

**DISABILITY RIGHTS SOUTH DAKOTA  
Protection and Advocacy of Individual Rights (PAIR)  
Proposed Fiscal Year 2018 Priorities and Objectives**

The PAIR program was established to protect and advocate for the legal and human rights of persons with disabilities who are:

- Persons beyond the scope of services authorized to be provided by the Client Assistance Program (CAP), and
- Ineligible for protection and advocacy under the Protection and Advocacy for Persons with Developmental Disabilities (PADD) because the individual does not have a developmental disability, or
- Ineligible for protection and advocacy under the Protection and Advocacy for Individuals with Mental Illness (PAIMI) programs because the individual does not have a mental illness.

PAIR Program will accept cases where the potential for creating a beneficial, state-wide change is greatest. Potential cases will be reviewed for systems impact and the potential for achieving a positive change.

**Goal 1: People with disabilities will be free from abuse, neglect and exploitation**

- Priority 1: Assist individuals who experience abuse, neglect, rights violation or exploitation in public schools and long-term care facilities through monitoring activities, investigations, individual service requests, or technical assistance.
- Priority 2: Record all incarcerated individuals who seek DRSD assistance with receiving treatment for Hepatitis C on the Hepatitis C project on DAD for data collection purposes.
- Priority 3: Provide information and referral services or technical assistance to prisoners in correctional facilities, encouraging utilization of the ADA coordinator by informing individuals of the processes to follow to obtain adequate medical treatment while incarcerated.

**Goal 2: People with disabilities will have equal access to employment.**

- Priority 1: Assist individuals who experience discrimination in any stage of the employment process through individual service requests or technical assistance.
- Priority 2: Assist individuals who request reasonable accommodations from their employers, but are denied, through individual service requests or technical assistance.
- Priority 3: Conduct trainings to educate employers and individuals about the right to equal access to employment. If individuals qualify for PABSS, refer to PABSS program.

**Goal 3: People with disabilities will have equal access to programs, activities, and services of public entities and private places of public accommodation.**

- Priority 1: Assist individuals, through individual service requests, systemic efforts, or technical assistance, who are not allowed access to a business, service, or program because of their disability.

**Goal 4: People with disabilities will increase their knowledge about their legal and human rights through, but not limited to, the following activities:**

- Monitoring activities
- Trainings conducted by DRSD staff
- Newsletter articles
- Legal clinics
- Information and referrals
- Technical assistance
- Booths and networking activities at various conferences
- General outreach activities
- Partners in policymaking
- Boards and committees