



2026 Work Plan

Disability Advisory Council (DAC)

Jessica Johnson
Access Management Coordinator
Central Operations Administration

Advisory Council Members



Chair: Sumukha Terakanambi

Vice Chair: Ann Bailey

Linda Bailey
Aiden Kilgannon
Amy Hunting
Michael Cashman
Lucianna Wolfstone
David Shaw
Eva Johnson
Stephanie Thomas

Alison Niemi
Susan Pagnac
Jodi Yanda
Mike Welsh
Toby Hearn
Michael Dahl
Bilan Arab
Sheila Hawthorne

Purpose of the Council



The purpose of the Advisory Council is to serve as an agent of change by:

- Providing technical expertise on issues that affect people with disabilities and disabled people.
- Acting as an independent sounding board for issues, ideas, and policy matters impacting disabled individuals.
- Seeking advice from members and the public in the county decision-making processes.
- Reflect the diverse interests of county clientele and residents.
- Meet requirements of state law.
- Providing annual recommendations to the County Board of Commissioners.

2025 Accomplishments



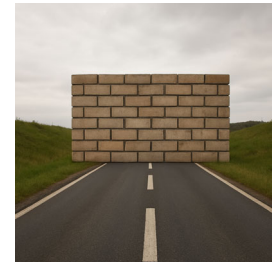
- Established a well-organized, collaborative council and built strong momentum
- Developed a shared understanding of disability-related challenges through lived and professional experiences
- Identified Council Priorities to focus the group's work
- Collaborated with Library staff to create disability centered book lists to celebrate the 35th Anniversary of the ADA (Nothing About Us Without Us)
- Provided feedback on Library programming and accessibility
- Supported accessibility efforts for the new county website
- Contributed input on the accessibility of the E&EA Upload Portal
- Provided feedback on two County plans:
 - Transportation ADA Transition Plan
 - Parks, Greenways, and Natural Systems 2050 Vision Plan

Planning for 2026



What is the most pressing barrier facing people with disabilities as we go into 2026?

- Education
- Stereotyping
- Employment for people with disabilities
- Political climate
- Changes
- Home and community-based services
- Fraud and funding
- Lack of service providers
- Service disruptions
- Medicaid
- Transportation reliability
- Discrimination
- Access barriers
- Making sure Dakota County stays the course
- Accountability



2026 DAC Workplan for Approval



Board Goal	Council Priority	Activity	Outcome	Timeline
-	-	Annual Report to the County Board	The Council will report to the Board annually in January, summarizing recommendations and outcomes	Q1
-	-	Annual Organizational Meeting	Approval of annual workplan for recommendation to the County Board. Election of Chair and Vice Chair	Q1
Excellence in Public Service	2 & 4	Physical Development Capital Projects Update (Annually)	Act as a sounding board on design considerations and offer recommendations to support inclusive, compliant physical environments.	Q1
Thriving People	3	Update on Communities for All	Receive an update on funded programs and offer accessibility-centered feedback on their impact.	Q2
Thriving People	1	Housing/Housing Instability	Review housing-related challenges, offer accessibility expertise, and recommend approaches to improve stability and equitable access for disabled residents and residents with disabilities.	Q2
Excellence in Public Service	3	Public Art Framework	Provide guidance on accessible design and community engagement and recommend practices that ensure public art is inclusive for all users.	Q2
Excellence in Public Service	3	Countywide Accessibility Initiatives	Serve as an informed sounding board for countywide ADA efforts, provide expert feedback on accessibility opportunities or gaps.	Q3
Excellence in Public Service	4	Parks Visitor Services Plan	Review the proposed plan, provide technical accessibility insight, and recommend ways to ensure park experiences are inclusive and usable for all visitors.	Q3
Excellence in Public Service	4	Library Update (Annually)	Receive an update on planned library services and facilities, provide guidance on accessibility considerations, and offer recommendations that enhance inclusive access for all library users.	Q4
-	-	Annual Review and Reporting	Prepare annual review of recommendations and outcomes for the County Board	Q4
Excellence in Public Service	1	Disability Services	Identify common barriers and opportunities in disability services to share with county departments, to support service improvements.	Ongoing

Thank you!



Questions?

Next Meeting:

Wednesday, February 11, 2026; 3-5 p.m.

Dakota County Western Service Center