

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](#).

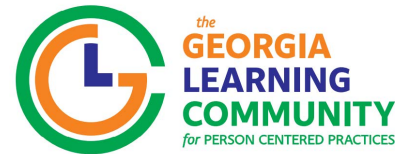
- [IDD Participant Direction New Enrollment Training](#)



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

The Georgia Gathering

September 5 - 6, 2024
Unicoi State Park
Helen, Ga



The 2024 Georgia Gathering is just over a month away. This year's theme is **"Turning Our Possibilities Into Reality"**. Don't miss the chance to hear from our special guest, Dr. Alonzo Kelly, and participate in everyone's favorite activities like karaoke, the bonfire and breakout sessions with some excellent presenters!

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

Person-Centered Thinking Training for IDD Providers



IntellectAbility, in collaboration with DBHDD, is providing free Person-Centered Thinking (PCT) Training to all IDD provider staff. See below for more information and registration details.

About the Training

Person-Centered Thinking Training consists of two-parts:

Part 1: Person-Centered Thinking eLearn. This 3-hour eLearn course is housed within the Relias Learning Management System. To find it search for "A Course on Person-Centered Thinking" within Relias.

Part 2: A One-day virtual PCT training with a GA Learning Community Trainer. This is a

Zoom-based virtual training with a live trainer.

Important Information:

1. At the conclusion of the eLearn course in Part 1, the learner will have the opportunity to register for the one-day, virtual training.
2. Learners must upload their certificate from Part 1 to register for Part 2.
3. Information to join the selected training day will be sent after the registration is approved.
4. To receive the full Person-Centered Thinking Training, both Part 1 and 2 must be successfully completed.
5. The learner will receive a certificate for each training part.

If you have already completed Part 1, [click here](#) to register for Part 2.

Want to learn even more about the training and other person-centered information that relates to you? Click the link below to access the FAQs.

[Person-Centered Thinking Training FAQs](#)

Featured Article

CheckPT Training Cancelled

The Georgia Bureau of Investigation (GBI) has informed us of unforeseen delays with the launch of Idemia as the new fingerprint vendor for the State of Georgia.



As a result, the trainings for CheckPT scheduled for August 28th and 29th have been cancelled. As we receive more information from the GBI regarding a launch date, the trainings will be rescheduled, and those dates will be communicated to you.

Thank you for your patience as the launch of Idemia as the new fingerprint vendor across the state is a massive undertaking for GBI which has impacts on our launch of CheckPT.

Stay tuned for more information as it becomes available.

Office of Health and Wellness

ATTENTION IDD RNs & LPNs!

Curriculums in IDD Healthcare Training Course



A required training for all RNs and LPNs was updated in the DBHDD [Provider Manual for Community Developmental Disability Providers](#) effective April 1, 2024.

RNs and LPNs hired or approved as new providers from January 1, 2024, onward are required to complete the **Relias Course** titled: **Curriculums in IDD Healthcare** for a minimum of six (6) hours of CEUs as orientation training.

All RNs and LPNs who were hired or approved as new providers prior to January 1, 2024, are required to take *Curriculums in IDD Healthcare* no later than December 31, 2024.

DBHDD Reminder



With summer sun comes the lure of ocean breezes at the beach, a day on the lake with a boat trip, relaxing in a hot tub or warm spring or a dip in the pool or activities at a Splash Park. Water activities such as swimming, water aerobics, or just floating on a raft can be extremely beneficial to people with or without disabilities.

Water fitness activities can

- improve heart and lung function,
- improve motor skills and coordination,
- helps to maintain a healthy weight,
- reduces pain by alleviating pressure on joints and muscles,
- supports independence,
- improves social wellbeing and mental health.



As with any person engaging in activities including water, it is important to mitigate risks and be informed about basic water safety. In a survey conducted by the American Red Cross, approximately 54% of all Americans either can't swim at all or don't have basic swimming skills needed to be safe in aquatic environments. The Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Disabilities wants to ensure people can make informed choices and have the dignity of risk when engaging in summertime (or anytime) water activities all while reducing the potential for adverse outcomes.

Below are some water safety tips and things to consider when planning water activities for people according to the American Red Cross:

- Develop a plan and know what to do in a water emergency.
 1. Learn/Know the signs for when a person is struggling or drowning.
 2. Make sure appropriate life saving devices (such as reach poles, lifesaver floats) are available and accessible in water areas.
 3. Learn how to help someone in a water emergency, such as "reach or throw, don't go."
 4. How to call for emergency services.
 5. CPR

- Create layers of protection
 1. Ensure physical barriers to prevent access to water, if a pool at home, a water break alarm in conjunction with a physical barrier.
 2. Educate individuals on the importance of informing someone when they want to go near or in water.
 3. Correctly sized and fitted life jackets (when appropriate for the activity and skill level).
 4. Line of sight supervision.
- Review water safety plan and tips with individuals prior to water activities and upon arrival.
- Educate individuals on how to signal (call) for help when in distress.
- Never swim alone, use a swim buddy system.
- When using public water areas, make sure lifeguards are present and individuals can identify the lifeguards.
- Be a “water watcher” avoid all unnecessary distractions such as phones or computers.
- Do not use drugs or alcohol when engaging in water activities or supervising people.

The American Red Cross has a free online course for Water Safety for Parents & Caregivers and a variety of safety infographic posters in their Water Safety Resource Center. Click the link for more information and resources: <https://www.redcross.org/get-help/how-to-prepare-for-emergencies/types-of-emergencies/water-safety.html>.

Office of Provider Relations & ASO Coordination

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.

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For Provider Relations inquiries,
please contact us at
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BE WELL



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