sharing this Strategic Plan with the public is a pivotal moment for DRI, our team is excited to begin working on the strategic goals identified during our year-long planning process,” said Catherine E. Johnson, the Executive Director of Disability Rights Iowa. DRI’s plan focuses DRI’s advocacy on the most significant disability-rights issues to Iowans with disabilities and provides a framework that will guide DRI in expanding disability-rights awareness, advocacy, partnership, and education to all Iowans with disabilities.

It was important for DRI to include all communities and their perspectives on disability rights in our strategic planning process. To ensure full inclusion and representation of all communities DRI Strategic Planning process published multiple surveys to the disability community, disability rights organizations and community organizations and partners whose primary focus is on other social justice causes. It was exceptionally important to DRI that all interested partners and individuals had the opportunity to provide input on our work. The community responded to DRI’s request with the highest completed surveys ever received in DRI’s almost 40 years as Iowa’s Protection and Advocacy System. This information was vital in DRI’s planning process. DRI sought input in two main areas:

1. How DRI had been serving their community, and
2. How could DRI improve their services to better serve the larger population?

The survey results assisted the DRI Team. in identifying four strategic pillars – or categories – of work necessary to advance DRI’s new mission, vision, and core advocacy values. These pillars give DRI the foundation to serve Iowans with disabilities. The four pillars are:

1. Ensuring Disability Rights Iowa has statewide awareness across all ninety-nine counties in Iowa,
2. Disability Rights Iowa prioritizes an intersectional and inclusive approach in our disability rights-based advocacy and the issues addressed,
3. Disability Rights Iowa engages in and is recognized for systems change advocacy,
4. DRI provides additional advocacy services with sustained new revenue streams.



Disability Rights Iowa

LEGAL PROTECTION AND ADVOCACY

Every day, Disability Rights Iowa works to advance its mission of “Advocating for justice. Advancing human and legal rights. Protecting Iowans with disabilities.” DRI’s Strategic Plan ensures that all work done by Disability Rights Iowa proactively advances the agency mission.

To review the Strategic Plan, [follow this hyperlink](#).

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About Disability Rights Iowa

Advocating for justice. Advancing human and legal rights. Protecting Iowans with disabilities.

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