



Community of Practice for Supporting Families of Individuals with Intellectual & Developmental Disabilities

About the Community of Practice

The National Community of Practice for Supporting Families of Individuals with Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities will help five states develop systems of support for families throughout the lifespan of their family member with intellectual and developmental disabilities. The objective of the grant is to develop systems of supports for families throughout the lifespan of their family member.

Facilitating the Community of Practice

Grant partners include

- National Association of State Directors for Developmental Disability Services (NASDDDS)
- University of Missouri-Kansas City – Institute for Human Development (UMKC-IHD)
- Human Services Research Institute (HSRI)
- National Association of Councils on Developmental Disabilities (NACDD)

Goals of the CoP

The goals of the Community of Practice are:

- to create a model framework for supporting families that addresses the needs of families with a family member with I/DD across the lifespan and supports states to develop and sustain exemplary family support practices.
- to develop and facilitate a multi-level Community of Practice designed to build capacity within states and the nation to create policies, practices, and systems to better assist and support families that include a member with I/DD across the lifespan.
- to capture and share lessons learned and products to develop, implement and sustain exemplary practices to support families and systems

The Goal of Supporting Families

The overall goal of supporting families, with all of their complexity, strengths and unique abilities is so they can best support, nurture, love and facilitate opportunities for the achievement of self-determination, interdependence, productivity, integration, and inclusion in all facets of community life for their family members.



from Building a National Agenda for Supporting Families with Member with I/DD 2011

Learn about policies and practices for supporting families, find resources connect with the Community of Practice, and share your ideas about supporting families:



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