

Intellectual/Developmental Disabilities

- What are appropriate agencies to receive MI Funds?
- Several years ago it was referred to as the Drive for “Mental Retardation”
- Supreme Council, following the lead of Special Olympics International uses the term People with Intellectual Disabilities.
- The name was changed to be more publically acceptable and less negative, **but that does not change the definition of the people the drive was meant to help.**
- What is the definition of Intellectual Disability?

Intellectual Disability is characterized by significant limitations in both intellectual functioning and adaptive behavior which covers many everyday social and practical skills that have been learned in order to function in everyday life situations.

 - ✓ Significant limitations in **Intellectual Functioning** which means
 - ❖ intelligence
 - ❖ general mental capacity for things like problem solving, the ability to reason and understand
 - ❖ one criteria in measuring intellectual functioning is an IQ Test (Below 70)
 - ✓ Significant limitations in **Adaptive Behavior**, which includes conceptual, social, and practical skills that have been learned in order to function in everyday life situations
 - ❖ Conceptual skills include reading & writing, money concepts, and the ability to understand written or spoken language
 - ❖ Social skills are things like following rules, and obeying laws, how you interact with other people, and your own sense of self esteem
 - ❖ Practical skills include day to day activities such as routines, housekeeping, health & safety
 - ❖ To measure adaptive behavior, professionals look at what a person can do in comparison to others in the same age group **
- ✓ The last part of the definition is **Originates before the age of 18**. Many times present at birth
 - ❖ For someone to have an intellectual disability, whatever happened to change the typical course of development had to happen before the age of 18.
- Inappropriate distribution of funds:
 - ✓ Helping families in poverty
 - ✓ Pregnancy centers
 - ✓ Assisted living and housing for seniors
 - ✓ Disabled veterans
 - ✓ Mental Health Facilities
 - ✓ Organizations helping physically handicapped only
- **All worthy charities but not for MI Funding**