

Clarence H. Carter, Director

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Arizona again recognized as “Best Performing” for its Medicaid service to the disabled

PHOENIX – The Arizona Department of Economic Security announced today that, for the second year in a row, Arizona ranks as the nation’s “Best Performing” state when it comes to key outcomes for citizens with developmental disabilities. The annual rankings were released in a report entitled “The Case for Inclusion 2013,” compiled by United Cerebral Palsy (UCP). Arizona has been ranked first five times since the annual survey started in 2006. The report tracks how well state Medicaid programs serve Americans with intellectual and developmental disabilities (ID/DD).

According to the UCP report, Arizona took the top spot for its continued success through the Department of Economic Security’s Division of Developmental Disabilities (DDD) ensuring a majority of the states’ population of individuals living with developmental disabilities receive home-based care, in addition to the state using a managed-care model.

“We recognize the importance of allowing individuals with developmental disabilities to receive the services they need, but also keep their independence,” said Director Clarence Carter. “There is no greater pride for someone than knowing they can remain in their own home and live with their own family.”

The UCP report also recognizes Arizona for being a family-focused state, where support services are provided to families that are caring for children with disabilities in the home, which keeps families together and people living with a disability in a community setting.

“For us this is important, because it truly demonstrates our focus on families,” said Director Carter. “By providing these services in the home, our families have a chance to live a normal life.”

A full copy of the UCP “The Case for Inclusion 2013” report can be found at on the [UCP website](#). More information on the DES Division of Developmental Disabilities is available on the DES website.

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