

BE EXCEPTIONAL LEARNING CORNER



Training Announcements

The Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Disabilities (DBHDD), Office of Human Resources and Learning, are offering virtual and in-person trainings. Listed below are those currently scheduled. For more information regarding trainings, [click here](#).



- [DD Participant Direction New Enrollment Training](#)

If you have any questions, please contact DBHDDLearning@dbhdd.ga.gov.

2024 DD Learning Collaborative

**Lanier Islands Legacy Lodge
May 1st & May 2nd, 2024**

**DON'T
MISS IT!**

The Georgia Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Disabilities, Division of Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities, Office of Transitions and the Office of Human Resources & Learning is pleased to announce the 2024 DD Learning Collaborative.

This year's theme is Elevating Voices, Nurturing Dreams: Empowering Community Inclusion! We are excited to add a pre-conference on April 30, 2024, this year! The pre-conference will focus on autism, inclusion, community and innovation.

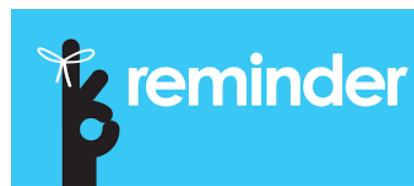
We will have multiple topics targeted to providing resources and tools available to help support individuals to become the best version of themselves while meeting the individuals' particular needs.

[Click here to register!](#)

If you have any questions, please contact DBHDDLearning@dbhdd.ga.gov. Deadline to register is April 22, 2024, at 5:00 pm.

IDD Statewide Provider Meetings

**May 21st - 23rd, 2024
9:00 am to 2:00 pm**



The DBHDD Division of Developmental Disabilities will be hosting in-person Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities (IDD) Statewide Provider meetings. The IDD Provider meetings will be scheduled every quarter in 3 different locations to accommodate those which are in

the north, south and metro Atlanta areas.

Stay tuned for registration information!

- May 21st - Tifton
- May 22nd - Macon
- May 23rd - Douglasville

IMPORTANT NOTE: All IDD Providers are required per their Letter of Agreement (LOA) to have a representative in attendance at the IDD Statewide Provider Meetings.

Transformational Change: Strengthening Person-Centered Service Delivery within the HCBS Settings Rule

**May 8th & 9th, 2024
Savannah, Georgia**

The Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Disabilities (DBHDD) is pleased to offer an interactive workshop for DD service providers, Support Coordinators and Field Office staff to better understand the intent and expectations of the Medicaid Home and Community Based Services (HCBS) Settings Rule. This one-day training will be offered on May 8th and repeated on May 9th in Savannah.

The Transformation Change workshop will be offered multiple times across the state as an opportunity to learn and gain ideas to shift HCBS from a systems-framework to a more individualized framework where the person who uses services is at the center of his/her life, determining preferences, having autonomy, and making choices which work for them. A deeper understanding of the purpose of the Rule and how to implement will create the “shift” to more person-centered practices in our daily work. Furthermore, through our better understanding of the foundation of person-centered practices in service provision, the people we work for will begin to realize their individual role and live out their dreams versus the usual, traditional manner in which services have been considered, discussed, and provided.

[Click here to register!](#)

Additional sessions will be offered in Athens, Waycross, Columbus, Albany, Cartersville, and Atlanta in May, June & July 2024.

If you have any questions, please contact DBHDDLearning@dbhdd.ga.gov.

The 17th Annual Georgia SOCA conference registration is now open!

The Georgia Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Disabilities, Office of Children, Young Adults, and Families and the Georgia Interagency Directors Team are pleased to announce the 2024 Georgia System of Care Academy (SOCA) Conference!

The 17th Annual Georgia SOCA conference is scheduled for June 26-28, 2024, at the Atlanta Evergreen Lakeside Resort in Stone Mountain, Georgia. The theme this year is **Innovate** → **Integrate** → **Motivate**. The 2024 SOCA workshop tracks are as follows: **INNOVATE** Clinical Development Track (Clinical Development), **INTEGRATE** System Principles (GA SOC Foundations), and **MOTIVATE** Professional Development (Professional Development).



[Click here for more information and to register for this event.](#)

Registration for this event is first-come, first-served then a waitlist will open. Registration officially closes on Tuesday, April 30th, but historically, it fills up quickly.

For any questions, please contact DBHDDLearning@dbhdd.ga.gov.



SAVE THE DATES!

DBHDD Behavioral Health Symposium

OCTOBER 9 - 11, 2024

Pre-Symposium October 9th
Lanier Islands Legacy Lodge and Conference Center - Buford, GA

Join us IN-PERSON for the Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Disabilities (DBHDD), Division of Behavioral Health annual Behavioral Health Symposium to inform professionals about best practices in the delivery of behavioral health services and supports.

2024 BEHAVIORAL HEALTH SYMPOSIUM

		
<p>Book your hotel room early! Call 770-945-8787 Mention "DBHDD 2024 BH Symposium" for group room block</p>	<p>Call for Workshop Proposals NOW OPEN!!</p>	<p>Behavioral Health Awards nominations are now open! CLICK HERE for more details</p>

[Click Here to Submit a Proposal](#)

Deadline to Submit: May 9, 2024

For additional information regarding the Call for Proposals, email ssu@cviog.uga.edu.
For general information about DBHDD, please go to <http://dbhdd.georgia.gov>

Featured Article

ATTENTION! IDD Connects Users

Did you know IDD Connects (IDDC) and ProviderConnect are two (2) different systems. You must maintain active user accounts for both systems.

This allows you to continue to access both applications.

IMPORTANT NOTE: You need to log into IDDC via the ProviderConnect system as your normal login procedure by selecting the IDDC Portal link under the External Systems section.

HOWEVER: You must log directly into the **IDC Connects system at least once a month**. This will keep your IDDC account active and keep you from being locked out of the system.



Division of Behavioral Health

DBHDD Behavioral Health Awards

**2024 Behavioral Health Symposium
October 9th - 11th, 2024**



The DBHDD Behavioral Health Awards honors providers and community partners whose leadership, service, and collaboration has had a significant impact on the field of behavioral health. Don't miss your opportunity to nominate yourself or another provider!

Please join us as we recognize and celebrate providers and community partners which have made an outstanding impact on the lives of those who face behavioral health challenges through service, innovation, and partnership. Award winners will be announced and celebrated at the annual BH Awards Ceremony on October 9, 2024, at Legacy Lodge and Conference Center (Buford, GA).

See the announcement, at the link below, for award category descriptions and links to the nomination forms. **The nomination deadline for all awards is, Friday, May 31, 2024.**

For general questions regarding the BH Symposium, contact ssu@cviog.uga.edu.
For submission website or technical questions, contact DBHDDLearning@dbhdd.ga.gov.

Behavioral Health Awards Announcement

Georgia Opioid Crisis Abatement Trust to Hold Workshops

The Georgia Opioid Crisis Abatement Trust will host a series of informational workshops across Georgia for prospective applicant-organizations and local government officials concerning the first round of settlement fund grants. Opioid Crisis Abatement Trustee and Georgia Department of Behavioral Health & Developmental Disabilities Commissioner Kevin Tanner will host the events along with several subject-matter experts.

IN CASE YOU
MISSED IT ...

“As we begin the process of putting these settlement dollars to work, it is imperative that we educate those who will be applying for these funds to ensure a fair and orderly process,” said Georgia Opioid Crisis Abatement Trustee Kevin Tanner. “Working together, we will save lives as we combat the opioid crisis in our state.”

Dates, times and locations for the workshops are as follows:

Monday, April 15th at 1:30 p.m. – Macon
Mercer University School of Medicine
1550 College Street
Macon, GA 31207

Monday, April 29th at 1:30 p.m. – Brunswick
Coastal College of Georgia
One College Drive
Brunswick, GA 31521

Monday, May 13th at 10:00 a.m. – Columbus
Mercer University School of Medicine
1633 1st Avenue
Columbus, GA 31901

These workshops will include information on the grant criteria, application process, and timeline for the first round of settlement fund grants. A Q&A session will follow the presentation.

All attendees should RSVP for the respective workshop they wish to attend at <https://forms.office.com/g/6EV2cT8kug>.

Change to DBHDD Supportive Housing Referral Pathway



Effective April 1st, 2024, all referrals for supportive housing for individuals belonging to the settlement target population submitted to DBHDD will first be routed to apply for assistance with an application to federally funded resources such as the Housing Choice Voucher (HCV) Program or HUD 811 Program.

[Read more regarding this process change by clicking here.](#)

Division of Developmental Disabilities

Evolving The IDD Service Continuum to Better Serve Georgia

A Brief for the New Community Residential Alternative Models



The Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Disabilities (DBHDD) is committed to empowering individuals with intellectual and/or developmental disabilities (IDD) through a well-rounded, community-based care system. Our goal is to enhance the lives of those with intellectual and developmental disabilities, easing the challenges they face and ensuring they can live as independently as possible and as close to their communities and families as feasible.

DBHDD is pioneering a more robust, customized model of Community Residential Alternative (CRA) to elevate care for individuals with IDD, Complex Care Needs (IDD-CCN). This model is designed to bring stability and improve the quality of life and greater integration into communities for those with severe aggression, self-abusive behaviors, and other challenging conditions which have been difficult to manage under the existing system.

[Click here to read more.](#)

Question for your Provider Relations Team?

The **Provider Issue Management System (PIMS)** is your online source to have your questions answered in a consistent, reliable and timely way! In addition to providing a timely response, the information we gather from PIMS will assist DBHDD in trending common concerns, developing FAQs, and informing policy reviews. You can access the PIMS site directly by using the link below.

Provider Issue Management System

PIMS is also accessible through the [DBHDD website](#) by selecting the "**Submit a Question to Provider Relations**" tile on the DBHDD homepage.

Director
Anna Bourque

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For Provider Relations inquiries,
please contact us at
DBHDD.Provider@dbhdd.ga.gov.



BE WELL



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