

Membership Value Statement: 2010

Florida ARF is a statewide, professional association that provides advocacy, information, and networking for community agencies serving individuals with disabilities in the State of Florida. We are a leader in the initiation of public policy change to promote and protect the interests of individuals with disabilities. Within the last year, Florida ARF accomplished the following:

- Prevailed in several instances in preventing massive across-the-board rate cuts for Developmental Disability (DD) Medicaid Waiver Services providers.
- Prevailed against the elimination of Behavior Assistant services in Behavior Focus Group homes as a DD Medicaid Waiver service.
- Worked with other stakeholders to increase tier1 waiver spending cap to \$150,000 for individuals with severe needs.
- Maintained the South Florida geographic differential for Residential Habilitation Services.
- Bought back rate cuts for ICF/DDs by implementing a Quality Assessment Fee (QAF).
- Minimized funding reductions to the Adults with Disabilities Fund within the Division of Vocational Rehabilitation (DVR).
- Advocated for and prevailed in continuation of nonprofit status for Vocational Rehabilitation contract providers.
- Worked with DVR on developing innovative uses of federal stimulus dollars.
- Advocated against implementation of a children's Medicaid Prepaid Therapy Program.
- Supported the Department of Health, Early Steps Program in receiving legislative authority to draw down additional funding.
- Coordinated a comprehensive grassroots advocacy campaign featuring local community agency involvement such as provider testimony at legislative committee meetings, legislative visits at community agency sites, and legislative visits at the Capitol.
- Disseminated timely information including: monthly *Issues Forum Breaking News* and *Capitol Breaking News* updates on legislative actions. Work products, white papers, and forum information are available to members on-line.
- Represented Florida ARF member interests on multiple committees and groups such as various APD Work Groups, Florida Rehabilitation Council, and others.
- Provided testimony and represented Florida ARF member interests at multiple hearings such as: ICF/DD licensure, DD Medicaid Waiver Handbook and rates; Sanctions Rule; and Reactive Strategies.
- Prevailed, along with other advocates, in delaying managed care transition for programs that serve individuals with developmental disabilities.
- Provided technical assistance services to community agencies regarding social services program requirements and billing requirements.

Florida ARF proudly represents the interests of our members. We are certain you will find membership to be a great value! For more information, go to our website at www.floridaarf.org.