



**CONSORTIUM FOR CITIZENS
WITH DISABILITIES**

Fiscal Policy Task Force
2011 Annual Report

2011 in review

The Fiscal Policy Task Force continued work this year advocating for sufficient funding to support programs that serve people with disabilities. Our primary areas of work were the following:

- 1) **Budget Response** – The Task Force coordinated efforts of CCD to craft a unified response to the President’s budget proposal released early in the year.
- 2) **Fiscal Commission Response** – The Task Force facilitated the dissemination of information about deficit reduction proposals coming out of formal and informal advisory groups to Congress and the White House.
- 3) **Deficit Reduction Act** – Throughout the Spring Congress and the Administration were in negotiations to develop a deficit reduction deal to allow the debt ceiling limit to be raised. There were multiple communications coordinated by the Task Force as well as meetings with hill staff to stress the importance of protecting programs of importance to people with disabilities.
- 4) **The Joint Select Committee on Deficit Reduction** – The Task Force served as the central clearing house for all information about the debates taking place in the Committee as they worked to achieve \$1.2 trillion in deficit reduction. Multiple Task Forces joined together and coordinated an unprecedented effort to make sure Congressional leaders understood what was at stake for people with disabilities in this discussion.
- 5) **Regular Appropriations** – The Task Force continued to serve as the central source for appropriations informant for other Task Forces as Fiscal 2011 and 2012 appropriations were crafted and finalized.

2012 Priorities

The Task Force foresees that the next year will continue to be volatile in the area of fiscal policy. In addition to regular order appropriations and budget work, Congress will be looking to alter the sequestration process and impact and continue to undertake massive and potentially harmful deficit reduction efforts, including potential cuts to entitlement programs. The Task Force will continue to coordinate with other task forces around fiscal policy analyses and advocacy.

Co-Chairs:

Jennifer Dexter – Easter Seals
Donna Meltzer – Epilepsy Foundation
Kim Musheno – AUCD