**NEVADA GOVERNOR’S COUNCIL ON DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES**

**Position on Human and Civil Rights for Individuals with Intellectual and/or Developmental Disabilities**

All individuals regardless of their abilities are entitled to human rights as well as the protection and benefits of civil rights laws of their country. Individuals with intellectual and/or developmental disabilities are humans and thus are afforded all of the same rights and protections as everyone else. Disability rights are human rights. Everyone deserves to be included and live a full life in their community — accessing the same public spaces, housing opportunities, education, and work as anyone else.

People with disabilities can be found in people of any age, gender identity, race and ethnicity, sexual orientation and sexuality, faith or religion, culture, language, economic status, immigration and legal residency status, familial status, support need, and among people who have other disabilities. Freedom from discrimination is a basic human right and yet many individuals with I/DD have been unjustifiably denied or limited in their lifetime. People with I/DD have the right to share in the benefits and riches of society and the world as well as the right to make their own contributions to their communities and society. They have often been denied these rights and opportunities.

# **The Nevada Governor’s Council on Developmental Disabilities (NGCDD) believes that all are entitled to human and civil rights regardless of age; gender; race/ethnicity; sexual orientation; cultural, linguistic, geographic, and spiritual diversity; economic status; severity of disability; intensity of needed supports; and other factors that expose them to increased risk of rights violations.**

**Policy Recommendations:**

1. Make all policy and services aligned with disability rights.
2. Ensure the inclusion and full participation of persons with disabilities in all facets of community living.
3. Increase knowledge of disability rights among all State and public program personnel and ensure the inclusion of People with disabilities into all aspects of their work.
4. Ensure the right to medical, psychological and functional treatment, including prosthetic and orthotic appliances, to medical and social rehabilitation, education, vocational training and rehabilitation, aid, counselling, placement services and other services which will enable them to develop their capabilities and skills to the maximum and will hasten the processes of their social integration or reintegration.
5. People with disabilities shall be protected against all exploitation, all regulations and all treatment of a discriminatory, abusive or degrading nature.
6. People with disabilities have the right to access care without the fear of denial of treatment.
7. People with disabilities have the right to utilize Supported Decision Making.
8. People with disabilities have the right to respect and dignity.
9. Support the concept of the dignity of risk which is the right of a person to make an informed choice to engage in experiences meaningful to the individual and which are necessary for personal growth and development.

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