

New Legislative Educational Series Focuses on Supporting Older Adults and Individuals with Disabilities

By [Julie Moser](#)
Institute on Disability
603-862-3603

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CONCORD, N.H. -- Approximately 80 state representatives and senators are expected to attend the second session of an educational series for the N.H. State Legislature in March titled "Supporting Older Adults and Individuals with Disabilities in Your Community" sponsored by the Real Choice Advisory Council, in collaboration with Rep. Peter Batula and Sen. Jane O'Hearn.

The Real Choice System Change Project is a collaborative effort between New Hampshire's Department of Health and Human Services, Granite State Independent Living, the Institute of Health, Law and Ethics at Pierce Law Center and the Institute on Disability at the University of New Hampshire.

David Braddock, associate vice president for research at the University of Colorado, will present the session, "Financing Community Based Long Term Care," March 25, 2003, in Concord.

The series is an initiative of the Real Choice Systems Change grants awarded to New Hampshire by the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services. The \$2.3 million three-year project is in response to President George W. Bush's New Freedom Initiative "to help ensure that all Americans have the opportunity to live close to their families and friends, to live more independently, to engage in productive employment, and to participate in community life."

The Institute on Disability's mission is to promote the inclusion of people with disabilities into their schools

and communities. The institute works with students and faculty, conducts statewide training, participates in grant-funded model demonstration projects, conducts research and engages in collaborative partnerships with other statewide organizations that are committed to improving the lives of persons with disabilities and their families.

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