



THE UNIVERSITY OF VERMONT CENTER ON DISABILITY & COMMUNITY INCLUSION

Center on Disability & Community Inclusion

5-Year Plan Summary (2023-2028)

What is the 5-Year Plan?

CDCI must write a plan every 5 years that says what we do. Our new plan explains what we will try to do from July 1, 2023 to June 30, 2028. The plan is based on:


- Needs of people with disabilities and families.
- Expertise of people at CDCI.
- Resources to do the work (such as time and money).

Each year we will try to match our work to the needs of people with disabilities in Vermont. We have 3 ways we do this:

- **Lead a community needs assessment every year.**
 - We will work with CAC, CDCI, and others around the state to plan a community needs assessment. Every December we will share a new report. We will use what we learn to identify problems, see if things are getting better, and change our plan.

- **Increase diversity of who is leading and part of our work.**
 - This means including people who are often left out because of disability, race, ethnicity, culture, gender, sexual orientation, age, religion, language, where they are from, and more.
- **Learn new ways to focus on accessibility, diversity, equity, and inclusion in our work.**

What is each core function going to do in the next five years?

CORE FUNCTION:	ACADEMICS
<p>5 GOALS:</p> 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Keep supporting Think College Vermont as a college option 2. Create a new, smaller version of the Graduate Certificate in Disability Studies. It will be 3 courses long, so more people want to take it. The three courses are: Culture of Disability, Global Disability Studies, and a research course. 3. Review how diversity, equity, and inclusion is part of CDCI research. 4. Design online classes in disability studies and accessibility. 5. Better support students with disabilities at UVM.

Question for the CAC:

How do you want to be involved with Academics this year? This is the first year of the plan.

**CORE
FUNCTION:**

COMMUNITY SERVICES

3 GOALS:



1. Support the Vermont Leadership Series with Vermont Developmental Disabilities Council, Vermont Family Network, and Green Mountain Self-Advocates.
2. Provide trainings, consultation, and resources to improve access to services in:
 - a. Early intervention
 - b. Education
 - c. Employment
 - d. Healthcare
 - e. Assistive technology
3. Find new ways to support mental health and housing.

Questions for the CAC:

How do you want to be involved with Community Services this year?

- Do you like to talk more about the work we already do or new ideas for what we should do?
- Would you like to help more with our trainings?
- We have a lot of people working on these projects at CDCI. Would you like to get to know the staff better?

CORE FUNCTION:

RESEARCH

5 GOALS:



1. Collect and share data on needs in Vermont.
2. Write an annual report on disability in Vermont. With topics like:
 - a. Demographics of people with disabilities.
 - b. Basic needs like income, housing, food, transportation.
 - c. Education for young children, K-12 grades, college.
 - d. Employment
 - e. Healthcare, mental health, other services
 - f. Social and recreational opportunities
 - g. Accessibility
 - h. Public attitudes
3. Partner with people with disabilities and others to do more research. For example, help UVM Autism Collaborative grow.
4. Secure new funding through university and community partnerships especially for mental health and housing.
5. Write accessible summaries and reports so more people can learn from research about disability.

Questions for the CAC:

- How do you want to be involved in Community Needs Assessment?
- What do people in Vermont need to learn about disability?
- What topics are missing from the list above?

**CORE
FUNCTION:**

COMMUNICATIONS

4 GOALS:



1. Provide more trainings and resources on accessibility.
2. Help UVM create a policy on language access.
 - a. “Language access” means what languages every document and resource are available in.
3. Continue to provide accessible and high-quality communications.
4. Find new funding to expand our communication work.

Questions for the CAC:

- How do you want to be involved in communications this year?