

AUCD's *Council on Consumer
Affairs (COCA)*

Workgroup Recommendations

Moving COCA into the future...

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A new mission statement...

As a council of the AUCD, COCA helps lead the national network and strengthen its member programs. By modeling effective partnerships, the Council assists AUCD to advance policy and practice for and with people with disabilities, their families and communities.

The Council helps the association to:

- build effective partnerships with other AUCD Councils and Committees, federal agencies, and other national groups.

- build the capacity of individual Consumer Advisory Committees (CACs), including identifying needs for assistance, providing technical assistance, and disseminating information about exemplary and innovative practices.

- envision, actively advocate for, and disseminate information about the next generation of policy and practice that will help make the promise of full participation a reality.

- develop leaders and mentors that build the capacity of the network to affect change at the local, state, and national levels.

- assist in the development of standards for participation of people with disabilities and family members in UCEDD education, research, and service programs and in AUCD functions.

- serve as a model and resource for others desiring to infuse the participation people with disabilities and family members into program planning, research, and evaluation.

The Council on Consumer Affairs needs restructuring and revitalizing in order to achieve the outcomes and new mission statement.

The workgroup has proposed recommendations for COCA, AUCD and the individual UCEDDs around:

- Structure and Membership
- Roles of COCA
- Activities of COCA

Structure and Membership

- Recommendations for COCA members...
- Recommendations for UCEDDs...
- Recommendations for AUCD...

Roles of COCA

- Roles within UCEDDs...
- Roles within COCA...
- Roles within AUCD...

Activities of COCA

- Activities within UCEDDs...
- Activities within COCA...
- Activities within AUCD...

Name change...

The workgroup also recommended changing the name of the Council to reflect the new mission, activities and goals.

Name change suggestions included:

- Partnership Council for Full Participation
- Partnership Council for Universal Participation
- Leadership and Advocacy Council
- Council of Citizen Advocacy (COCA)
- Council of Community Advocates (COCA)

COCA had a conference call on April 13th to discuss the recommendations of the workgroup and to voice their opinions.

We have the support of the COCA membership.

Realistically...

To accomplish the goals of the mission statement, COCA members and UCEDDs will need to work together and support each other.

Some ending thoughts...

- What do you like about the “new” COCA?
- What don't you like?

➤ What are your thoughts about the name change suggestions?

➤ How can COCA assist you with enhancing your Consumer Advisory Committee (CAC)?