



DIVISION OF DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES

OIFA Member Newsletter - March 2020

Vendor Profiles

[DDD vendor profiles](#) present data about DDD vendors that members and families can use to make choices about their services. Input from members and families about what they would like to know is being used to develop the vendor profiles. This input is being collected at monthly DDD town hall meetings. It will be used to continually improve the vendor profiles. Members and families are urged to attend these town hall meetings and provide their input.

DDD Town Hall Meetings

DDD is hosting town hall meetings in all districts twice a year. DDD will present details about Division initiatives and other news. This includes sharing the results from the Raising Special Kids forums held in Spring 2019. We are also asking for member, family and provider feedback about Division initiatives and issues important to them. Upcoming meetings in 2020 include:

- April 2, 2020 – Estrella Mountain Community College, [Estrella Conference Room](#), 3000 N. Dysart Rd., Avondale, AZ 85392 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.
- May 7, 2020 – TBA, Show Low 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.
- June 4, 2020 – TBA, District East 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.

See the schedule on the [DDD website](#) for updated dates, locations and times.

Victory for Vicktor

At age 18, Vicktor aged out of the foster care system. Faced with a difficult transition he was able to work with DDD staff to adjust to independent living. This made his transition easier.

DDD's Office of Individual & Family Affairs (OIFA) working with city, county, state and federal agencies is able to connect qualified members with affordable housing opportunities. Vicktor's apartment is an example of the partnership DDD has with the Housing Authority of Maricopa County. "I got lucky," said Vicktor. "The DDD program was able to help me find [an apartment]."

Being an adult means more than independence and a place to live. It involves being an active member of the community. Relatively new to Phoenix, Vicktor has learned the bus system, met his neighbors, joined his neighborhood Block Watch program and made new friends.

Vicktor does work for a company called PostMates. PostMates facilitates the delivery of meals, beverages, and certain retail items through independent couriers. He explained, "It's actually a very good



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app that people use for take-out. I choose my own hours. I actually have customers who prefer me over others. I'm fast, quick, simple and they prefer it."

Recalling his move into the apartment DDD helped arrange three years ago, Vicktor said, "I'm not going to lie. When I first moved in, I was sitting on the floor. I had no furniture". In time, however, he received donations from his dad and the rest he purchased himself.

Visit <https://des.az.gov/services/disabilities/developmental-disabilities/individuals-and-families/supports-and-services> to learn more about the services and supports available to eligible DDD members.

March 21 Is World Down Syndrome Day

The National Down Syndrome Society (NDSS) celebrates World Down Syndrome Day on March 21, 2020. Run, walk, bike, hike, swim and/or move for 3.21 miles at any time, any place and at any pace to celebrate and raise awareness for the Down syndrome community.

Developmental Disabilities Advisory Council

The next Developmental Disabilities Advisory Council (DDAC) public forum and listening session will be held on **April 22, 2020**. Members, families, providers and advocates are invited to attend.

Two sessions will be held.

- First Session - 4:00 p.m. to 5:30 p.m.
- Second Session - 6:00 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.
- Location: TBD Nogales, AZ

The next DDAC meeting will be held on May 13, 2020. The meeting is open for the public to observe. The meeting will be held from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. at 2200 N Central Ave. Ste 200, Phoenix, AZ 85004.

[Visit the DDAC online for more details.](#)

Like DDD On Facebook

Like DDD on Facebook, [@OfficialArizonaDDD](#), and stay connected to the latest news and events.

Councils and Committees

There are many ways you can volunteer and positively impact the DD community. Visit the [DDD website](#) to see all the councils and committees you can volunteer to be on.



DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC SECURITY

Your Partner For A Stronger Arizona

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DDD is Here to Help

Please contact your Support Coordinator or the DDD Customer Service Center at 1-844-770-9500 ext. 1 (TTY/TDD 711) if you have questions.

Call the DDD Customer Service Center at 1-844-770-9500 ext. 1, TTY/TDD 711, to ask for this material in other formats. Language help is available at no cost to you.