

# Strategic Collaboration



# The Developmental Disabilities Network

Bringing the  
American Dream  
to People with  
Developmental  
Disabilities



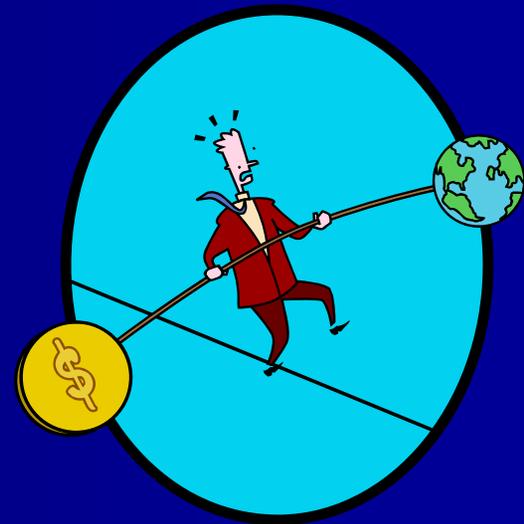
# The DD Act Expects Collaboration



- Program Accountability/indicators of progress: Sec. 104(a)(3)(D) At a minimum, the indicators of progress shall be used to describe and measure...
  - *(iii) the extent to which the members of the DD Network collaborate with each other to achieve the purpose of this title and the policy described in section 101(c).*
- Reports of the Secretary: Sec. 105(1) *In preparing the report, the Secretary shall provide-meaningful examples of how the councils, protection and advocacy systems, centers, and entities funded under subtitles B, C, D, and E, respectively--*
  - *(A) have undertaken coordinated activities with each other ...*

# Challenges to Strategic Collaboration by the DD Network

- Timing
- Resources
- Perceptions
- Constituencies
- Approach to doing business



# Outcomes without Strategic Collaboration

- Less bang for the buck
- Less credit
- Flat or modest increases in resources
- Acceptance of the status quo
- Pressure from constituencies to do more
- No brand identification

# Benefits of Strategic Collaboration

- Wider impact
- More influence
- Greater credit
- Stronger partnerships
- More resources
- Powerful results

# What Makes Strategic Collaboration Easier?

- Having the same planning cycle
- Putting collaborative initiatives in planning and reporting documents and identify them as such
- Having the same calendar
- Conducting joint public meetings to receive input and communicate plans
- Partnering on product development and training
- Dissemination of information related to collaborative activities jointly
- Adopting a brand name

# Strategic Collaboration: the Questions We Need to Ask

- Communication. Is it strategic?
- Contribution. Whose resources make things happen?
- Coordination. Is it episodic?
- Cooperation. Is it project specific?
- Strategic Collaboration. Is everything on the table?

# Things to Do Now

- Form a work group on the reauthorization of the DD Act, with the development of provisions to facilitate network collaboration as the first item of business
- Meet with network colleagues in the state to develop consensus on what constitutes network collaboration; develop uniform paragraphs on collaborative efforts to be reported in 2005; then when reporting, each network partner uses the same paragraphs
- Develop a national network pamphlet and work toward a network brand through network organizations –AUCD, NACDD, and NAPAS

# For every priority ask...

1. Who in the network is doing this now?
2. Who from the network could be at our table?
3. Who from the network has resources that could be applied?
4. How do the answers to 1, 2, and 3 influence a particular priority?
5. With buy-in from the network, how do we divide up what needs to be done?

# The Key to Strategic Collaboration

- We all collaborate
  - Out of necessity
  - Because of pressure
  - From habit
- We all plan
- We need to collaborate when we plan
- We need to plan when we collaborate

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