



SUPPORTING FAMILIES

of individuals with intellectual & developmental disabilities
THE NATIONAL COMMUNITY OF PRACTICE • FUNDED BY THE ADMINISTRATION ON INTELLECTUAL & DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES

CONNECTICUT STATE TEAM

Context

Connecticut Department of Developmental Services (DDS) served approximately 16,000 youth and adults with intellectual disabilities (ID) in 2015 through five HCBS Waivers: Comprehensive Support, Individual and Family Support, Employment and Supports, Home and Community Supports for Persons with Autism, and Early Childhood Autism Waiver. Current challenges in Connecticut include budget reductions and wait lists for services. Initiatives underway in the state include responding to federal and state policies including the HCBS Settings Rule, No Wrong Door, Balancing Incentives Program, and Person-Centered Planning for older adults accessing Department on Aging Services.

Goals

- Embed LifeCourse principles and practices in DDS services planning and school planning processes and connect with person-centered planning practices.
- Increase use of technology and social networking strategies (example: Tyze) as valued supports.
- Increase options available for high quality employment, housing, out-of-home respite, and in-home, positive behavior, and peer supports.
- Create a culture of creative and effective family/community partnerships.

Anticipated Outcomes

- Policies, practices, and supports reflect the needs of individuals with IDD and their families due to the high level of stakeholder leadership in development.
- Individuals and families experience increased independence and flexibility in supports through the use of technology.
- Families and individuals have a secure and effective way to manage their day-to-day supports through the use of technology.
- Individuals and families experience increased connection and involvement in community through the availability of high quality support services.

Activities

Discovery & Navigation

- Developing and disseminating information through Community of Practice focus area committees and workgroups.
- Identifying what is working or not working with existing Discovery and Navigation processes.

Connecting & Networking

- Training family mentors on LifeCourse principles and tools.
- Implementing web-based option that helps organize a support network around an individual.
- Working with Family Support Network and Parent-to-Parent to disseminate the message of the LifeCourse framework statewide.

Goods & Services

- Including LifeCourse principles as part of core competencies in training for in-home support providers.
- Developing a matrix of person-centered planning and LifeCourse tools for case managers.
- Partnering with Safe and Smart Campaign and Tech Act to increase knowledge and availability of technology supports.

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CT Council on
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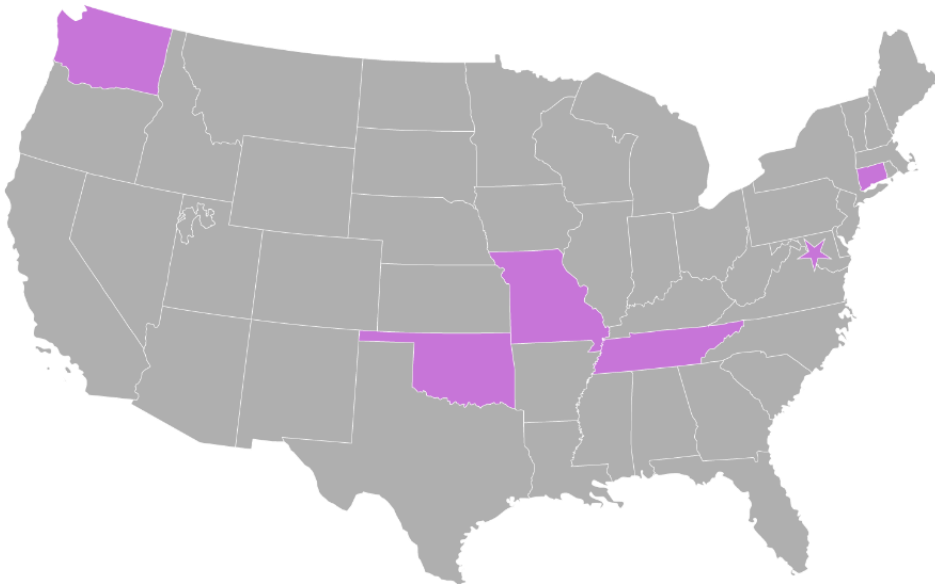
CT Department of
Developmental Services

Get Involved

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About the National Community of Practice



The overarching goal of the National Community of Practice for Supporting Families of Individuals with Intellectual & Developmental Disabilities is to develop, test, and learn from states how to recognize and support families so that they can continue to support their family member to be fully engaged in the community, whether that person is living at home or elsewhere in the community.

States are focusing on policies and practices that reach across an

individual's life span, think about all people with I/DD regardless of their connection to the formal systems, and work across agencies and communities to impact the trajectory of information.

Project Partners



This project is funded by the Administration on Intellectual & Developmental Disabilities, grant number ACF 90DN0298. AIDD is dedicated to ensuring that individuals with developmental disabilities and their families are able to fully participate in and contribute to all aspects of community life in the United States and its territories.