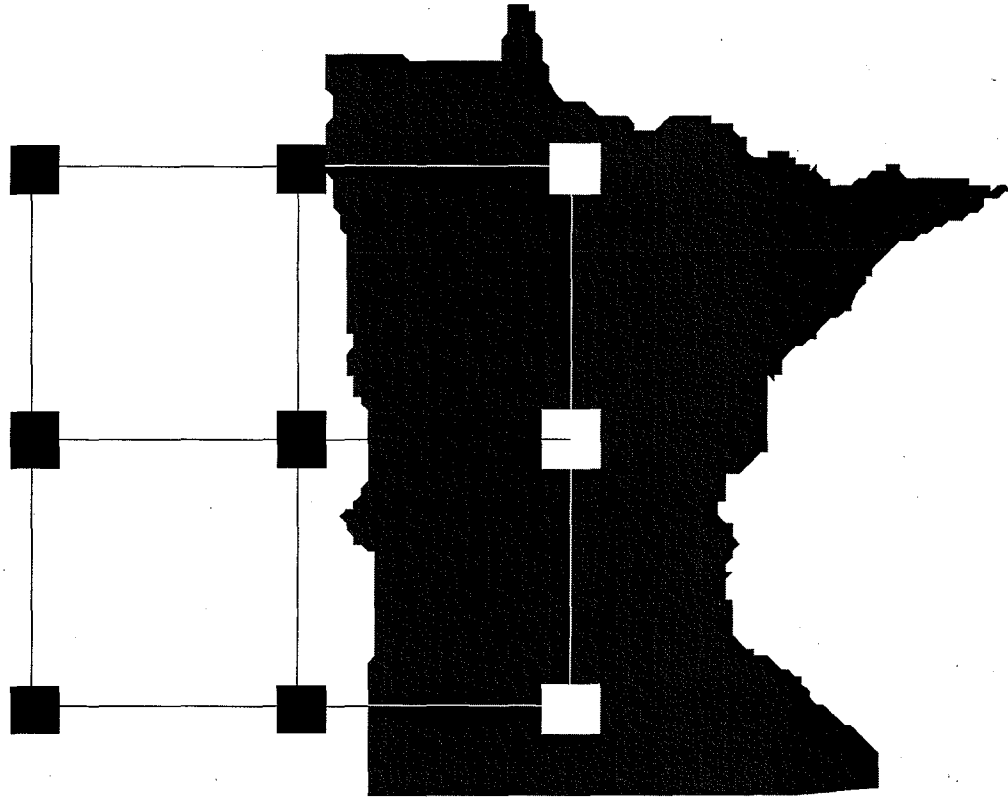


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Minnesota State Council on Disability



Legislative Report 2003

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This report is available in alternative formats upon request.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Change has been a common theme these past two years at the Minnesota State Council on Disability (MSCOD). Organizational changes began with adoption of new mission and vision statements in February 2001. Later, came amended by-laws and per-diem policy, a reorganized committee structure, a round robin meeting location system relying on state buildings, and in January 2002 the council adopted a two-year strategic work plan. A primary reorganization goal has been to preserve the best of the council's past, while moving forward to improve services.

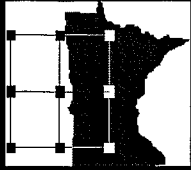
Information, Referral & Dissemination – The MSCOD disseminates a wide array of disability related information to a variety of audiences. The MSCOD responded to 8,482 contacts in FY 02 and another 3,707 the first half of FY 03. With a new focus on employers and state agencies, the MSCOD conducted 32 trainings and presentations to a combined audience of 1,716 in FY 02 and has completed or planned 25 trainings to nearly 500 individuals as of January 1, 2003. Special events, access surveys, a reformatted newsletter, a new email list, resource tables on disability information at fairs and conventions, are other vehicles for disseminating information and staying in contact with the public. Two new major publications were completed and all MSCOD publications are now available on its updated web site. Several other new, smaller documents have been created and are available on the council's web site so those with internet access may obtain answers to frequently asked questions and more, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

Advisory Recommendations – The MSCOD has rededicated itself to its advisory function, providing formal and informal recommendations to a variety of public and private bodies. The MSCOD was represented on a nine-member panel to review and recommend proposals submitted to the Department of Economic Security (DES) to develop and implement an interactive, self-paced, web-based curriculum on disability awareness for Minnesota's Workforce Center System staff and employers. The MSCOD worked with the Office of Secretary of State (SOS) during the past election to disseminate voting access information to local units of government, organized a community review of newly available accessible voting equipment and provided recommendations as to polling place locations for that equipment. The MSCOD is also represented on a variety of committees. The MSCOD's central legislative initiative for 2003 is passing disability parking legislation which codifies administrative practices recently implemented by the Department of Public Safety and supported by the MSCOD.

Customer Focus & Quality Improvement – Central to the MSCOD's strategic planning efforts was a goal that new efforts be taken to ensure the council's activities are responsive to the people it serves and that quality improvements are continually sought. To accomplish these customer focus and quality improvement goals, satisfaction surveys are now in place for new publications - presentations, trainings and workshops - and most recently, for information, referral and assistance services. Publication surveys ask evaluators to rate items such as "overall quality" and "usefulness." Surveys for presentations, trainings and workshops ask evaluators to rate items such as "usefulness" of information received, "knowledge of subject matter," and general "satisfaction" regarding the presentation. Rating indicators received thus far are very positive.

Research & Data Collection – Strategic planning efforts also clarified a strong desire by council members that a new commitment be directed to providing disability related research and information. The primary activity to date has been to analyze disability related information contained in the 2000 census. In addition to a short summary of "observations," the MSCOD has produced a two-part document that extracts disability related information such as: disability status; employment rates; percentage by type of disability; disability and poverty; and disability and educational attainment. The MSCOD has also been working with a Minnesota non-profit organization to develop an accessible housing survey model. The goal is to measure the current availability and need, and future projected need, for accessible housing in a particular geographic location. The partners hope to develop a model, which could then be replicated and used for any area in the state.

The MSCOD has been very busy and productive these past two years. The council has a renewed sense of mission and vision, which have resulted in several new products and organizational changes. These efforts will continue to be implemented and refined, while keeping a close eye out for new services and activities the MSCOD can be a part of to better serve Minnesotans with disabilities and their families.



MINNESOTA STATE COUNCIL ON DISABILITY

MISSION, VALUES AND VISION

PURPOSE

The Minnesota State Council on Disability is an agency that collaborates, advocates, advises and provides information to expand opportunities, increase the quality of life and empower all persons with disabilities.

CUSTOMERS

People with disabilities and their families, governor, legislature, government and private agencies, employers and the general public.

SERVICES

- Review disability issues, policies and programs and advise the governor, legislature and state agencies.
- Promote coordinated, collaborative interagency efforts.
- Provide information and referral to persons with disabilities and the general public regarding disability issues, services and policies.
- Collect, conduct and make disability related research and statistics available to all customers.
- Advocate for policies and programs that promote the quality of life for people with disabilities.

VALUES

We operate with a specific set of values:

- Inherent respect for all: All individuals are valuable and are entitled to participate in the mainstream of society.
- Integrity: Examine issues and disseminate information fairly, objectively and in a timely manner.
- Independence: The Council is independent and promotes self-sufficiency and choice for all persons with disabilities.

VISION

To be a primary, productive resource for disability related information providing leadership and promoting innovative policies through effective administrative operations, legislative interaction and statewide collaboration.

COUNCIL MEMBERS

Joan Willshire, Chair, Minneapolis, Region 11, has served on several disability related committees and currently chairs the Minnesota Department of Human Services Quality and Design Commission. Ms. Willshire is a member of the Minneapolis Mayor's Advisory Committee on Persons with Disabilities, has received a scholarship from the Ethel Lois Armstrong Foundation, and holds an Executive Master's Degree from the University of Minnesota's Hubert Humphrey Institute.

Susan Abderholden, Minneapolis, Region 11, has worked extensively on disability issues especially related to children, special education and mental health. She has served in a number of disability advocacy roles at the city, county and state level receiving numerous acknowledgements. Ms. Abderholden is currently the Executive Director of the National Alliance for the Mentally Ill of Minnesota.

Julianne Degenhardt, Woodbury, Region 11, is an active volunteer at a local elementary school and speaks often to various groups on disability awareness. Ms. Degenhardt has chaired the MSCOD's Awards Task Force, which recommends individuals, employers and organizations for recognition by the council for distinguished service to improve the quality of life of persons with disabilities. She holds a Master's Degree in accounting.

Geraldine Drewry, Hampton, Region 11, had a parent with a disability and was also disabled herself for about 15 years with asthma. She served as a member of Access Ability's board of directors for nine years, two years as president. Ms. Drewry recently retired after a career in communications.

Nancy Eustis, Ph.D., Minneapolis, Region 11, has served on the Courage Center board of directors and at the University of Minnesota's Center on Aging. She was a Special Assistant at the Office of Disability, Aging and Long-Term Care in the Office of Assistant Secretary and Evaluation (ASPE), U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. Ms. Eustis is a professor at the University of Minnesota's Hubert Humphrey Institute.

Kay L. Fritz, Mankato, Region 9, is the parent of, and advocate for, a young adult with mental and behavioral challenges. She has been an active participant in her child's therapeutic, educational, and vocational programming. She is a licensed dietitian and will soon complete a Ph.D. program in nutrition.

H. Eugene Hippe, Willmar, Region 6, is the parent of an adult child with a disability. He has been involved in leadership positions related to disability issues from the local to national levels, including past president of ARC Minnesota, and Friendship

Ventures. Mr. Hippe is now retired after being the administrator of a multi-county planning and development agency for 25 years.

G. Robin Hoy, Brooklyn Center, Region 11, has experience working with college students with disabilities at the College of Saint Catherine and at Metropolitan State University. She serves on the Guide Dog Speakers Bureau and is interested in public disability awareness activities and events. Ms. Hoy holds an AAS in Occupational Therapy, a BA in Studio Arts and is currently employed by the Minnesota Twins.

Mark Hughes, Shoreview, Region 11, has served as Co-chair of the St. Paul Mayor's Advisory Committee for People with Disabilities and is a board member of the Twin City Disability Institute. He is the host of a weekly cable access talk show on disability issues and is employed at Hubbard Broadcasting.

Edward Nelson, Maplewood, Region 11, serves as Chair of the 3M Disability Advisory Committee and is a member of the National Spasmodic Torticollis Association. He is a Master Engineering Designer for the 3M Company.

Kathleen Peterson, Warren, Region 1, brings the advocate perspective of a parent of a deaf child and the expertise of a professional and volunteer sign language interpreter. She has served on several other disability related boards and works in disability related services at the University of North Dakota.

Russell Philstrom, Emily, Region 5, is an active volunteer, spokesperson and board member of the Brain Injury Association of Minnesota. He is involved in numerous community activities and was mayor of Emily. He is a picture framer and proprietor of Northwoods Exposure Art Gallery at the Custom Framing Company and has a custom fishing rod building business. Mr. Philstrom is currently chairperson of Emily/Fifty Lakes Area Chamber of Commerce.

David Sams, Worthington, Region 8, has had a dual career as a Career Rehabilitation Counselor at the Worthington Rehabilitation Services Office and as an Episcopal Priest. He has served on the board of the Southwest Center for Independent Living (SWCIL) in Marshall and is now an employee. Mr. Sams is a recipient of the Rose and Jay Phillips Award from Courage Center and the Victory Award as Disabled Minnesotan of the Year in 1994.

John Schatzlein, Vice Chair, St. Paul, Region 11, has served in a variety of capacities in the disability community for over thirty years. His work has been with recently functionally-limited individuals, as well as persons with early or traumatic, long-term disability causes. Mr. Schatzlein most recently served as Program Director for the Office of Persons with Disabilities at Catholic Charities.

Gregory Schlosser, M.D., Sartell, Region 7, has served on the board of directors of Courage Center and currently serves on the board of Reins of Freedom, which provides therapeutic horseback riding. He is active in several community activities. Dr. Schlosser practices pediatric and rehabilitation medicine.

David Schwartzkopf, Rochester, Region 10, has worked in the disability field as Executive Director of the Southeastern Minnesota Center for Independent Living and as Assistant Commissioner of Jobs and Training. Mr. Schwartzkopf is a past Chair of the Minnesota Council for the Blind and the Governor's Initiative of Technology for People with Disabilities. He has over 30-years executive experience with for-profit and not-for-profit organizations and groups.

Donald Sitters, Hibbing, Region 3, is employed as an independent living specialist and recreation coordinator for the Center for Independent Living of Northeastern Minnesota, Hibbing. He coaches the Rolling Rangers wheelchair hockey team and is a self-defense instructor for persons with limited abilities.

Carson Stensland, Bemidji, Region 2, is a part-time employee and volunteer providing Representative Payee services under Social Security for persons with disabilities. He's been a Support Group Area Coordinator for the Multiple Sclerosis Society, Minnesota Chapter and served on the United Way of the Bemidji area.

John Tschida, St. Paul, Region 11, has extensive experience in the development of public policy at the state and federal level. He is Co-Chair of the Minnesota Consortium for Citizens with Disabilities and the Senior Director of Public Affairs and Research for Courage Center in Golden Valley. Among several recognitions is a 1996 Rose and Jay Phillips Award for excellence in employment and community service.

Brian Wagner, Alexandria, Region 4, has built a local reputation as an advocate for people with disabilities in the Alexandria area. He helped establish, and now Chairs, the Alexandria Area Council on Disability where a primary focus is the removal of architectural barriers. He is an office manager for a long-term care facility.

Rachel Wilcox, St. Paul, Region 11, is a Rehabilitation Counselor, Qualified Rehabilitation Consultant and disability advocate. She is a member of the St. Paul Mayor's Advisory Committee for People with Disabilities and serves on the Metropolitan Center for Independent Living Board. Ms. Wilcox is an active participant with legislative policies, procedures and activities.

COUNCIL MEETINGS

Full Council Meetings FY 02

<u>Date</u>	<u>Location</u>
September 28, 2001	Metropolitan Counties Government Center
November 15, 2001	Four Points Sheraton
January 17, 2002	MN. Dept. of Revenue
May 16, 2002	Metro Square Building**

<u>Task Forces/Committees</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Location</u>
Strategic Planning	August 17, 2001 (2)	**
Executive Committee	September 12, 2001	**
Nominations		
Workforce Reorganization	September 21, 2001	**
Awards	September 28, 2001	**
Awards	November 15, 2001	Four Points Sheraton
Awards	February 15, 2002	**
Executive Committee	May 15, 2002	**
Nominations		
Executive Committee	May 30, 2002	**
Nominations Awards	June 17, 2002	**

Full Council Meetings FY 03

<u>Date</u>	<u>Location</u>
July 11, 2002	Hamline University
September 19, 2002	Four Points Sheraton
November 21, 2002	MN. Dept. of Revenue
January 16, 2003	MN. Dept. of Health, Snelling Office- <i>Cancelled</i>
May 15, 2003	Metro Square Building

<u>Task Forces/Committees</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Location</u>
Minnesota State Fair	July 10, 2002	**Metro Square Building
Executive Committee	November 21, 2002	MN. Dept. of Revenue

**** Meeting location is Metro Square Building.**

MSCOD STRATEGIC PLAN 2002 – 2003

*The Minnesota State Council on Disability (MSCOD) is an agency that collaborates, advocates, advises and provides information to expand opportunities, increase the quality of life and empower all persons with disabilities.
(MSCOD Mission, Adopted 2/15/01)*

This Strategic Plan sets out the MSCOD's **proposed goals** for the next two years.
(Plan adopted January 2002.)

Strategic Direction Statement - By January 2004, the Minnesota State Council on Disability will be recognized as a statewide public policy leader in providing disability related information, leadership and the promotion of innovative policies that expand opportunities, increase the quality of life and empower all persons with disabilities.

The MSCOD has the following primary strategies to achieve its two-year strategic direction:

Strategy 1. Information/Referral and Dissemination

Strategy 2. Advisory Recommendations

Strategy 3. Customer Focus & Quality Improvement

Strategy 4. Research & Data Collection

Strategy 1. Information & Referral (I&R) and Dissemination – Pursuant to MS 256.482 (3) that the MSCOD “serve as a source of information to the public regarding all services, programs and legislation pertaining to persons with disabilities,” the MSCOD will provide the following information and referral services.

1. I&R Services: Respond to requests by the public, government staff, and elected officials contacting the MSCOD for information and referral services.

Strategy 1. Information/Referral and Dissemination – continued

2. Brochures/Publications: Publications shall be updated as necessary, available in alternative formats upon request and available on the web site. Annual publications shall include and be distributed as appropriate:

- * Roundtable Summary – Prior to each Legislative Session
- * Summary of Governor's Budget Proposal – Prior to each Session
- * Legislative Session Summary – Following each Legislative Session
- * *Connector* Newsletter – Four per year
- * Fact Sheets – Create MAEPD fact sheet & update others as needed

3. Special Events:

- * Martin Luther King Day – Annually, staff will organize/support disability components of metro event and provide disability training to volunteers.
- * Anniversary Celebration of ADA Signing – Annually, MSCOD staff will collaborate with ADA MN members in the planning and implementation of this educational event on rights and responsibilities of people with disabilities provided under disability laws. In 2002, MSCOD staff will also develop materials and make a presentation at the event.
- * State Fair Booth – Annual booth in Education Building
- * Awards and Recognition Program - Host annual disability employment and awards program in recognition of October Disability and Employment and Awareness Month and present awards. Disseminate information from ODEP to area councils, organization list, press and other interested parties on program and month.
- * Interactive Legislative Roundtable & Training – Host.
- * Human Rights Conference – Annual booth (December).

4. Trainings, Presentations & Workshops: Provide upon request.

5. Accessibility Surveys: Provide upon request.

Strategy 1. Information/Referral and Dissemination – continued

6. Communications: See newly adopted plan, and press releases/columns on appointment of new members, award recipients; Legislative Roundtable; and web site changes & information available; and other issues as appropriate.

7. Consortium for Citizens with Disabilities (CCD): Staff will facilitate CCD meetings and assist and disseminate information for CCD.

8. Disability Institute (DI)/Breakthrough: MSCOD will support the DI's Breakthrough program by staff and/or council members assisting the DI to disseminate information on Breakthrough, attend Breakthrough Advisory Committee Meetings, and help identify an evaluation tool the DI might use to evaluate program.

9. MN Commission End of Life Care Report: MSCOD will disseminate and publish the Five Guiding Principles and other recommendations from the Commission's Final Report, through the MSCOD network of local disability councils and organization lists and continue to cooperate and collaborate with commission members and other organizations working to implement public policy issues.

10. Create Special Events & Information Email List serve (MN DISABILITY) - Staff will create new list serve for the purpose of highlighting special events and providing breakthrough disability related information and referral. MSCOD will target/offer this list to the following audiences: org list (224 members); CCD list (100 members); post-secondary institutions; Centers for Independent Living; area councils; and interested parties.

Strategy 2. Public Policy Advisory Opinions – Pursuant to MS 256.482 (1,2,4,6,7), the MSCOD shall provide an advisory function to the governor, legislators, state agencies, and the public on matters pertaining to public policy concerning persons with disabilities.

1. Policy Recommendations: Policy committee members, ex-officio's and staff will review, research and make public policy recommendations to the full council that are proactive, timely, and responsive to emerging data, trends and information.

2. Position Statements: Policy committee members, ex-officio's and staff will review existing MSCOD position statements and make recommendations to the full council on position statements that are proactive, timely, and responsive to emerging data, trends and information.

Strategy 2. Public Policy Advisory Opinions – continued

3. External Advisory Committees: MSCOD staff and/or committee members will serve on a variety of external advisory committees such as TAAC or ADA MN, in order to collaborate with other key groups, provide an additional advisory role as appropriate, and bring issues from these groups back to the council for review and consideration.

Strategy 3. Customer Focus & Quality Improvement – Pursuant to the MSCOD's desire to be responsive to its customers, customer research will be conducted systematically to collect information on customer needs and satisfaction.

1. Customer Focus Satisfaction:

A. ED Training & Survey Development

- ED will complete M.A.D. "Performance Measurement" course.
- Goal is to create & implement performance measurement tools for current information referral & dissemination activities, such as I&R; publications; and trainings/presentations.

B. Regional Advisory Councils Survey

- Send all area councils mailing on recent updates at the council including changes to the web site; examples of new brochures.
- Create & disseminate survey asking all area councils – How can the MSCOD better support their local efforts? What would help? More information? If so, what kind? Train the trainer presentations? If so, on what?

Strategy 4. Research & Data Collection – Pursuant to the MSCOD's goal to provide disability related research and information, the MSCOD will:

1. Accessible Housing Survey: MSCOD will partner with and provide support to the Southwestern Center for Independent Living (SWCIL) in its effort to create a survey instrument to measure the availability of affordable accessible housing in a portion of SW MN. Upon completion and evaluation of the survey results, MSCOD and SWCIL will work to expand the use of the instrument to other areas of MN.

2. Disability Prevalence Survey: A Task Force will be established for the purpose of evaluating existing data available about people with disabilities in Minnesota. Is the

Strategy 4. Research & Data Collection – continued

data comprehensive? Is it sufficient? The Task Force will make a recommendation to the full council on whether or not they believe a MN prevalence survey should be conducted, and if so, what types of information should be gathered and recommendations for funding.

3. State Fair Survey: Conduct annual state fair survey.

MSCOD Strategic Plan adopted January 2002.

TRAININGS, PRESENTATIONS AND WORKSHOPS

The MSCOD provides trainings, presentations and workshops each year.

- 32 presentations made in FY 02 with a total audience participation of 1,716
- 20 presentations made in FY 03 (so far) with audience participation of 484
- presentation topics include disability awareness, emergency evacuation, disability employment laws, access issues etc.
- audiences include disability organizations, state agency personnel, employers, volunteer groups, neighborhood groups, etc.

JULY 1, 2001-JUNE 30, 2002

July 26, 2001

NWA Employees

Met with employees with disabilities at Northwest Airlines to present information on the council and our activities.

Audience: 20

September 20, 2001

Access Discussion Group

Met with several other access specialists to discuss activities in this area and presented on "Visability".

Audience: 10

August 7, 2001

Traumatic Brain Injury Support Group
Apple Valley

Presentation on disability parking, access and the Americans with Disabilities Act information.

Audience: 16

October 15, 2001

University of Minnesota
Occupational Therapist Course
Presented disability civil rights and awareness information to a graduating class.

Audience: 25

August 24, 2001

Job Placement Division,
MN Rehabilitation

Presented on the ADA and recent court cases on employment.

Audience: 75

October 24, 2001

Metropolitan Center for
Independent Living
St. Paul

Keynote for MCIL's 20th
anniversary: Report on MSCOD,
collaborative efforts with MCIL.

Audience: 100

August 29, 2001

Neighborhood Revitalization Program
Conducted access training for several individuals representing neighborhoods.

Audience: 10

October 25, 2001

Representatives of Several
Insurance Companies

Presented to several representatives
from insurance companies that submit
worker compensation home modifica-
tion requests and advised them on
what information to provide when
submitting a request to MSCOD.

Audience: 32

October 31, 2001

Visitors from Soviet Union

Delegates representing several
organizations from the former Soviet
Union met to compare resources for
people with disabilities in Minnesota.

Audience: 15

October 31, 2001

Public Safety and Regulatory Services
Committee of the City of Minneapolis
Testimony was presented in support
of increasing accessible taxicab
services not only in the city but also
throughout the metro area.

Audience: 65

November 2, 2001

Various Museums

Demonstrated the proper way to
conduct an access survey for a group
of individuals representing various
museums.

Audience: 7

November 3, 2001

Neighborhood Revitalization Program
Provided access training to a number

of individuals representing different
neighborhoods. Audience: 10

December 19 and 24, 2001

St. Louis Park Kiwanis Club

Presented on the current status of
disability in Minnesota. Audience: 35

January 3, 2002

Legislative Training and Roundtable
MSCOD hosted eight interactive
Videoconference locations.

Audience: 125

January 7 and 27, 2002

Girl Scout Troop and Parents

Orientation on disability with
demonstration of adaptive equipment.

Audience: 25

January 20, 2002

Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Celebration
Provided awareness training to volunteers
for MLK celebration. Audience: 30

February 20, 2002

Employers Association Emergency
Evacuation

Conducted a presentation on the
important evacuation issues to consider
when evacuating individuals with
disabilities.

Audience: 15

February 21, 2002

Northern Lights Chapter, Society of
Government Meeting Professionals

Presentation on ADA/Planning accessible
meetings. Audience: 46

February 26, 2002
Courage Center/Metro Center for
Independent Living
Conducted informal presentation on
affordable/accessible housing issues for
"Lobby Day" participants.
Audience: 150

February 27, 2002
Public Television Personnel
ADA/Attitudinal Awareness Presentation
Audience: 60

March 13, 2002
DNR, Brainerd
ADA/Disability Awareness training for
employees.
Audience: 65

March 20, 2002
DNR Personnel in Bemidji
ADA/Attitude Awareness Training
Audience: 56

March 21, 2002
DNR Personnel in Chisholm
ADA/Attitude Training
Audience: 61

April 5, 2002
Affordable Housing Forum
Made public comments on the
importance of "Visitability" design
standards in affordable housing.
Audience: 200

April 12, 2002
Metro Mayor's Committee on
Employment of People with Disabilities
Fargo, North Dakota
Annual Awards Luncheon

Opening comments and report on
accessible housing legislation
"Visitability". Audience: 150

April 15, 2002
U.S. Senate Subcommittee on Housing
and Transportation, Minneapolis
Hearing on Affordable Housing –
Testimony for support of National
Housing Trust Fund and
recommendations on access options to
also help respond to the shortage of
affordable, accessible housing.
Audience: 50

April 18, 2002
DNR Personnel in Albert Lea
ADA/Attitude Training
Audience: 48

May 7, 2002
ADA Awareness Day
Minnesota Department of Health
The ADA: Reasonable
Accommodations co-sponsored
by the MSCOD. Audience: 80

May 20, 2002
Disability Issues/Cable Channel 15
Presented information on Emergency
Evacuation issues for people with
disabilities.
Viewing Audience: Potentially 1,500

May 21, 2002
Employers Association
Presented information on Emergency
Evacuation issues for people with
disabilities. Audience: 20

June 5, 2002
Federal Employees
Presented ADA information at
"Professional Enrichment and Diversity
Training" Conference (There were 450
people at this conference).
Audience for this presentation was: 80

June 12, 2002
Visitability presentation to Housing
Redevelopment Authorities attending a
meeting at DTED. Audience: 35

JULY 1, 2002-DECEMBER 31, 2002

July 26, 2002
Sullivan School and Communication
Center, Minneapolis
Access Workshop and Presentation
Audience: 25

October 3, 2002
Metropolitan Council
St. Paul
Disability Awareness/ADA training for
supervisors and managers.
Audience: 20

September 9, 2002
Kenwood Neighborhood Association
Cedar Lakes access presentation.
Audience: 12

October 16, 2002
Edina Displaced Workers Center
ADA presentation to displaced workers
professional staff.
Audience: 35

September 12, 2002
Metropolitan Council
St. Paul
Disability awareness/ADA training for
supervisors and managers.
Audience: 15

October 18, 2002
Employers Association
Emergency Evacuation Presentation
Audience: 20

September 16, 2002
Council Chambers
St. Cloud City Hall
State budget update presentation to CCD
members and local advocates.
Audience: 22

October 22 & 30, 2002
Metropolitan Council
Disability Awareness/ADA training for
supervisors and managers.
Audience: 20

September 23, 2002
Employers Association
Emergency Evacuation Presentation
Audience: 17

October 28, 2002
Alexandria Area Council on Disability
Presented on "Visitability"
Audience: 14

October 30, 2002
State Services for the Blind
Work Incentives Workshop

Audience: 23

November 5, 2002
Metropolitan Council, St. Paul
Awareness/ADA Presentation

Audience: 15

November 8, 2002
Ridgedale Library, Minnetonka
The MSCOD, ADA Minnesota, Equal
Opportunity Commission, and several
business groups co-sponsored a training
for small businesses.

Audience: 50

November 19, 2002
Metropolitan Council, St. Paul
Awareness/ADA Presentation

Audience: 40

November 26, 2002
Transportation & Public Works
Committee
Minneapolis City Council
Disability Parking Presentation

Audience: 52

December 4, 2002
Minnesota Department of Health
Disability Awareness Presentation

Audience: 9

December 9, 2002
Employers Association
Emergency Evacuation Workshop

Audience: 15

December 17, 2002
St. Paul Advisory Committee on People
with Disabilities
Disability Parking Presentation

Audience: 15

December 18, 2002
Metropolitan Council
Disability awareness/ADA training for
managers and supervisors.

Audience: 35

January 14, 2003
Metropolitan Council
Disability awareness/ADA training for
managers and supervisors.

Audience: 30

Workshops in italics are scheduled as of December 31, 2002

January 29, 2003

Metropolitan Council

*Disability Awareness/ADA training for
managers and supervisors.*

February 10, 2003

Supervisory Core

State of Minnesota

Disability Awareness/ADA Training

February 11, 2003

Metropolitan Council

*Disability Awareness/ADA training
for managers and supervisors.*

March 5, 2003

Metropolitan Council

*Disability Awareness/ADA training for
managers and supervisors.*

May 17, 2003

Employers Association

Emergency Evacuation Presentation

May 20, 2003

Employers Association

Emergency Evacuation Presentation

SPECIAL EVENTS

The council sponsors, co-sponsors and partners with many organizations to conduct events each year, which provide information or seek input on issues affecting people with disabilities.

- During FY '02 the MSCOD either sponsored or co-sponsored four special events.
- From July 1, 2002-January 20, 2003 the MSCOD has sponsored or co-sponsored five special events.

JULY 1, 2001-JUNE 30, 2002

Disability Employment Awareness Month Awards Ceremony

The council distributed awards at their November 15, 2001 meeting. The awards were given to recognize and honor those individuals or organizations that demonstrated outstanding leadership and achievement in improving the quality of life of the state's citizens with disabilities.

Council and staff members, and representatives from organizations active at the Minnesota Legislature provided training on how to communicate and work with their local legislators and legislative committees. Examples of training topics included; what form of communication is most effective, committee procedures, available resources and publications.

Interactive Legislative Training and Roundtable

This is an annual activity of the council that was held January 3, 2002. The 2002 Roundtable in St. Paul was the 10th offering and fourth year that Greater Minnesota sites took part via interactive television. Those sites included: Bemidji, Duluth, Mankato, Marshall, Moorhead, Rochester and St. Cloud. Organizations of and for persons with disabilities presented on issues which they would pursue during the legislative Session. These organizations discussed their legislative agendas and sought support in sharing information and strategies during the session.

Observation of

Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Day

This is a statewide annual event that celebrates Dr. King's philosophy and achievements. This event was held on January 21, 2002. Council staff participated in the organizing of the celebration, trained volunteers on disability awareness and was available to trouble-shoot on the day of the event.

ADA Awareness Day

The council co-sponsored ADA Awareness Day at the Minnesota Department of Health, "Creative Workplace Accommodations," on May 7, 2002. It was a workshop for state employees, lead workers, supervisors, ADA coordinators and managers.

JULY 1, 2002-JANUARY 20, 2003

ADA Celebration

This event was held July 26, 2002 at the Sullivan School and Communication Center in Minneapolis. It was a Celebration/Rights and Responsibilities workshop.

Disability Employment and Awareness Month Awards Ceremony

This is an annual activity that was held on September 19, 2002. The awards were given to recognize and honor those individuals or organizations, that demonstrated outstanding leadership and achievement in improving the quality of life of the state's citizens with disabilities.

National Disability Mentoring Day

MSCOD is represented on the Minnesota Coordinating Committee for this event. Staff coordinated an MSCOD event for Mentoring Day. This event was scheduled on October 16, 2002. Four human services professionals met with two college students who are human services majors. Discussion involved opportunities in the human services profession.

Interactive Legislative Roundtable

This is an annual activity of the council that was held January 9, 2003. The 2003 Roundtable was the 11th offering and the fourth year that Greater Minnesota sites took part via interactive television.

Those sites included: Bemidji, Duluth, Mankato, Marshall, Moorhead, Rochester and St. Cloud. Organizations of and for persons with disabilities presented on issues they would pursue during the legislative session.

Observation of

Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Day

This is a statewide annual event that celebrates Dr. King's philosophy and achievements. This event was held on January 20, 2003. Council staff participated in the organizing of the celebration, trained volunteers on disability awareness and was available to trouble-shoot on the day of the event.

RESOURCE TABLES

- The MSCOD staffed 6 resource tables in FY 02
- 2 resource tables have been staffed so far in FY 03

JULY 1, 2001-JUNE 30, 2002

October 26, 2001

Women's Health Expo

Minneapolis Convention Center

Staffed an actual universal design home, which was constructed for display.

February 15, 2002

Alexandria Area Health Fair

In collaboration with the Alexandria Area Council on Disability, provided a variety of disability related materials.

November 1, 2001

American Institute of Architects Annual Convention

Minneapolis Convention Center

Answered questions related to access, accessible housing and related educational materials.

March 2, 2002

North Branch, Community

Resource Fair

Individuals received information on community resources.

December 7, 2001

Minnesota Department of Human Rights "Human Rights Day Conference"

Touchtone Energy Center

This was the first time the council participated in this event with an information booth.

March 16, 2002

"Richfest," Human Rights Fair in Richfield

The council staffed a table providing information and answering questions.

JULY 1, 2002-DECEMBER 31, 2002

September 13, 2002

Moose Lake Correctional Facility

Transition fair. Provided information to 450 correctional facility residents with about 55 other agencies.

December 6, 2002

Minnesota Department of Human Rights

Touchtone Energy Center

"Human Rights Day 2002" was attended by 400 individuals.

INFORMATION, REFERRAL & ASSISTANCE

MSCOD responds to thousands of contacts each year for information, referral and assistance. Most contacts are short, but staff often meets with individuals to provide more thorough coaching or technical assistance.

- Total number of contacts for FY 02 (July 1, 2001-June 30, 2002) were 8,482
- Total number of contacts FY 03 (July 1, 2002-December 31, 2002) were 3,707

Main subject areas include: access, disability information, employment, income maintenance, and parking.

<u>Subject Areas</u>	<u>Total Contacts</u>		<u>Total Contacts</u>	
	<u>FY '02</u>	<u>Percent</u>	<u>7/1 – 12/31/02</u>	<u>Percent</u>
Access	1,330	16	551	15
Adaptive equipment	155	2	94	2
Attendant/Other Care	165	2	97	3
AV/Print, Website	295	3	135	4
Disability Information	875	10	379	10
Education	113	1	37	1
Employment	730	9	375	10
Health Care	184	2	94	2
Housing Referral	320	4	137	4
Income Maintenance	959	11	346	9
Insurance	235	3	60	2
Laws and Regulations	297	4	123	3
Parking	1,210	14	604	16
Recreation	53	1	30	1
Transportation	240	3	98	3
Vocational Rehab.	117	1	85	2
Workers Comp.	113	1	62	2
Special Events	430	5	148	4
<u>Other</u>	661	8	252	7

MSCOD PUBLICATIONS

Know Your Rights and Responsibilities* - MSCOD presented this publication in conjunction with the 12th Anniversary Celebration of the Americans with Disability Act, July 26, 2002. It is also available on CD-ROM as a collaborative project with the MN Department of Human Rights. The CD-ROM also includes disability laws and disability related publications of the MN Department of Human Rights. The publication is available as a stand-alone website at: www.therightsplace.net/disability

2000 Census Disability Related Statistics* - This two-part MSCOD document extracts disability related statistics from the long form of the 2000 census. Information gathered includes disability status, employment rates, percentage by type of disability, disability and poverty, disability and educational attainment.

Legislative Summary* - This MSCOD document is published soon after each legislative session, providing an easy to read overview of legislation considered in the previous session, that would be of interest to persons with disabilities.

Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)* - The MSCOD has created answers to several frequently asked questions as a handout and for the web site.

Fact Sheets* - The MSCOD's fact sheets are on several disability related issues, laws and programs. Examples are those on: housing; social security; disability parking; the MN Prescription Drug Program; and Medical Assistance for Employed Persons with Disabilities (MA-EPD).

Building Access Survey – This MSCOD publication is to evaluate the accessibility of buildings. The survey provides a step-by-step process to help make facilities such as churches, schools, and non-profit organizations accessible to persons with disabilities.

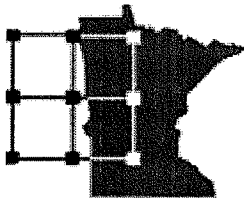
Responding to Disability: A Question of Attitude – This MSCOD publication is designed to stimulate thinking and dialogue about disability awareness, frequently used in education, supervisory and employment training.

Legislative Roundtable Booklet – The MSCOD hosts an annual Interactive Legislative Roundtable prior to each legislative session. This booklet summarizes presentations made by disability organizations attending.

The *CONNECTOR* Newsletter – This MSCOD quarterly publication includes articles on disability related issues and events.

* Indicates a new publication, since 6/1/01. All MSCOD publications are on its web site at: www.disability.state.mn.us

Disability Information Network: Minnesota State Council on Disability [MSCOD]



Welcome!

The Minnesota State Council on Disability (MSCOD) is an agency that collaborates, advocates, advises and provides information to expand opportunities, increase the quality of life and empower all persons with disabilities. Services are provided to individuals with disabilities and their families, the Governor and Legislature, government and private agencies, employers and the general public.

***What's New**

MSCOD Home Page

Contact MSCOD

***Bulletins & Calendar**

***FAQs and Facts**

Minnesota Issues

Federal Issues

***Publications**

Resource Links

We intend to keep this site disability friendly. If you notice any way in which our site could be made more disability friendly, please let us know.

Vision

Our vision is to be a primary, productive resource on disability related information, providing leadership and promoting innovative policies through effective administrative operations, legislative interaction, and statewide collaboration.

Values

We operate with a specific set of values:

- Inherent respect for all; assuming all individuals are valuable and are entitled to participate in the mainstream of society.
- Integrity; examining issues and disseminating information fairly, objectively and in a timely manner.
- Independence; the Council is independent and promotes self-sufficiency and choice for all persons with disabilities.

Services

Our services include:

- Review of disability issues, programs and policies and advise the Governor, Legislature and State agencies.
- Promote coordinated, collaborative, interagency efforts.

- Provide information and referral regarding disability issues, services and policies.
- Collect, conduct and make disability related research and statistics available.
- Advocate for policies and programs that promote the quality of life for people with disabilities.

Adopted by the Minnesota State Council on Disability February 15, 2001.

The Council is associated with The Office of Disability Employment Policy, The National Council on Disability, The National Association of Governor's Committees on People with Disabilities, and The National Organization on Disability.

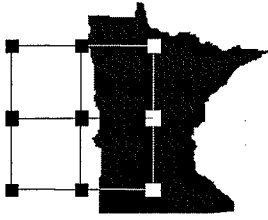
* Indicates additions to website since 6/1/01.



ADVISORY FUNCTIONS

In accordance with MS 256.482, Subd. 5, Sections (1), (2), (4), (6) and (7), the duties and powers of the Minnesota State Council on Disability include: to advise state elected officials, state agencies and the public on matters pertaining to public policy and programs, services, and facilities for persons who have a disability in Minnesota.

ADVISORY COMMITTEES



As part of its advisory capacity, council members or staff attend or are members of a variety of disability committees and organizations. Those committees include.

- Access for All Travel Guide Committee
- Access Discussion Group
- ADA MN
- Area Council Access Committee
- Breakthrough Internship Program
- Courage Center Public Policy Committee
- Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Celebration
- Metropolitan Council, Transportation Accessibility Advisory Committee
- Metropolitan Council, Light Rail Transit Access Committee
- MN Association of Higher Education and Disability (MNAHEAD)
- MN Business Leadership Network (MN-BLN), Steering Committee
- MN Coalition of Citizens with Disabilities, and several of its committees
- MN Coordinating Committee, Disability Mentoring Day
- MN Dept. of Administration, Access Review Board
- MN Dept. of Administration, Building and Elevator Code Committees
- MN Dept. of Children, Families and Learning, Library Access Committee
- MN Dept. of Children, Families and Learning, MN Transition Leadership Work Group
- MN Dept. of Employee Relations, Affirmative Action Committee
- MN Dept. of Employee Relations, ADA Coordinators Committee
- MN Disability Health Options
- MN Dept. of Labor and Industry, Worker's Compensation Home Modification Program
- MN Dept. of Transportation, Northstar Commuter Rail Authority Advisory Committee
- MN Dept. of Transportation, FTA Section 5310 Statewide Review Committee
- MN Inter-Agency Planning Committee
- MN State College and University System, Diversity Committee
- PACER Center, Education Advisory Group
- Regional Fair Housing Implementation Council of the Twin Cities
- Wilderness Inquiry Access Outdoors Steering Committee

ISSUE: Due to a recent lawsuit, changes to the disability parking program have created a number of issues that need to be addressed legislatively. In addition, housekeeping changes are needed.

MSCOD'S RECOMMENDATION: MSCOD supports disability parking changes which create a surcharge for violators, codifies the certificate types and fees, authorizes nurse practitioners to sign disability parking applications, authorizes MSCOD to report suspected violators to DPS and addresses housekeeping changes. The Council supports this language as a legislative priority and will provide leadership on this issue.

BACKGROUND: A lawsuit was brought against the Minnesota Department of Public Safety (DPS) in November 2001 alleging that it was in violation of the Americans with Disabilities Act for charging \$5.00 to acquire a permanent disability parking certificate. The lawsuit has since been dismissed. Prior to the court's decision though, DPS decided to make permanent changes to the disability parking program in response to the lawsuit. This proposed bill codifies those changes.

Since 1970 the Driver and Vehicle Services Division of DPS has offered two types of disability parking certificates, temporary and permanent. In the early 80's the commercial certificate was released which allowed organizations that provided transportation to individuals with disabilities to obtain disability parking certificates that are valid for three years and cost \$5.00. In the mid 1990's the 30-Day Permit was created to address the immediate needs of individuals with sudden and unexpected disabilities. The 30-day permit is actually the receipt for the disability parking application and it allows disability parking for 30 days while the application is being processed. In 2001, the long-term disability parking certificate was introduced and in 2002 the short-term disability parking certificate was introduced.

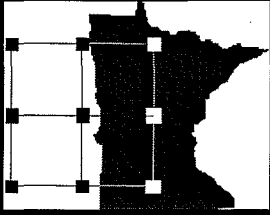
In the first half of 2002, DPS stopped charging for the permanent and long-term parking certificates and moved to formalize the following categories and related charges:

30 Day Permit	30 days	no charge
Temporary certificate	up to six months	\$5.00 charge
Short-term certificate	seven to 12 months	\$5.00 charge
Long-term certificate	13 to 71 months	no charge
Permanent certificate	72 months	no charge
Commercial certificate	3 years	\$5.00 charge

There are close to 250,000 disability parking certificates in circulation in the state and approximately 80% of them are classified as permanent. Since DPS stopped charging for the permanent certificates, the General Fund has suffered an annual loss of approximately \$325,000.

Issues that need to be addressed legislatively include:

- Establish a \$50.00 surcharge on fines for violating the disability parking statutes, this action would help recover lost revenue caused by the inability to charge for some certificates;
- Define the types of certificates that are issued;
- Authorize the MN State Council on Disability (MSCOD) to report suspected disability parking violators to DPS;
- Delete obsolete references to paying back a \$1.00 credit that no longer exists;
- Clarify the 30 day permit language by removing references with the word "temporary" attached to "permit";
- Clarify that plates removed from vehicles that no longer qualify for disability plates need not be surrendered;
- Mandate that disability parking signs manufactured after 8/1/04 must display the surcharge in addition to the fine for violation;
- Clarify when a fee is due for a certificate and when one will be issued at no fee;
- Identify nurse practitioners as authorized to complete and sign disability parking applications.



MINNESOTA STATE COUNCIL ON DISABILITY

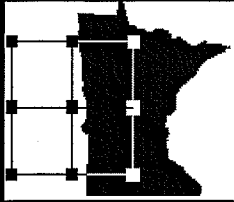
ELECTION JUDGES APPOINTMENT CHANGE

ISSUE: During the 2002 legislative session, Senate File 2950 was introduced which expanded the appointment authority for election judges and authorized the appointment of election judges who are not affiliated with a major political party. In addition, the bill extended the distance a polling place may be located outside a precinct in the metropolitan area by 500 feet.

MSCOD'S RECOMMENDATION: MSCOD supports changes in statute that allow the appointment of election judges who are not affiliated with a major political party, to protect the disability related provisions provided for in statute and to expand the distance outside a precinct where a polling place can be located.

BACKGROUND: According to county auditors, there is a growing shortage of individuals who want to serve as election judges. Currently, close to 40% of the eligible voters in the state do not affiliate with a particular political party. Also, currently, there is a requirement that when an individual applies to be an election judge, he or she is required by law to designate party affiliation. The bill that was initially introduced in the 2002 session authorized the appointment of election judges who were not affiliated with a major political party.

Some opponents argue this language would compromise the requirement that at least two election judges from different political parties assist individuals with disabilities when casting a ballot. Others, including the Minnesota Association of County Officers do not agree with this interpretation and state that the disability related language in the law is not compromised at all.



MINNESOTA STATE COUNCIL ON DISABILITY

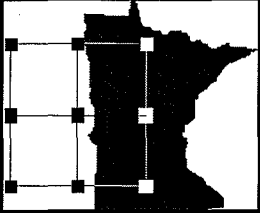
PROVISIONS OF HEALTH CARE BENEFITS

Enforcement of The Provision of Health Care Benefits for Employees of Governmental Subdivisions

ISSUE: Minnesota Statutes, Chapter 471.617 requires governmental subdivisions with over 100 employees provide all benefits mandated in MS 62E.05. They are also required to file a copy of their health plan, for employees, with the Department of Commerce. Not all governmental subdivisions have complied with this statute. Specifically, they are trying to avoid compliance with MS 62Q.47 regarding parity for mental health benefits.

MSCOD'S RECOMMENDATION: MSCOD supports legislation to give the Department of Commerce the authority to enforce this statute as it does other insurance statutes.

BACKGROUND: Council staff has been working on this problem since 1997 when we aided an individual filing a complaint with the Department of Health against Hennepin County. Originally, the county maintained that they are exempt from the state health care mandates because of the federal ERISA law. Since that time there is general agreement that governmental plans are exempt from ERISA. A provision was passed into law in 2001, requiring political subdivisions to file their health plans with the Department of Commerce. Yet, not all governmental units comply and the law provides no remedy for enforcement.



MINNESOTA STATE COUNCIL ON DISABILITY

CONTINUATION OF HEALTH BENEFITS

Enforcement of Requirement for Local Governmental Units to Provide Continuation of Health Plan Coverage

ISSUE: Minnesota Statutes, Chapter 471.61, Subdivision 2b provides for continuation of coverage, for retired employees of a unit of local government, under certain circumstances. Most political subdivisions comply with this statute. When a governmental unit refuses to comply, there is no provision in law for enforcement.

MSCOD'S ADVISORY RECOMMENDATION: MSCOD supports legislation to give the Department of Commerce the authority to enforce this statute as it does other insurance statutes.

BACKGROUND: This is similar to the problem posed by MS 471.617. Council staff has been involved in this problem since the mid-1990s. Governmental units will usually comply when the appropriate statute is cited. The statute is clear on the requirement of a continuation plan under certain circumstances; however, there is no clear enforcement procedure or penalty. The ERISA preemption argument is used, although invalid, to avoid to provision of a continuation health plan.

CUSTOMER FOCUS & QUALITY IMPROVEMENTS

Satisfaction Survey Results

Creative Workplace Accommodations: A Day of Awareness

Minnesota Department of Health, May 7, 2002

This was an event sponsored by state agencies and attended by 70 state employees, participants heard presentations on the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), learned about changes in state law and about assistive technology. The event also included break out sessions and a panel presentation on hidden disabilities and deaf culture. MSCOD staff provided an overview on the ADA. Thirty participants completed an evaluation form. On a scale of 1-5, 5 being positive and 1 being negative, the ADA presentation received an average response of 4.3.

Emergency Preparedness: Terrorism Awareness & Risk

Employee Association, May 21, Sept. 23, Oct. 18, 2002

Instructors presented in several areas relating to emergency preparedness. MSCOD staff presented information on emergency evacuation preparedness for people with disabilities. Instructors presenting at this workshop were rated on a scale of 1-5, 5 being positive and 1 being negative, and in five areas: Knowledge of subject matter; pace of program; ability to hold audience interest; clarity in presenting information; effectiveness in answering questions. MSCOD staff scored an average of 4.3 in these 5 areas.

Building Access: What's Required?

ADA Workshop, July 26, 2002

This workshop on disability access presented by MSCOD staff, was attended by 25 consumers. Nine attendees completed an evaluation of the training. On a Scale of 1-5, 1 being Not Useful and 5 being Very Useful, (1.) the overall response to the usefulness of the training was 4.7; and, (2.) the overall response to training content was 4.6. When offered to choose from five statements, each describing how participants might be influenced to become involved in their communities, the average participant was influenced in at least 2 areas.

Diversity Training

Metropolitan Council, September 12, Nov. 5, Nov. 19, 2002

MSCOD staff provided training to managers and supervisors on disability awareness and the Americans with Disabilities Act. Information provided here is compiled from the available data on 3 of a total of 10 training sessions. 53 of the

72 participants completed an evaluation survey. On a scale of 1-5, 1 being Poor and 5 being Excellent, participants rated the overall quality of the learning experience at 3.8. Instructors' knowledge of the subject, rated on the same 1-5 scale, was rated at 4. The overall effectiveness of the instructors on the 1-5 scale was rated at 4.

EEOC: ADA Training For Small Business

Minnetonka, Hennepin County Library, November 8, 2002

ADAMN and the MSCOD hosted a workshop for the federal Equal Employment Opportunity Commission (EEOC), providing small businesses with information on compliance with the employment and public accommodations provisions of the Americans With Disabilities Act. Fifty individuals attended the workshop, 30 completed evaluation forms. Participants represented large and small businesses, vocational rehabilitation/job placement services and community organizations.

17% of participants completing the evaluation form stated that before attending the workshop, they were *most* concerned about the cost of reasonable accommodations when hiring an individual with a disability. 27% indicated that they were *less* concerned about the cost of providing reasonable accommodation after attending the workshop. 40% of participants completing the evaluation indicated that their greatest concern when hiring an individual with a disability had been the issue of performance and conduct, 30% stated that they were less concerned with this issue after attending the workshop.

This training workshop was sponsored by: the Minnesota Chamber of Commerce; Minneapolis Regional Chamber of Commerce, Twin West Chamber of Commerce; Employers Association; Governor's Workforce Development Council; the Minnesota Association of Centers for Independent Living.

Disability Culture Rap: Awareness Training

Minnesota Department of Health, December 4, 2002

This disability awareness presentation by MSCOD staff was attended by 15 state employees. Nine attendees completed an evaluation of the training. On a Scale of 1-5, 1 being Not Useful and 5 being Very Useful, (1.) the overall response to the usefulness of the training was 4.7; and, (2.) the overall response to training content was 4.6. When offered to choose from five statements, each describing how participants might be influenced by the presentation, the average participant was influenced in 3 ways in which they may do things differently in the future.

INTERACTIVE LEGISLATIVE ROUNDTABLE

JANUARY 9, 2003

This marks the eleventh annual **Legislative Roundtable** hosted by the Minnesota State Council on Disability, the fourth offered via interactive television. The roundtable provides an opportunity for representatives from a wide range of disability organizations, and individuals, to come together and share with each other legislative proposals that they will be advancing in the next legislative session, other information that is important to the disability community is also shared. It is a kick-off event, of sorts, for the upcoming session and the first of many meetings where advocates will gather to discuss and strategize about legislative issues. Representative Fran Bradley, Chair of the House Health and Human Services Finance Committee and Senator Satveer Chaudhary, Vice Chair of the Senate Finance Committee presented on issues for the upcoming legislative session and on the most affective ways for individuals and groups to get their messages to the legislature.

The videoconference originated in St. Paul with technology provided by the Minnesota Department of Human Services and was telecast to sites in Duluth, St. Cloud, Bemidji, Roseville, Moorhead, Rochester, Marshall and Mankato.

In an effort to measure and improve its customer focus and satisfaction, participants were asked to complete a survey. Of 48 completed surveys, 17 respondents chose to make optional comments: Thirteen positive comments were made in support of the event and four comments were made with suggestions for improvement of the activity, these suggestions were not made as a result of any negative experiences. A sampling of comments follows:

1. "Very well attended. Next time present out-state presenters first. Tighten schedule. Create or leave time for interactions among participants."
2. "Well prepared and presented. Good to bring the disability population together."
3. "Would like to hear from organizations in Greater Minnesota."
4. "It would have been nice to have more legislators here to listen."
5. "The most helpful and informative portion was comments on how to contact legislators and to get message out to the public"

A summary of the completed survey is on the following page.

SATISFACTION SURVEY

2003 Legislative Roundtable

January 9, Videoconference, MN Department of Human Services

RESPONSE SUMMARY

1. Overall, what was your reaction to his event?

In a continuum with 5 being positive and 1 being negative, the average response was 4.3.

2. Are you better informed about the disability related issues to be considered by elected officials during the 2003 Legislative Session?

"Yes" was response of 43 of 48 individuals, 5 individuals responded with "Somewhat".

3. Because of my participation at this event, (circle all that apply)

- I have a better understanding of the issues
- I will be more comfortable discussing these issues with others in the disability community
- I will be more comfortable discussing these issues with legislators
- I will be more involved in the legislative process.

The outcome of the response to this question indicates that:

- 48% of respondents are better prepared to participate in all 4 areas.
- 8% of respondents are better prepared to participate in 3 areas.
- 21% of respondents are better prepared to participate in 2 areas.
- 21% of respondents are better prepared to participate in 1 area.
- 1 respondent did not complete this question.

4. Do you want the Minnesota State Council on Disability to continue this event in the future?

46 of 48 respondents responded "Yes" to this question, one responded "Maybe", one respondent did not complete this question.

RESEARCH & DATA COLLECTION

In accordance with MS 256.482, Subd. 5, Section (3), “to serve as a source of information.... pertaining to persons with a disability” and MSCOD’s vision to be a primary source of disability related information.

MSCOD 2000 Census Information

MSCOD 2000 CENSUS INFORMATION

Introduction

2000 Census Disability Related Statistics - The MSCOD has been analyzing disability related information contained in the 2000 census. The census information comes from the census long form, which was completed by approximately one in every seventeen individuals. In addition to a short summary of "observations" below, the MSCOD has produced a two-part document (see appendix c) which extracts disability related information such as disability status, employment rates, percentage by type of disability, disability and poverty, disability and educational attainment.

Disability Defined - The U. S. Census Bureau uses its own definition of disability (see below). There is no "universal" definition. Many definitions exist, each specific to a particular law, program, service or survey. The census definition differs from that used in the Americans with Disabilities Act and the Minnesota Human Rights Act, as well as many other definitions used in other surveys of the population of persons with disabilities. Therefore, the census figures may differ from other surveys on the prevalence of disability. Additionally, the census uses a self-reporting method.

Institutions - It should also be noted that nursing homes are considered "institutions" for purposes of the census, while intermediate care facilities for persons with mental retardation (ICFs/MR) are considered non-institutional quarters. In state law, however, an ICF/MR is the nursing home equivalent for persons with mental retardation and related conditions. The consequence of this census definition of "institution" is that people living in long term care facilities are considered to be "institutionalized" and therefore are not included in census observations concerning poverty status, employment status, disability etc.

Employment - While Minnesota has the nation's highest percentage (65%) of people with disabilities in the workforce, this does not suggest they all work full or part-time.

2000 Census Observations

DISABILITY STATUS OF CIVILIAN NON-INSTITUTIONALIZED POPULATION

The proportion of non-institutionalized Minnesotans age 5 and over with a disability is approximately 15 percent compared to the national average of 19 percent. Minnesota's average is on the low end of the spectrum compared to states like Arkansas, Kentucky, Mississippi and West Virginia where approximately 24% of the population age 5 and over have a disability. As with the rest of the nation, the incidence of disability rises sharply with age.

MN DISABILITY STATUS

SUBJECT	NUMBER	PERCENT
POPULATION AGE 5 – 20	1,168,374	100%
WITH A DISABILITY	82,719	7.1%
POPULATION AGE 21-64	2,803,699	100%
WITH A DISABILITY	392,313	14.0%
POPULATION 65 & OVER	554,138	100%
WITH A DISABILITY	204,204	36.9%

MN EMPLOYMENT RATE #1 IN NATION

BUT LAGS BEHIND RATE FOR THOSE WITHOUT DISABILITIES

In the age group of working adults (21-64), Minnesota has the highest percentage of people with disabilities in the workforce in the nation at 65%, compared to a national average of 57%. However, those rates compare to an employment rate of 84.3% in Minnesota, and 77.2% nationwide, for people without disabilities.

SUBJECT	NUMBER	PERCENT
MN pop. age 21-64	2,803,699	100%
With a disability	392,313	14.0%
Percent (%) employed		65%
No disability	2,411,386	86%
% employed MN w/no disability		84.3%
% employed U.S. with disability		56.6%
% employed U.S. w/no disability		77.2%

POPULATION DISTRIBUTION

While survey procedures and definitions are different, contrary to the 1978 Household Survey done by the Minnesota Department of Economic Security, metropolitan areas in 2000 did NOT have a larger percentage of persons with disabilities.

However, within the Twin City metropolitan area, there is a higher concentration of persons with disabilities in the center cities.

PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES HAVE A MUCH HIGHER RATE OF POVERTY THAN OTHER MINNESOTANS

People with disabilities are more likely to live in poverty than people without disabilities, especially in the age group of working adults (age 21-64) where the incidence of poverty is about 2½ times greater for persons with disabilities of both genders. The incidence of poverty for all age groups in the 2000 Census is:

MALE			FEMALE	
Age	Disabled in Poverty	Not Disabled in Poverty	Disabled in Poverty	Not Disabled in Poverty
5-15	15%	9%	17%	9%
16-20	15%	11%	21%	15%
21-64	13%	5%	16.5%	6%
Over 65	7.5%	4%	15%	7.5%

(These figures are for people for whom the poverty status has been determined which are 4,468,233 of 4,526,211 people).

PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES LESS LIKELY TO FINISH HIGH SCHOOL OR FINISH HIGHER EDUCATION DEGREE

For people 18 to 34 years, 18% of males with a disability are not high school graduates as compared with 8% of males without a disability. And, 14% of females with disabilities are not high school graduates compared to less than 6% percent of females without disabilities.

Just over 7.5% of males with a disability have a bachelor's degree compared to 16.5% of non-disabled males that have a bachelor's degree. And, 8% of females with a disability have a bachelor's degree and 19.5% of non-disabled females have one.

Fewer than 14% of males with a disability are in college or graduate school compared to 20% of non-disabled males in college or graduate school. And, 17.5% of females with a disability are in college or graduate school compared to about 23% of non-disabled females.

TYPES OF DISABILITIES

Of children (age 5 to 15 years) with a disability 66.7% have a mental disability, almost 10.8% have a self-care disability, over 11.2% have a sensory disability and 11.2% have a physical disability.

Of people age 16 to 64 with a disability, 36.5% have an employment related disability, 19.8% have a physical disability, 16.4% have a go-outside-the-home disability, 14.1% have a mental disability, 7.5% have a sensory disability, and, 5.3% have a self-care disability.

Of the population over 65 years of age and over, 35.3% have a physical disability, 25% have a go-outside-the-home disability, over 18% have a sensory disability, 11% have a mental disability and, 10% have a self-care disability.

DEFINITIONS

Disability Status - People 5 years old and over are considered to have a disability if they have one or more of the following: (a) blindness, deafness, or a severe vision or hearing impairment; (b) a substantial limitation in the ability to perform basic physical activities, such as walking, climbing stairs, reaching, lifting, or carrying; (c) difficulty learning, remembering, or concentrating; or (d) difficulty dressing, bathing, or getting around inside the home.

In addition to the above criteria, people 16 years old and over are considered to have a disability if they have difficulty going outside the home alone to shop or visit a doctor's office, and people 16-64 years old are considered to have a disability if they have difficulty working at a job or business.

CENSUS QUESTIONS

The questions asked to determine disability status are questions 16, 17, and 21 as stated below.

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16. Does this person have any of the following long-lasting conditions:

- a. Blindness, deafness, or a severe vision or hearing impairment? Yes No
- b. A condition that substantially limits one or more basic physical activities such as walking, climbing stairs, reaching, lifting, or carrying? Yes No

17. Because of a physical, mental, or emotional condition lasting 6 months or more, does this person have any difficulty in doing any of the following activities:

- a. Learning, remembering, or concentrating? Yes No
- b. Dressing, bathing, or getting around inside the home? Yes No
- c. (Answer if this person is 16 YEARS OLD OR OVER.) Going outside the home alone to shop or visit a doctor's office? Yes No
- d. (Answer if this person is 16 YEARS OLD OR OVER.) Working at a job or business? Yes No

21. Last week did this person do ANY work for either pay or profit?

Mark the "Yes" box even if the person worked only 1 hour, or helped without pay in a family business or farm for 15 hours or more, or was on active duty in the Armed Forces. Yes No. Skip to 25a

APPENDIX A

Minnesota Statutes 2002, Table of Chapters

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256.482 Council on disability.

Subdivision 1. **Establishment; members.** There is hereby established the council on disability which shall consist of 21 members appointed by the governor. Members shall be appointed from the general public and from organizations which provide services for persons who have a disability. A majority of council members shall be persons with a disability or parents or guardians of persons with a disability. There shall be at least one member of the council appointed from each of the state development regions. The commissioners of the departments of children, families, and learning, human services, health, economic security, and human rights and the directors of the division of rehabilitation services and state services for the blind or their designees shall serve as ex officio members of the council without vote. In addition, the council may appoint ex officio members from other bureaus, divisions, or sections of state departments which are directly concerned with the provision of services to persons with a disability.

Notwithstanding the provisions of section 15.059, each member of the council appointed by the governor shall serve a three-year term and until a successor is appointed and qualified. The compensation and removal of all members shall be as provided in section 15.059. The governor shall appoint a chair of the council from among the members appointed from the general public or who are persons with a disability or their parents or guardians. Vacancies shall be filled by the authority for the remainder of the unexpired term.

Subd. 2. **Executive director; staff.** The council may select an executive director of the council by a vote of a majority of all council members. The executive director shall be in the unclassified service of the state and shall provide administrative support for the council and provide administrative leadership to implement council mandates, policies, and objectives. The executive director shall employ and direct staff authorized according to state law and necessary to carry out council mandates, policies, activities, and objectives. The salary of the executive director and staff shall be established pursuant to chapter 43A. The executive

director and staff shall be reimbursed for the actual and necessary expenses incurred as a result of their council responsibilities.

Subd. 3. **Receipt of funds.** Whenever any person, firm, corporation, or the federal government offers to the council funds by the way of gift, grant, or loan, for purposes of assisting the council to carry out its powers and duties, the council may accept the offer by majority vote and upon acceptance the chair shall receive the funds subject to the terms of the offer. However, no money shall be accepted or received as a loan nor shall any indebtedness be incurred except in the manner and under the limitations otherwise provided by law.

Subd. 4. **Organization; committees.** The council shall organize itself in conformity with its responsibilities under sections 256.481 to 256.482 and shall establish committees which shall give detailed attention to the special needs of each category of persons who have a disability. The members of the committees shall be designated by the chair with the approval of a majority of the council. The council shall serve as liaison in Minnesota for the president's committee on employment of the handicapped and for any other organization for which it is so designated by the governor or state legislature.

Subd. 5. **Duties and powers.** The council shall have the following duties and powers:

(1) to advise and otherwise aid the governor; appropriate state agencies, including but not limited to the departments of children, families, and learning, human services, economic security, and human rights and the divisions of rehabilitation services and services for the blind; the state legislature; and the public on matters pertaining to public policy and the administration of programs, services, and facilities for persons who have a disability in Minnesota;

(2) to encourage and assist in the development of coordinated, interdepartmental goals and objectives and the coordination of programs, services and facilities among all state departments and private providers of service as they relate to persons with a disability;

(3) to serve as a source of information to the public regarding all services, programs and legislation pertaining to persons with a disability;

(4) to review and make comment to the governor, state agencies, the legislature, and the public concerning adequacy of state programs, plans and budgets for services to persons with a disability and for funding under the various federal grant programs;

(5) to research, formulate and advocate plans, programs and policies which will serve the needs of persons who are disabled;

(6) to advise the departments of labor and industry and economic security on the administration and improvement of the workers' compensation law as it relates to programs, facilities and personnel providing assistance to workers who are injured and disabled;

(7) to advise the workers' compensation division of the department of labor and industry and the workers' compensation court of appeals as to the necessity and extent of any alteration or remodeling of an existing residence or the building or purchase of a new or different residence which is proposed by a licensed architect under section 176.137;

(8) to initiate or seek to intervene as a party in any administrative proceeding and judicial review thereof to protect and advance the right of all persons who are disabled to an accessible physical environment as provided in section 16B.67;
and

(9) to initiate or seek to intervene as a party in any administrative or judicial proceeding which concerns programs or services provided by public or private agencies or organizations and which directly affects the legal rights of persons with a disability.

Subd. 5a. Renumbered 16B.055, subd. 2

Subd. 6. Repealed, 1975 c 315 s 26

Subd. 7. **Collection of fees.** The council is empowered to establish and collect fees for documents or technical services provided to the public. The fees shall be set at a level to reimburse the council for the actual cost incurred in providing the document or service. All fees collected shall be deposited into the state treasury and credited to the general fund.

Subd. 8. **Sunset.** Notwithstanding section 15.059, subdivision 5, the council on disability shall not sunset until June 30, 2003.

HIST: 1973 c 254 s 3; 1973 c 757 s 2; 1975 c 61 s 1; 1975 c 271 s 6; 1975 c 315 s 18; 1975 c 359 s 23; 1977 c 177 s 2; 1977 c 305 s 45; 1977 c 430 s 14; 1983 c 216 art 2 s 5; 1983 c 260 s 56; 1983 c 277 s 2; 1983 c 299 s 25; 1984 c 654 art 5 s 58; 1Sp1985 c 14 art 9 s 75; 1986 c 444; 1987 c 354 s 6; 1988 c 629 s 50; 1989 c 335 art 1 s 185,186; art 4 s 67; 1991 c 292 art 3 s 7; 1994 c 483 s 1; 1Sp1995 c 3 art 16 s 13; 1996 c 451 art 6 s 7; 1999 c 250 art 1 s 114; 2001 c 161 s 45; 1Sp2001 c 9 art 13 s 21

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APPENDIX C

2000 Census Disability Related Statistics - The MSCOD has been analyzing disability related information contained in the 2000 census. The census information comes from the census long form, which was completed by approximately one in every seventeen individuals.

In addition to a short summary of "observations," the MSCOD has produced a two-part document which extracts disability related information such as disability status, employment rates, percentage by type of disability, disability and poverty, disability and educational attainment.

2000 Census Booklet One Contains: number and percentages of employed persons with disabilities by state, county, metro areas, Regional Development Regions and other states; population living in group quarters; group quarters population by county and comparison of 1990 and 2000 numbers.

2000 Census Booklet Two Contains: various tables of demographic information regarding persons with disabilities; age by types of disability, by state and by county (a duplicated count of persons with disabilities by disability type, i.e. persons with more than one disability are counted under each category of disability which they report); non-duplicated numbers of persons with disabilities by county.

Addendum: A separate chart is also available providing age by type of disability, non-duplicated figures, by county (persons with more than one type of disability are counted in a "two or more" types of disability category).

Copies of MSCOD's observations, Booklet One, Booklet Two, or the addendum are available by contacting the Minnesota State Council on Disability.