

# DISABILITY AND REHABILITATION RESEARCH COALITION

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## **2019 DRRC Policy and Advocacy Priorities**

### **I. FY 2020 APPROPRIATIONS**

**Advocate for additional funding and applicable report language.**

- Prepare DRRC appropriations and report language recommendations.
- Special advocacy effort on behalf of NIDILRR.
- Prepare charts summarizing President's budget proposals and House/Senate/Conference numbers and accompanying analyses.
- Advocate for lifting Budget Caps.

### **II. NIDILRR**

**Advocate in support of the National Institute on Disability, Independent Living, and Rehabilitation Research (NIDILRR) and its research mission.**

- 2018-2023 NIDILRR Long Range Plan Implementation.
- Meet with Acting Director and ACL officials to reaffirm commitment to disability, independent living, and rehabilitation research.

### **III. National Institutes of Health**

**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.
- Pursue meetings with IC Directors we have not yet contacted
- Draft comments on NICHD's Strategic Plan and participate in NICHD's strategic planning process to ensure rehabilitation science is elevated within the Institute. Comments are due in February 2019.
- Draft comments and participate in NCMRR's Rehabilitation Research Plan public comment process. Comments are likely to be solicited in late 2019.

#### **IV. 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 re-appoint a Chief Disability and Health Officer and re-establish the Disability and Health Working Group.

NOTE: Senate Appropriations Committee report language: "The Committee encourages CDC to re-appoint a Chief Disability and Health Officer and re-establish the Disability and Health Work Group to provide leadership, coordination, and collaboration among Centers in order to expand and improve efforts to enhance the health of individuals with disabilities."

- Arrange meetings with 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.

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

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

- Influence the issuance and implementation of the government-wide strategic plan.
- Meet with NIDILRR's Acting Director to engage her on advancement of this issue.