

Archived Information

PROTECTION AND ADVOCACY OF INDIVIDUAL RIGHTS (PAIR)

Goal: To provide assistance and information to individuals with disabilities eligible for the Protection and Advocacy of Individual Rights (PAIR) program and conduct advocacy to ensure the protection of their rights under Federal law.

Relationship of Program to Volume 1, Department-wide Objectives: Supports the goals of the Strategic Plan by protecting the civil rights of individuals with disabilities who are seeking to strengthen their skills and improve their earning power.

FY 2000—\$11,894,000

FY 2001—\$12,132,000 (Requested budget)

OBJECTIVE 1: ADEQUATELY IDENTIFY PRIORITIES AND OBJECTIVES SO THAT PAIR PROGRAMS MEET THE NEEDS OF INDIVIDUALS WITH DISABILITIES.

Indicator 1.1 Percentage of requests for service outside PAIR priorities: The percentage of individuals seeking services whose concerns are not within the PAIR's stated priorities will decrease.

Targets and Performance Data			Assessment of Progress	Sources and Data Quality
Year	Actual Performance	Performance Targets	<p>Status: No 1999 data are available. Data will not be available until 2001.</p> <p>Explanation: Uniform data collection instrument was approved by OMB in January 2000. FY 2000 will be the first year of collection. These data will be available in 2001.</p>	<p>Source: PAIR performance reports <i>Frequency:</i> Annually. <i>Next Update:</i> April 2001.</p> <p>Validation Procedure: Data will be supplied through uniform data reporting. Once data are submitted, appropriate review will be conducted by program specialists.</p> <p>Limitations of Data and Planned Improvements: The collection instrument does not contain known data limitations.</p>
1999:	No data available	No specific target set		
2000:		No specific target set		
2001:		No specific target set		

OBJECTIVE 2: PAIR PROGRAMS MEET EXPECTATIONS OF INDIVIDUALS SERVED IN TERMS OF THEIR SATISFACTION WITH THE PAIR SERVICES RECEIVED.

Indicator 2.1 Survey responses: The percentage of PAIR programs achieving or exceeding the client satisfaction baseline will increase.

Targets and Performance Data			Assessment of Progress	Sources and Data Quality
Year	Actual Performance	Performance Targets	<p>Status: No 1999 data are available. Data will not be available until 2001.</p> <p>Explanation: FY 2000 will be the first year of collection. A client satisfaction baseline along with the targets for the percentage of PAIRs that meet or exceed the baseline will be established once data are available.</p>	<p>Source: PAIR performance reports <i>Frequency:</i> Annually. <i>Next Update:</i> April 2001.</p> <p>Validation Procedure: Same as 1.1.</p> <p>Limitations of Data and Planned Improvements: Same as 1.1.</p>
1999:	No data available	No specific target set		
2000:		No specific target set		
2001:		No specific target set		

OBJECTIVE 3: IDENTIFY PROBLEM AREAS REQUIRING SYSTEMIC CHANGE AND ENGAGE IN SYSTEMIC ACTIVITIES TO ADDRESS THOSE PROBLEMS.

Indicator 3.1 Policy changes: The percentage of PAIRs that report changes in policies and practices as a result of their efforts will increase.			
Targets and Performance Data		Assessment of Progress	Sources and Data Quality
Year	Actual Performance	Performance Targets	Status: No 1999 data are available. Data will not be available until 2001. Explanation: FY 2000 will be the first year of collection. Baseline data in FY 2001. Source: PAIR performance reports <i>Frequency:</i> Annually. <i>Next Update:</i> April 2001. Validation Procedure: Same as 1.1. Limitations of Data and Planned Improvements: Data will be limited because it will be self-reported and in a narrative format. The data submitted will be reviewed by program specialists, but data validity will be unattainable.
1999:	No data available	No specific target set	
2000:		No specific target set	
2001:		No specific target set	

KEY STRATEGIES

Strategies Continued from 1999

- ❖ Consult with Protection and Advocacy of Individual Rights grantees, the National Association of Protection and Advocacy Systems (NAPAS), and others on the development of key data collection elements.

New or Strengthened Strategies

- ❖ Assess findings from the Protection and Advocacy of Individual Rights program evaluation to identify additional measures for this program.
- ❖ Provide technical assistance to help Protection and Advocacy of Individual Rights programs identify appropriate priorities and objectives.
- ❖ Develop a model client satisfaction survey for Protection and Advocacy of Individual Rights programs to use.
- ❖ Provide technical assistance to encourage Protection and Advocacy of Individual Rights programs to follow up with individuals served.
- ❖ Compile and assess Protection and Advocacy of Individual Rights narrative reporting.
- ❖ Provide technical assistance and followup for those Protection and Advocacy of Individual Rights programs not reporting systemic advocacy activities.

HOW THIS PROGRAM COORDINATES WITH OTHER FEDERAL ACTIVITIES

- ❖ This program coordinates with other protection and advocacy programs administered by the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) through monthly interagency meetings. The partners in this interagency agreement are RSA, the Administration on Developmental Disabilities (ADD), and the Center for Mental Health Services (CMHS). The Department of Education's National Institute on Disability Research & Rehabilitation (NIDRR) also participates in these meetings. During these meetings, the three primary Federal partners (RSA, ADD, and CMHS) work to ensure that the protection and advocacy programs receive the training and technical assistance they need to provide quality advocacy services to individuals with disabilities. We pool our training and technical assistance funds into an interagency agreement. These funds are put into a contract that has been awarded, after a competition, to the National Association of Protection and Advocacy Systems (NAPAS). The Federal partners work closely with the National Association of Protection and Advocacy Systems to identify training needs for the programs as well as participate as training presenters throughout the year. Finally, during these meetings, the Federal partners discuss potential compliance issues that have arisen with our grantees.
- ❖ RSA also coordinates our activities with the Protection and Advocacy of Individual Rights grantees themselves. Whenever RSA plans to undertake a new initiative, we seek input from the grantees. The most recent example of this was the Protection and Advocacy of Individual Rights annual program performance report, which was recently approved by the Office of Management and Budget.

CHALLENGES TO ACHIEVING PROGRAM GOAL

None.

INDICATOR CHANGES**From FY 1999 Annual Plan (two years old)**Adjusted

- ❖ Objective 1, for RSA to develop a data collection instrument, was dropped. There is no need to retain such an administrative indicator. This instrument was recently approved for use by grantees in FY 2000.
- ❖ Indicator 2.2, which asked for Protection and Advocacy of Individual Rights to assess the appropriateness of their priorities and objectives and make changes as necessary, was dropped. This indicator is reflected in this year's Indicator 1.1.

Dropped

- ❖ Indicator 3.1, which measured the response rate of a client's surveys, was dropped. We do not believe that the survey response rate will be low.
- ❖ Indicator 4.1, the percentage of Protection and Advocacy of Individual Rights reporting on their systemic advocacy will increase, was dropped. A more appropriate measure is the percentage of PAIRS that report changes in policies and practices, which is retained in this year's Indicator 3.1.

From FY 2000 Annual Plan (last year's)Adjusted—None.Dropped—None.New—None.