



Executive Director's Report

April 2014 Council Meeting

The Year in Review

Office Perspective

Council

- New Chair
- New Executive Committee
- New Members
- New Employment Committee
- New FASD workgroup

Office

- New Executive Director-health concerns
- New Planner
- New Education/Early Intervention Coordinator
- New Administrative staff
- New Health/ASPEN Coordinator
- New Employment Coordinator
- New Peer Power Advisor
- New Legislative Intern

The Year in Review

State Perspective

Legislative:

- **Last Year:** HB 88-removing “MR” from statutes, HB 88-SESA reauthorization, one-time funding for CBC despite conservative fiscal focus, HB 59-missing vulnerable adults response plan
- **This Year:** new relationship with Rep. Millett’s office, ongoing CBC funding, Employment First Act, HB 210-Safe Student Act, HB 220-Exit Exam, Autism Insurance Taskforce, Anchorage Taxi Cab ordinance

Senior and Disability Services (SDS):

- **Recent:** new I/DD HCBS waiver regulations, new fiscal system (MMIS), Long Term Care committee and recommendations
- **Upcoming:** increase in I/DD waiver costs, new online automated service plan system, review of DDDR process

Trust: winding down of the Bring The Kids Home (BTKH) focus area, new employment commercial, new Trustee, Employment focus area and new alcohol focus area

CHD: Retirement of Kathy Fitzgerald, Lynn Kenny and Stephanie George hired for Partners in Policymaking

The Year in Review

Federal Perspective

- 50th Anniversary of the DD Act
- National Governor's Association focus on Employment of People with Disabilities
- New Commissioner (Aaron Bishop replaced Sharon Lewis), Administration on I/DD completed the move to Administration for Community Living
- CMS releases new rules on Home and Community Based Services: independent care coordinators, community based services focus, person centered planning, emphasis on working in an integrated setting
- Employment: Executive Order raising minimum wage to \$10.10 for all, Rehab Act requires federal contractors to hire people with disabilities
- Congress:
 - Completed: Sequestration, Affordable Care Act,
 - Ongoing: Achieving a Better Life (ABLE act), Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, Keeping All Students Safe act