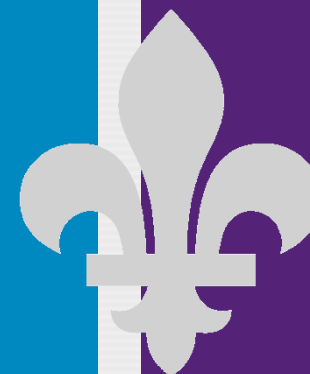


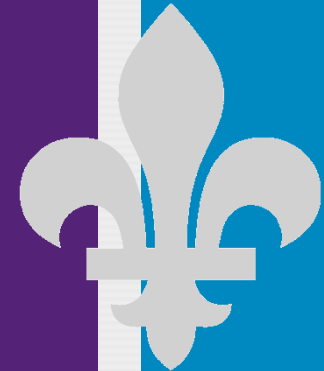
**DEVELOPMENTAL  
DISABILITIES  
ASSISTANCE AND  
BILL OF RIGHTS  
ACT OF 2000**

**PL 106-402**

**OCTOBER 30, 2000**



# Values in the DD Act



**Individuals with developmental disabilities, including those with the most severe developmental disabilities, are capable of self-determination, independence, productivity, and integration and inclusion in all facets of community life, but often require the provision of community services, individualized supports, and other forms of assistance;**

**Communities are enriched  
by the full and active  
participation and  
contributions of individuals  
with developmental  
disabilities and their  
families.**

**Individuals with developmental disabilities and their families have competencies, capabilities, and personal goals that should be recognized, supported, and encouraged, and any assistance to such individuals should be provided in an individualized manner, consistent with the unique strengths, resources, priorities, concerns, abilities, and capabilities of such individuals.**

**Specific efforts must be made to ensure that individuals with developmental disabilities from racial and ethnic minority backgrounds and their families enjoy increased and meaningful opportunities to access and use community services, individualized supports, and other forms of assistance available to other individuals with developmental disabilities and their families.**

**Services, supports, and other assistance should be provided in a manner that demonstrates respect for individual dignity, personal preferences, and cultural differences.**

**Individuals with developmental disabilities and their families are the primary decision makers regarding the services and supports they receive, including where they choose to live from available options, and play decision making roles in policies and programs that affect their lives.**



# FINDINGS IN THE ACT

**Disability is a natural part of the human experience that does not diminish the right of individuals with developmental disabilities to live independently, to exert control over their own lives, and to fully participate in and contribute to their own communities through full integration and inclusion in the economic, political, social, cultural, and educational mainstream of United States society.**