The DD Network was authorized by the Developmental Disability Assistance and the Bill of Rights Act of 2000 (The DD Act). Each state in the United States has a DD network made up of the state’s University Center on Excellence in Developmental Disabilities (UCEDD), its DD Council, and its Protection and Advocacy (P & A) Agency. The purpose of the DD Network is to provide leadership (UCEDD), advocacy (DD Councils) and legal protection (P & A’s) on behalf of citizens with developmental disabilities. In Vermont the DD Network is comprised of the Center on Disability and Community Inclusion (VT UCEDD), the VT DD Council and Disability Rights Vermont (P & A). The DD Network is also referred to as the 3 sisters, or the 3-legged stool.
Vermont’s Developmental Disabilities (DD) Network

The Vermont Developmental Council acts as an independent advocate for policy change. Sixty percent of VTDDC members are people with disabilities or family members who decide how to use its federal funds for a range of projects, with a focus on supporting Vermonters with developmental disabilities and their families to have strong voices and connect with policy makers at all levels.

Director: Ed Paquin
email: Ed@DisabilityRightsVT.org
http://www.disabilityrightsvt.org/

Disability Rights Vermont’s mission is to promote the equality, dignity, and self-determination of people with disabilities. We protect their rights by providing information, referral, advocacy services and legal representation. We advocate to improve systems and laws that affect the lives of people with disabilities throughout Vermont.

Director: Susan Ryan
email: susan.ryan@uvm.edu
http://www.uvm.edu/~cdci/

CDCI serves as a resource for best practices in education, research and service relative to the needs of people with developmental disabilities. We envision a future where all people, including people who experience developmental and other disabilities, are fully included in their home, schools, and communities.

Director: Ed Paquin
email: vtddc@vermont.gov
http://www.ddc.vermont.gov/

The federal DD Act defines a developmental disability as a severe, chronic condition that occurs before the age of 22. The disability and related mental and/or physical impairments must result in functional limitations in three or more life areas.

The 3 Sisters

Center on Disability and Community Inclusion
The UNIVERSITY of VERMONT

Disability Rights Vermont

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