



State of Connecticut
Department of Developmental Services

DDS

Ned Lamont
Governor

Jordan A. Scheff
Commissioner

Elisa F. Velardo
Deputy Commissioner

April 19, 2023

Dear All,

STEP (Supporting Transformation to Empower People) is a rare opportunity, with financial incentives, for providers to move towards more integrated and community-based settings that promote independence and freedom of choice for the people they support. **DDS invites all providers operating congregate settings to participate in this transformation!**

We are excited to share the updated Transition Plan templates for STEP! Complete and submit a STEP Transition Plan to launch your participation in this opportunity. Phase One participants provided feedback to make these streamlined and easier for providers to use. Please take some time to take a look at the new, revised Transition Plan Templates on the DDS site as we move into STEP. Consider engaging now with your DDS Regional Office contacts to confirm your thinking and engage their support. Upcoming resources and informational sessions will highlight opportunities to leverage DDS activities and funding to support successful transformation for the people you support and your organization.

You can download the current STEP materials and Transition Plan Templates from the [DDS Website Provider Gateway](#). STEP includes technical assistance to providers in developing and implementing Transition Plans. You are invited to join open office hours Friday, April 21, 28, May 5, and 12 from 10:00 to 11:00am. [Use this link to join](#). You can also [request one on one Technical Assistance](#). More information about ongoing office hours will be shared in the coming weeks.

DDS is also conducting Information Sessions. The session will provide important information necessary for learning about STEP, and understanding what opportunities STEP presents for providers.

The Information Session will be conducted virtually on:

- Thursday, May 18, 2023, from 3:00 to 4:00pm
- A recording will also be available on the DDS Provider Gateway following the session

Please secure this date on your calendar and plan to attend. You will also receive a meeting invitation and educational materials prior to the information session.

We look forward to collaborating with you on STEP!

Sincerely,
The DDS ARPA Team



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