



April 9, 2024

Anjali Forber-Pratt, Ph.D.
Director

National Institute on Disability, Independent Living, and Rehabilitation Research
Administration for Community Living
U.S. Department of Health and Human Services
330 C Street SW
Washington, DC 20201

RE: NIDILRR Long Range Plan 2024-2028

Dear Director Forber-Pratt:

On behalf of the undersigned members of the Disability and Rehabilitation Research Coalition (DRRC), we write to extend our heartfelt gratitude for the recent unveiling of National Institute on Disability, Independent Living, and Rehabilitation Research (NIDILRR) 2024-2028 Long Range Plan. This comprehensive plan reflects a significant milestone in our collective efforts to advance disability, rehabilitation, and independent living research, and we commend NIDILRR for its unwavering commitment to this vital mission.

Throughout the development of this strategic plan, NIDILRR has demonstrated an exceptional commitment to engaging with stakeholders from across the disability community. By actively listening to the voices of individuals with disabilities, advocates, researchers, and service providers, NIDILRR has ensured that its strategic priorities are grounded in the lived experiences and diverse needs of the disability community.

The DRRC applauds NIDILRR's unwavering focus on inclusion and empowerment. By prioritizing the needs of people with disabilities in its strategic plan, NIDILRR is not only driving innovation and excellence in disability research and rehabilitation but also championing the fundamental rights and dignity of individuals with disabilities. We are confident that the implementation of NIDILRR's strategic plan will yield tangible and meaningful benefits for individuals with disabilities and their families. The DRRC stands ready to support NIDILRR in its efforts to drive progress and promote inclusivity for all.

Once again, we extend our sincere appreciation to you for your leadership and dedication to advancing opportunities for people with disabilities and organizations that support them. We look forward to working together to realize the vision outlined in NIDILRR's new strategic plan and to creating a more inclusive and accessible future for all.

Sincerely,

DRRC Member Organizations

Academy of Spinal Cord Injury Professionals
American Academy of Orthotists & Prosthetists

American Academy of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation
American Association on Health & Disability
American Congress of Rehabilitation Medicine
American Medical Rehabilitation Providers Association
American Music Therapy Association
American Occupational Therapy Association*
American Physical Therapy Association*
American Therapeutic Recreation Association
Amputee Coalition
Association of Academic Physiatrists*
Association of Rehabilitation Nurses
Association of University Centers on Disabilities
Brain Injury Association of America*
Christopher & Dana Reeve Foundation
National Association for the Advancement Orthotics & Prosthetics
National Association of Rehabilitation Research and Training Centers*
National Association of State Head Injury Administrators
National Neurotrauma Society
Paralyzed Veterans of America
Rehabilitation Engineering and Assistive Technology Society of North America
Spina Bifida Association
United Spinal Association
**** DRRC Steering Committee Member***