

# DISABILITY AND REHABILITATION RESEARCH COALITION

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## **2018 DRRC Policy and Advocacy Priorities**

### **I. FISCAL YEAR 2018 APPROPRIATIONS**

- Solicit membership for priority programs and prepare DRRC appropriations and report language recommendations.
- Advocate before congressional appropriations leadership to support DRRC budget requests.
- Meet with relevant agency and administration officials as appropriate regarding budget needs.
- Prepare charts and accompanying analyses summarizing President's budget proposals and House/Senate/Conference numbers.

### **II. NATIONAL INSTITUTE ON DISABILITY, INDEPENDENT LIVING, AND REHABILITATION RESEARCH (NIDILRR)**

#### **Advocate for finalization and implementation of the NIDILRR Long-Range Plan.**

- Encourage the release and implementation of the 2018-2023 NIDILRR Long Range Plan, which will help guide future directions of NIDILRR and advance the vital work being done in applied disability, independent living, and rehabilitation research and development.
- Meet with new ACL Administrator and other senior staff at NIDILRR to reaffirm commitment to disability, independent living, and rehabilitation research.

### **III. NATIONAL INSTITUTES OF HEALTH (NIH)**

#### **Implementation of Legislation to Improve the Stature, Visibility, and Coordination of Medical Rehabilitation Research at the NIH**

- Follow up with those senior NIH leaders with whom DRRC has already engaged, including DPCPSI.
- Pursue meetings with IC Directors and other senior leaders to drive the full implementation of the new law.
- Prepare resources for NINDS to ensure that the Institute is adopting the new interdisciplinary definition of medical rehabilitation research called for by the law, and engaging in coordinated, intra-institute efforts to advance medical rehabilitation research.

#### **IV. INTERAGENCY COMMITTEE ON DISABILITY RESEARCH (ICDR)**

**Promote the implementation of the government-wide strategic plan on disability, independent living, and rehabilitation research.**

- Continue to work closely with ICDR and ACL to advance the government-wide strategic plan, which serves a valuable government-wide coordinating function in disability, independent living, and rehabilitation research.
- Set meetings with ACL and ICDR political appointees and senior staff to advance these goals.

#### **V. CENTERS FOR DISEASE CONTROL AND PREVENTION (CDC) ADVOCACY**

**Engage with leaders at the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) to ensure that the health of individuals with disabilities is always considered in the CDC's work.**

- Engage with the appropriate leaders at the CDC to help with the implementation of the Committee's report language regarding the re-appointment of a Chief Disability and Health Officer and reestablishment of the Disability and Health Work Group.
- Advocate before key officials and work in tandem with the research community to address next steps and try to restore CDC's view of rehabilitation and disability research.

#### **VI. HEALTH CARE REFORM**

**Engage with policymakers on relevant national issues impacting access to rehabilitative and habilitative care, and continue to monitor the health care reform debate, drafting statements on the coalition's position should the need arise.**