What will the next twenty-five years bring?
In 2015 we celebrated the 25th Anniversary of the Americans with Disabilities Act. What will the next twenty-five years bring?

Over the past 34 years of the history of Disability Network, we can reflect upon significant changes that occurred across our communities of Southwest Michigan that ensured access and inclusion for all. This past year we took time out in July to reflect upon and recognize the magnitude of change as a result of the signing into law the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), the wide-ranging civil rights law intended to protect against discrimination based on disability, which occurred 25 years ago on July 26, 1990. The ADA, combined with all of the activities of the Disability Rights Movement and ongoing advocacy by advocates like Disability Network, is creating change in the areas of accessibility, employment accommodations, public transportation, access to health care, transition for youth from school to community, disability language, and community based living options.

The obvious question to ask at this juncture in our history is “what will the next 25 years bring”? Could the answer include that disability advocates have ensured the ADA is evident in all facets of life and inequities are nonexistent? Can we venture to think our supports and services will be provided to all those in need in a way that will promote opportunities to live full and exciting lives? These are the kind of questions we must continue to ask and focus on if the next 25 years will bring our vision of a community that values disability as human diversity, free of attitudinal barriers, where all people benefit with full access and inclusion to fruition! We look to our partners, including legislators, state agencies, human service providers, private and public schools, donors and customers, to collaborate with us on moving this vision forward over the next 25 years.

Joel Cooper, President & CEO
Federal & State Grants $ 984,184 40.5%
Contributions  216,286 8.9%
Interest Income  7,035 0.2%
Donated Materials & Services 98,947 4.0%
Program Service Fees 955,548 39.3%
Contract Services 162,492 6.7%
Other Revenue  3,873 0.1%
Total Revenues $ 2,428,365

Program Services $ 2,028,410 84.3%
Admin/Fund Development  376,605 15.7%
Total Expenses $ 2,405,015

Beginning Assets $ 1,071,747
Ending Assets  $ 1,095,097

8,739 people were served in 8 counties.
5,697 Information & Referral requests were answered.
1,048 people with disabilities received independent living supports.
16 ramps were built.
31 Veterans with disabilities received Independent Living supports.
28 people with disabilities were transitioned out of nursing facilities and into community based living. This saved Michigan taxpayers over $1,400,000.
319 people received Social Security Benefits Counseling.
We participated in 29 informational booths across 8 counties.
We facilitated 107 workshops and presentations for the community with 1,994 people participating.
Thank you to our Generous Donors!

Every effort has been made to ensure accuracy of this list. Please contact our office in the event of an error.