

Protection and Advocacy of Individual Rights (PAIR) (CFDA No. 84.240)

I. Legislation

Section 509 of title VII of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended, P. L. 93-112 (20 U.S.C. 732) (expires September 30, 1997).

II. Funding History

| <u>Fiscal Year</u> | <u>Appropriation</u> |
|--------------------|----------------------|
| 1991 | \$976,000 |
| 1992 | 1,074,000 |
| 1993 | 2,480,000 |
| 1994 | 5,500,000 |
| 1995 | 7,456,000 |
| 1996 | 7,456,000 |

III. Analysis of Program Performance

A. Goals and Objectives

PAIR provides support to state protection and advocacy systems (P&As) for the protection of the legal and human rights of individuals with disabilities. P&As are authorized under Part C of the Developmental Disabilities Assistance and Bill of Rights Act (DDA), P.L. 100-146. The PAIR program serves individuals with disabilities who need services that are beyond the scope of services provided by the Client Assistance Program (CAP) under Section 112 of the Rehabilitation Act and who are ineligible for services under the DDA and the Protection and Advocacy for Individuals with Mental Illness Act of 1986 (PAIMI), (P.L. 99-319). PAIR became a formula grant program in FY 1994.

B. Strategies to Achieve the Goals

Services Supported

In FY 1995, PAIR programs reported serving 57,768 persons, of whom 47,101 were seeking information and referral services and 10,667 were served as cases. Of the 10,667 cases handled by PAIR programs in FY 1995, the largest category (19 percent) involved employment issues. The next two largest categories were education issues (17 percent) and financial entitlements, including Medicaid and Social Security (9 percent).

Strategies used to address or resolve client issues included advisory/interpretational counseling (36 percent), supervised referrals (28 percent), negotiation/mediation (13 percent), administrative remedies (4 percent), and legal remedies including litigation (2 percent). Other remedies were used in 17 percent of the cases.

C. Program Performance—Indicators of Impact and Effectiveness

In developing performance measures for the PAIR program, the Department is working with the Department of Health and Human Services in order to ensure consistency in measuring performance across protection and advocacy programs. Possible indicators for the PAIR program include the extent to which individuals served by PAIR report satisfaction with the services they receive, how well P&As (or PAIR programs) identify issues and set priorities for bringing about systemic change, and how well P&As (or PAIR programs) effectively bring about permanent systems change in those areas.

IV. Sources of Information

Annual reports and statements of objectives and priorities submitted by PAIR program grantees.

V. Planned Studies

The Rehabilitation Act's evaluation program plans to evaluate the PAIR program in FY 1998. The study will provide, among other things, descriptive information, such as how PAIR programs identify issues, set priorities, and effectively bring about systems change in those priority areas; how many individuals are served; what types of services are provided; how much services cost; and why individuals seek PAIR services.

VI. Contacts for Further Information

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