

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**
- **HRST: One Day Training for Intensive/ Support Coordinators, State Service Coordinators, and Intensive SC Clinical Supervisors**

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

IDD Statewide Provider Meetings

February 6th - 8th, 2024
9:00 am to 2:00 pm



The DBHDD Division of Developmental Disabilities will be hosting 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. The February IDD Provider Meeting schedule is below, along with the agenda.

[Click here to register!](#)

- **February 6th** - UGA Tifton Campus Conf Center - Tifton
- **February 7th** - Anderson Conference Center - Macon
- **February 8th** - Douglasville Conference Center - Douglasville

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

[IDD Statewide Provider Meeting Agenda](#)

The Learning Journey with

Deadline Extended



This Learning Journey is designed for provider agencies seeking to further commit to a foundation of supporting self-advocates and person-centered practices. With support from DBHDD, Sangha Unity Network (SUN) will facilitate a third cohort of agency teams and together will re-imagine shifting services from system-guided to services which are created and led by the people we work for and stand with. This eight (8) month commitment offers personal growth for individual participants *and* collective discovery for provider organizations.

Provider organizations/members who apply for this opportunity will make a personal and organizational commitment to begin and sustain this journey. **One provider organization will be chosen from each Region.**

To apply, a provider agency must have commitment from a seven (7) member team comprised of:

- 2 Self-Advocates (people with I/DD supported by the agency)
- 2 Direct Support Professionals
- 2 Supervisor/Managers
- 1 representative from Executive Leadership

Agencies must complete the nine (9) question application and submit a letter detailing the agency's commitment on agency letterhead by **January 26, 2024**, to katie@sanghaunitynetwork.org.



Intellectual and Developmental Disability Provider Training Opportunity

The Georgia Collaborative ASO and DBHDD present the following training opportunity for IDD Providers. Please click on the title of the training to register.

An Overview of Person-Centered Planning for Service Coordinators
Friday, January 19, 2024, 10:00 am to 11:00 am

This webinar will focus on person-centered planning from a support coordination perspective. It will provide helpful suggestions on how to support individuals with their plans and goals.

Please note this training is targeted for IDD providers, Support Coordination, Direct Support Professionals and Planning List Administrators. For any questions or registration issues, please contact GaCollaborativePR@carelon.com.

IDD Provider Certification & Accreditation Requirements



Intellectual and Developmental Disability (IDD) providers authorized to receive an amount of **less than \$250,000** annually are required to successfully complete a Certification Review and maintain proof of certification at all times in accordance with the [Accreditation and Compliance Review Requirements for Providers of Developmental Disability Services, 02-703](#) policy.

IDD providers must submit an updated application requesting re-certification at least 90 days prior to the expiration of its current certification. New and existing providers requiring certification must complete **Attachment A: DBHDD Application for Certification – Revised 5/25/2022** found in policy 02-703 and submit the application along with required documents outlined on the application to Provider.Certification@dbhdd.ga.gov.

IDD providers authorized to receive an amount equal to or **more than \$250,000** annually are required to be accredited. Selection of an Approved Accrediting Body must occur within thirty (30) days after crossing the funding threshold and accreditation must be achieved within twelve (12) months of applying for accreditation. Policy 02-703 lists the Approved Accrediting Bodies. IDD providers must submit the outcome of their accreditation review to the Georgia Collaborative ASO via GACollaborativePR@carelon.com.

Questions regarding certification requirements can be directed to Provider.Certification@dbhdd.ga.gov.

Division of Developmental Disabilities

Webinar Recordings & Presentations Now Available

Available Openings for DOL Apprenticeship Pathway



The Georgia Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Disabilities, Division of Developmental Disabilities hosted introductory sessions for three **DSP Workforce Pilots** on November 1st, 2nd, 3rd, 2023.

Greta O'Dell with River Edge Community Service Board, Diane Wilush with United Cerebral Palsy (UCP) and Dr. Carol Britton-Laws with the Institute on Human Development and Disabilities (IHDD) at the University of Georgia (UGA) facilitated the webinars alongside the DBHDD Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities (IDD) team.

DBHDD is excited to announce there is still space available for the Department of Labor (DOL) apprenticeship pathway. To apply, review the recording and PowerPoint from the introductory session which is available on our [DBHDD IDD Provider Toolkit webpage](#). A direct link to the recording of the webinar is available below:

- **Thursday, November 2, 2023:** DOL Apprenticeship Pathway

Additional information

DBHDD is leading pilots for three pathways for Direct Support Professionals (DSP) to earn a competency-based certification which recognizes their knowledge and skill in supporting people with intellectual and developmental disabilities in community-based settings. Two (2) of the pathways are full at this time.

- Each pathway includes approximately 50 hours of competency-based online instruction through Relias or the College of Direct Support and an assessment which will lead to a Direct Support Professional Entry-level credential (DSP-1).
- Certification is based on the Center for Medicare and Medicaid Services Core Competencies for Direct Support Workers.
- There is no cost to the DSP for participating in any of the pathways to certification.
- Each DSP who earns a DSP certification, regardless of pathway, will receive a one-time bonus/stipend.
 - DSP I Certification = \$5000 bonus
- Each pilot will seek to support 200 DSPs to earn DSP-1 certification by January 31st, 2025.
- The three credentialing programs will kick off in February 2024, and pilots will end on January 31, 2025.

Registration information for the DOL Apprenticeship Pathway is located in its respective PowerPoint presentation available on the [DBHDD Provider Toolkit webpage](#).

Office of Incident Management & Compliance



Background Check Update

The Georgia Bureau of Investigations (GBI) announced on November 3, 2023, Idemia & Security USA, LLC (Idemia) has been awarded the GAPS contract for background check processing and will be replacing Fieldprint around May 2024.

We will continue to provide information on this transition as it becomes available.

Incident Reporting Reminders

When reporting incidents in Image it is okay to use staff names in the incident description. You do not need to use the Image assigned alias when mentioning staff.

When mentioning individuals in the incident report, you must utilize the Image assigned alias found in Stage 3 when creating the incident report.

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.

Director
Anna Bourque

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



BE WELL



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