

# Self-Direction

Self-Direction allows you to become the employer of the people you choose to hire to provide your supports. As the employer, you can set the schedule, assign duties and supervise your own staff.

Self-Direction gives you the most control over the supports you receive.



▲ Scan the QR code to visit [ct.gov/STEP](http://ct.gov/STEP) for more information

## How is Self-Direction typically staffed?

- You are the employer
- You hire, train, and fire your employees
- You can hire acquaintances, neighbors, students, retired persons, co-workers, and others that you know as your employees
- Your case manager can assist you to use a statewide database of people who want to be hired directly by individuals and families
- DDS provides a payroll company, called Fiscal Intermediary, to help with background checks and to help you pay your staff
- You have the option to hire a supervisor to help you manage your staff



(above & left)  
Self-direction supports enable Kyle to run his own farm



## What are the potential challenges?

- As the employer, you are responsible for your staff
- You will need to hire, train, supervise and potentially fire your staff if needed
- You will need to keep track and approve your staff hours
- You will need to staff within your DDS budget
- You need to be organized to manage your staff

## What are some of the benefits?

- You have control over who works with you
- You make the schedule and assign the work you need from your staff
- You supervise your own staff
- You have your own DDS budget that helps you manage your support to meet your needs
- Your staff are hired to work directly with you
- Training on self-direction is provided to you through DDS

## How can I learn more?

- Talk to your Case Manager
- Visit the STEP website: [ct.gov/STEP](http://ct.gov/STEP) ▶
- DDS website to learn more about Self-Direction: [tinyurl.com/553339az](http://tinyurl.com/553339az) ▶
- Fourth Tuesday Forum on Self-Directed Services: [tinyurl.com/mwnp9tmu](http://tinyurl.com/mwnp9tmu) ▶
- Learn about managing a budget and more through the Public Partnership (PPL) training: [tinyurl.com/6bjuv49b](http://tinyurl.com/6bjuv49b) ▶
- Learn more about the Self-Advocate Coordinators.
- Self-Advocacy and Self-Determination webpages in the Advocate's Corner: [tinyurl.com/4rruh583](http://tinyurl.com/4rruh583) ▶

