

By His Excellency Ned Lamont, Governor: an  
**Official Statement**

On behalf of the State of Connecticut,  
I, Ned Lamont, Governor,  
take great pleasure in congratulating  
*The Connecticut Council on Developmental Disabilities*  
as you celebrate your  
*50th Anniversary*

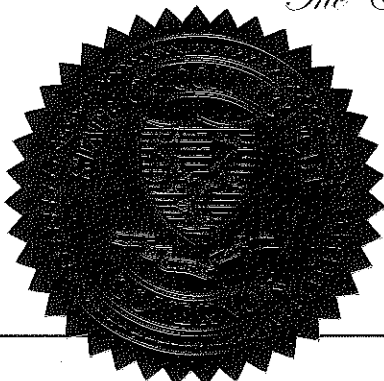
In 1971, Governor Meskill created the Connecticut Council on Developmental Disabilities and enabled Connecticut to receive federal funding for implementing a plan to meet the needs for services to persons with developmental disabilities.

Now, through the Developmental Disabilities Assistance and Bill of Rights Act of 2000, the Council continues to invest federal funds in advocacy, capacity building, and systemic change activities that contribute to a coordinated, consumer- and family-centered, consumer- and family-directed, comprehensive system of community services, individualized supports, and other forms of assistance that enable individuals with developmental disabilities to exercise self-determination, be independent, be productive, and be integrated and included in all facets of community life.

I applaud the Connecticut Council on Developmental Disabilities for your dedication to supported self-advocacy by educating thousands of individuals with developmental disabilities and their families. You have promoted self-direction, self-determination, and person-centered services and supports for individuals with developmental disabilities and their families; developed more effective means for individuals who live with developmental disabilities to enter the workforce in meaningful, gratifying employment; and enabled individuals with developmental disabilities to live great lives in their own homes in their own communities.

You have my best wishes for your 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebration and for many years of continued success.

Therefore, I, Ned Lamont, Governor of the State of Connecticut,  
do hereby officially convey honor and recognition upon  
*The Connecticut Council on Developmental Disabilities*  
in the State of Connecticut.



*Ned Lamont*

GOVERNOR