



SUPPORTING FAMILIES

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

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA COP

Context

The District of Columbia Developmental Disabilities Administration (DDA) served approximately 2,250 adults with intellectual disabilities (ID) in 2015. DDA operates one comprehensive Home and Community Based Services (HCBS) Waiver for adults with ID. Initiatives underway include embedding Person-Centered Thinking and Employment First into services and supports, transformation of the Long Term Services and Supports System supported by a No Wrong Door implementation grant, and building supports for less restrictive alternatives to guardianship and commitment, such as Supported Decision-Making, and systems change to promote community integration and compliance with the HCBS Settings Rule.

Goals

- Community engagement with families not previously reached, as well as non-profit and government partners.
- High quality person and family-centered supports for people with ID, including a framework for self-direction and peer-supports throughout the lifespan.
- End civil commitment of people with ID, build alternatives to guardianship, and return decision-making to people with ID and their families.
- Plan to address service gaps, including comprehensive supports for people with developmental disabilities throughout the lifespan and coordination of services and supports for youth with ID.

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 social networking technology.
- Individuals and families experience increased connection and involvement in community through the availability of high quality support services.

Activities

Discovery & Navigation

- Created legislative authority for stipends to support involvement of people with ID and their families.
- Established Family Support Council to guide DC agencies that support people with ID and their families.
- Developed and widely distributed Advocacy across the Lifespan guide to build advocacy skills of families.
- Use Person-Centered Thinking to focus on strengths and shared responsibility for change.
- Share information through a listserv and community partners.

Connecting & Networking

- Establish and sustain DC Parent-to-Parent Chapter.
- Train families in Families Planning Together and the LifeCourse Framework.

Goods & Services

- Partner with No Wrong Door to improve front door experience at DDA.
- Incorporate the LifeCourse Framework into Individual Support Planning.
- Build Medicaid infrastructure for participant directed goods and services.
- Work with people with IDD and their families to develop an IFS waiver.

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**DC Department on
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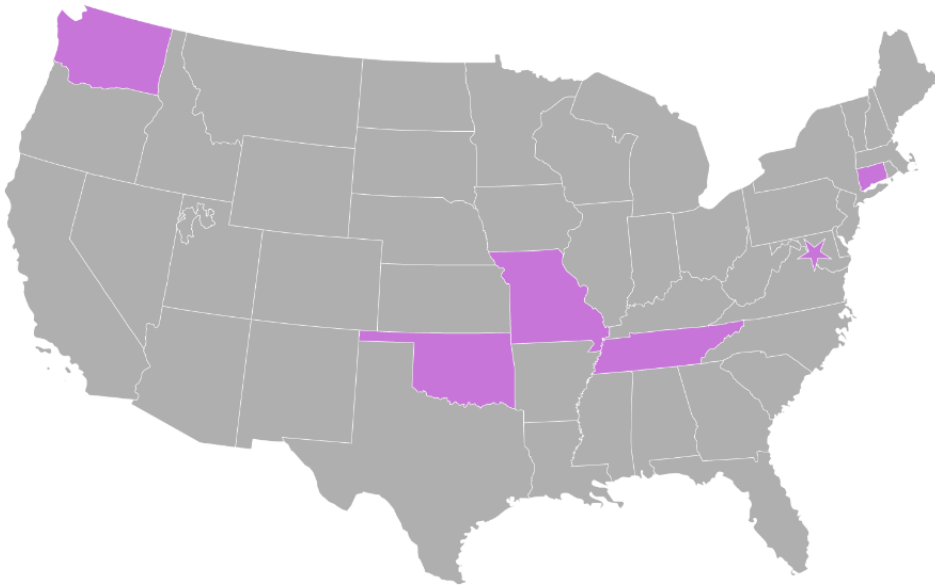
**DC Developmental
Disabilities Council**

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



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.