



At Disability Rights Nebraska, we are committed to inclusivity and meaningful engagement of people with disabilities. Our strategic plan for Fiscal Years 2024-2028 sharpens our emphasis on three focus areas: Freedom from Harm, Most Inclusive Settings, and Engaging People with Disabilities in Advocacy.

We strive to involve people with disabilities in all aspects of our work, whether as participants, trainers, or personal experts on their life experiences. We challenge other organizations and policy-setting groups to similarly engage people with disabilities in meaningful roles.

We value your input on our focus areas for Fiscal Year 2025. Please take a few minutes to complete our survey by July 27, 2024. Your feedback is essential to us.

For assistance or to request the survey in an alternative format, please contact our office at 800-422-6691.

Thank you for your time and contributions!

## PROPOSED PRIORITIES, GOALS AND OBJECTIVES FY 2025

### FOCUS AREA – FREEDOM FROM HARM

**Goal 1A: Identify, monitor and advocate for change in places where people with disabilities learn, live and work.**

**1A.1:** Maintain a regular presence at the Beatrice State Developmental Center (BSDC) on a monthly basis, including monthly reviews of facility incident reports.

**1A.2:** Maintain a regular presence at the Lincoln Regional Center (LRC) at least twice a month.

**1A.3:** Monitor at least 35 settings where people with disabilities are segregated, isolated, and congregated.

**1A.4:** Implement the Protection and Advocacy for Beneficiaries of the Representative Payee Program.

**Goal 1A:**  Not Important  Important  Very Important

Comments: [Click or tap here to enter text.](#)

**Goal 1B: Investigate and respond to allegations of abuse, neglect and exploitation using a range of approaches to ensure that vulnerable people with disabilities are free from harm.**

**1B.1:** Investigate and respond to at least 25 allegations of abuse, neglect, or exploitation through systemic advocacy, individual advocacy, limited advocacy, and self-advocacy assistance.

**1B.2:** Engage in two activities to secure changes in public policy which strengthen protections for people with disabilities to be free from harm.

**1B.3:** Investigate and respond to systemic inappropriate use of restraint and seclusion at the Lincoln Regional Center.

**1B.4:** Conduct X trainings and outreach activities to educate facilities and entities about the access authority of Disability Rights Nebraska.

**Goal 1B:**  Not Important  Important  Very Important

Comments: [Click or tap here to enter text.](#)

**FOCUS AREA – MOST INCLUSIVE SETTINGS**

**Goal 2A: Investigate and respond to allegations of rights violations that impede people with disabilities from learning, living and working in the most inclusive settings.**

**2A.1:** Address at least 15 alleged violations of the Americans with Disabilities Act, Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act, the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act, the Fair Housing Act, and the Nebraska Fair Housing Act through systemic advocacy, individual advocacy, limited advocacy, and self-advocacy assistance.

**2A.2:** Provide individual advocacy, limited advocacy, and self-advocacy assistance to at least 5 individuals in need of assistive technology and related services.

**2A.3:** Assist at least 15 beneficiaries of Social Security facing barriers to employment through individual advocacy, limited advocacy and self-advocacy assistance.

**Goal 2A:**  Not Important  Important  Very Important

Comments: [Click or tap here to enter text.](#)

**Goal 2B: Advocate for people with disabilities to learn, live and work in the most inclusive settings.**

**2B.1:** Engage in a range of advocacy efforts, including collaboration with relevant organizations, to address the Olmstead Plan including the need for integrated housing and services for people with serious mental illness.

**2B.2:** Conduct educational activities to work towards eliminating sub-minimum wage jobs and decreasing utilization of sheltered workshops by increasing competitive employment opportunities for people with disabilities, including utilization of the Medicaid Insurance for Workers with Disabilities program.

**2B.3:** Continue to research barriers to being served in the most integrated setting experienced by children and youth with mental illnesses who are in residential treatment facilities, including juvenile justice facilities and conduct monitoring visits to 4 identified facilities.

**2B.4:** Continue to advocate for Home and Community-Based Services and monitor the implementation of the final settings rule under the Medicaid program.

**2B.5:** Raise awareness of the needs of the most vulnerable people with disabilities and the work we do by conducting outreach through relationship building, presentations, events/tabling, materials and other methods.

**2B.6:** Organize, educate, and provide on-going support to ordinary citizens across Nebraska to become effective lay advocates for inclusive education opportunities for students with disabilities.

**2B.7:** Engage in Public Policy activities related to the inclusion of people with disabilities in emergency or disaster response and planning.

**Goal 2B:**  Not Important  Important  Very Important

Comments: [Click or tap here to enter text.](#)

**Goal 3A: Provide opportunities for people with disabilities to learn about being effective advocates and support them in advocating about things that impact their lives.**

**3A.1:** Provide two opportunities for people with disabilities to become engaged in disability-related public policy research, education, and advocacy.

**3A.2:** Contract with a consultant to educate and assist individuals with mental illness who are interested in developing a mental health advance directive under Nebraska law.

**3A.3:** Contract with a consultant to educate and assist individuals with mental illness to become effective self-advocates.

**3A.4:** Continue to educate and raise awareness regarding Supported Decision-Making in Nebraska.

**3A.5:** Conduct outreach and inform at least 700 people with disabilities about their voting rights.

**Goal 3A:**     Not Important             Important             Very Important

Comments: [Click or tap here to enter text.](#)

<b>Tell us about yourself:</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> Person with a disability <input type="checkbox"/> Family Member <input type="checkbox"/> Advocate	<input type="checkbox"/> Service Provider <input type="checkbox"/> Professional <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Please explain)
<b>Ethnicities</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> Ethnicity Unknown <input type="checkbox"/> Hispanic/Latino	<input type="checkbox"/> Not Hispanic/Latino <input type="checkbox"/> Not Selected
<b>Races</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> Native American <input type="checkbox"/> Alaskan Native <input type="checkbox"/> Asian <input type="checkbox"/> Black / African American <input type="checkbox"/> India Indian <input type="checkbox"/> Native Hawaiian	<input type="checkbox"/> Other Pacific Islander <input type="checkbox"/> Race Unknown <input type="checkbox"/> Two or more races <input type="checkbox"/> White <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Please explain)
<b>Do you live in an Urban or Rural area?</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> Urban (Omaha, Lincoln, Bellevue, Grand Island)	<input type="checkbox"/> Rural (All other Nebraska cities) <input type="checkbox"/> Unknown

Any additional comments: [Click or tap here to enter text.](#)

**Thank you!**

Please email the completed survey to [info@disabilityrightsnebraska.org](mailto:info@disabilityrightsnebraska.org)