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Disability Rights Center - NH

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*NH Council on
Developmental Disabilities*

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August 16, 2024

Jessica Gorton (via email: jessica.d.gorton@dhhs.nh.gov)
Bureau Chief, Bureau of Developmental Services
New Hampshire Department of Health and Human Services
129 Pleasant Street
Concord, NH 03301

Re: NCI Data Tracking – Direct Support Workforce

Dear Chief Gorton,

As you know, the Quality Council strongly believes that accurate data regarding NH's developmental disabilities services system is an important tool to advocate for quality improvements.

At the July 2024 Quality Council meeting, Member Mary St. Jacques presented data from the National Core Indicators- IDD State of the Workforce Survey. This data provides an important overview of workforce challenges in the developmental disabilities service system across the United States.

The Council was disappointed to learn that New Hampshire is not participating in the survey, which means we do not have access to state specific challenges, trends or other data. The lack of reliable data means that we are less able to advocate for improvements.

The Council strongly recommends that New Hampshire begins participating in this data collection as soon as possible. The Council recommends that BDS sets aside \$10,000 or more if needed to fund participation in this project.

We look forward to seeing this data in the next few years and using it to improve the quality of the developmental disabilities services system.

Survey

8/16/24
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Thank you for considering this request.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Stephanie Patrick". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Stephanie Patrick
Chair, NH Developmental Services Quality Council