

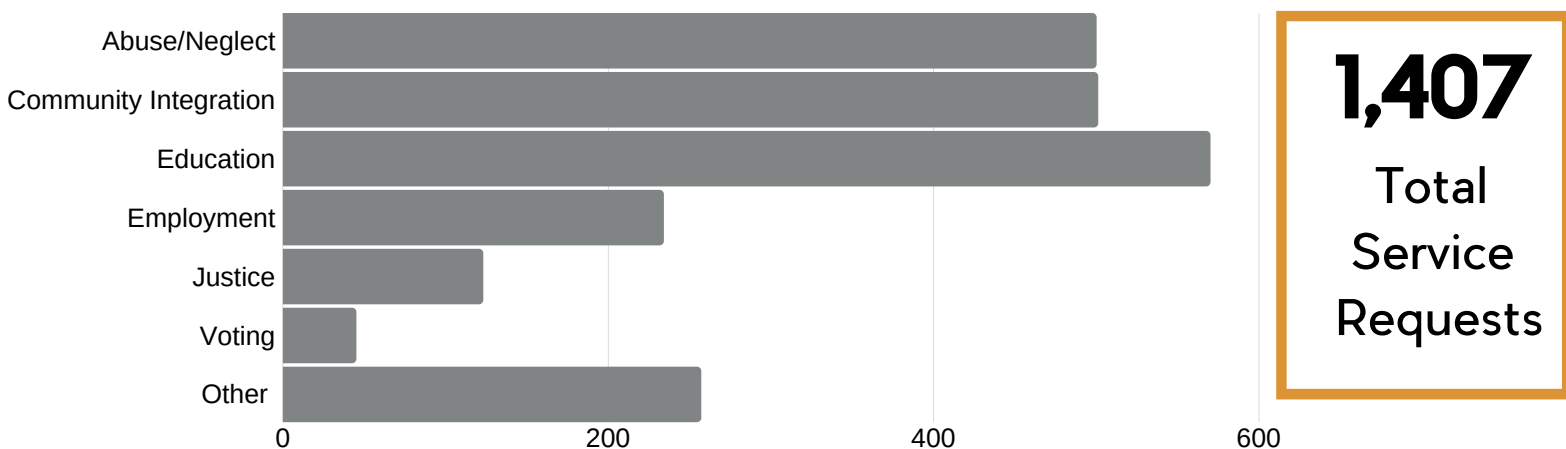
2019 Impact Report



October 1, 2018 - September 30, 2019

Empowerment Through Advocacy

INTAKE AND REFERRAL



1,581

Individuals served

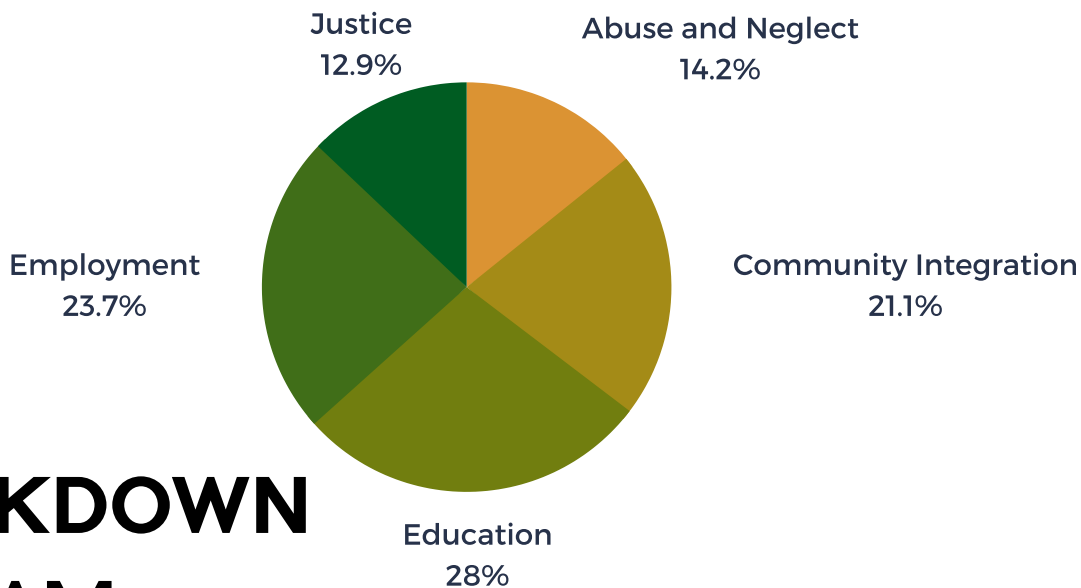
231

Cases opened

154

Monitoring Visits

CASE BREAKDOWN BY TEAM



ABUSE AND NEGLECT

27 Investigations Opened

Substantiated Findings in 78% of Investigations

9 Reports to Appropriate State Licensing Authority

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“George” lived in a nursing facility with his wife. They called IDR to report that George had an open wound on his toe that was not healing as he was not receiving appropriate treatment. IDR opened a secondary investigation and made a report to Indiana State Department of Health (ISDH). ISDH conducted an investigation and cited the facility for lack of quality care and “free of accident hazards/supervision/devices.” IDR reviewed George’s records and found evidence that the facility failed to provide ongoing treatment for the toe wound including scheduling and attending follow-up appointments and consistently administering ordered treatments. Both IDR and ISDH found that the facility failed to follow physician’s orders and failed to obtain timely care for George’s toe. ISDH had also issued an immediate jeopardy due to the conditions of the facility, which they failed to bring into full compliance.

COMMUNITY INTEGRATION



15

Fair Housing Cases

94

Active Advocacy Cases

9

Guardianship Cases



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“Miles” is an individual with intellectual disabilities who contacted IDR after his sister and legal guardian informed him she would be moving him against his will from a supported group living (SGL) placement near Evansville to one near her home in Fort Wayne. Miles generally enjoyed his SGL placement, at which he had resided for over five years. Prior to that, Miles lived with his sister for nearly twenty years, until repeated reports of neglect to the local Adult Protective Services (APS) unit led the unit’s staff to provide the sister with two options: either permit Miles to leave the home for a BDDS administered residential placement, or potentially face criminal charges. The sister chose the former. Mile’s sister continued to exercise significant control over his life as his legal guardian. Soon after the SGL provider began resisting the sister’s demands, she began making plans to have him transferred. After the case was opened, IDR sought and obtained an emergency Motion for a Temporary Restraining Order (TRO) to prevent the move. Simultaneous with the filing of the Motion for a TRO, a Petition for Removal of Guardian was filed in the county the guardianship was established. Rather than attempting to defend her actions in court, the sister agreed to relinquish the guardianship voluntarily, and the Court agreed to terminate the guardianship entirely. Since the termination of the guardianship, Miles has been able to move from his previous SGL placement (where he had seven roommates) to a much less restrictive Medicaid waiver home with only one roommate.

EDUCATION

100 Active Advocacy Cases



15

Cases related to discipline/suspension/expulsion



15

Cases related to eligibility under free and appropriate education (FAPE)

IDR opened a case for “Damian” based on a request from his mother. Damian was an 11-year-old student who had been placed in a self-contained classroom designed to address behaviors. The classroom was located at a different elementary school within the district. There was no plan for him to be placed back in the general education setting. IDR was able to successfully advocate for Damian’s return to his home school in a general education setting. A Functional Behavior Assessment (FBA) and Behavior Improvement Plan (BIP) were completed and implemented. Eventually, Damian was transitioned back to his home school in a general education setting and given high ability curriculum. The IDR advocate attended multiple case conferences after Damian’s return to support Damian and his parents in working towards a successful transition.

EMPLOYMENT

78 Active Advocacy Cases



35

Vocational Rehabilitation (VR) cases



5

Cases related to employment discrimination

“Martin” asked IDR to provide advocacy related to a Trial Work Experience (TWE) with Vocational Rehabilitation Services (VR). Because VR had questions as to whether Martin could truly benefit from VR services, it required him to successfully complete a TWE before he could be deemed eligible to participate further in the VR program. Martin had not succeeded in an earlier TWE, partly because his VR counselor had denied any reasonable accommodations, and partly because Martin had zero interest in the TWE setting. Unfortunately, Martin’s new TWE provider wanted to have him complete his second TWE in the same setting, doing the same activities. Martin asked IDR to intervene. An IDR advocate met with Martin, his VR counselor, and his TWE provider, and helped Martin advocate for some revisions to his TWE Plan. The TWE provider better understands the type of work Martin is interested in doing, and Martin will not have to return to the failed TWE site.

JUSTICE

37 Active Advocacy Cases



5

Clients moved from state psychiatric hospitals to less restrictive, community settings



10

Cases related to failure to provide appropriate medical and/or mental health treatment

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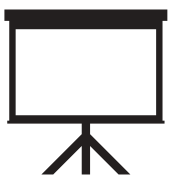
"Earl" was admitted to a state psychiatric hospital in April 2014, as a forensic placement after he was deemed incompetent to stand trial. His criminal charges were dismissed in July 2014, yet he remained committed by court order to the state-operated facility. His treatment team determined that he was discharge ready in June 2017, yet no plans were made to move him to the community. We opened a case in May 2019 to review why he had not yet been moved to the community. IDR requested relevant records from DMHA and started working with his CMHC gatekeeper to determine what was holding up Earl's discharge plans. In October 2019, he was moved to a community group home in northern Indiana. He was very happy to move back to that area because he will be close to his mother and they will be able to visit again.

VOTING

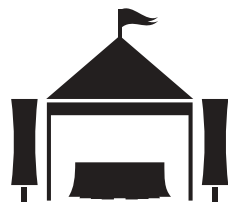
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IDR and the Self-Advocates of Indiana have continued to jointly provide voting rights training across the state in partnership with county clerk's offices who provide accessible voting equipment for individuals to practice voting. This has not only been beneficial to voters but also to staff and volunteers from the county clerks' offices to learn how to best support voters with disabilities while ensuring their voting experience is still private and independent. This year, a new section was added to the curriculum based on feedback and evaluations from participants. Participants valued the information on how to register to vote, how to research candidates, and their rights and the polls, however, an important civics piece was missing. Participants wanted to know why voting was important. This feedback led to valuable discussions and improved future trainings.

EDUCATION & OUTREACH



67 presentations, trainings, and webinars



17 information booths



75,715 website users



6 videos x 3 languages = 18 new videos



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Supported Decision Making Website



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Top Facebook Post "Know Your Rights at the Polls" 16,428 people reached