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Training Announcements

IDD Statewide Provider Meetings

February 6th - 8th, 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.

[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.

The Learning Journey with Sangha Unity Network

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 Friday, January 5, 2024**, to katie@sanghaunitynetwork.org.



Intellectual and Developmental Disability Provider Training Opportunities

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

An Individual's Communication Style and How to Support Them Thursday, January 4, 2024, 11:00 am to 12:00 pm

This webinar session is designed to help staff understand the various communication styles specific to people with intellectual and developmental disabilities, other disabilities, and how to support them. Participants will learn more about specifics on how to increase their comfort level and communication skills.

The Path from Pre-Vocation to Competitive Integrated Employment Tuesday, January 9, 2024, 9:30 am to 10:30 am

This webinar will review how to introduce individuals to the path of employment and help identify their interests in working in the community. The training will address how to transition from pre-vocational supports to integrated employment and what supports and services are available to individuals in gaining competitive employment.

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.

Featured Article

Quality Enhancement Provider Reviews



Community Life Focused Outcome Area

As Intellectual and Developmental Disability Providers may recall, DBHDD instructed Qlarant to resume collecting data during providers' Quality Enhancement Provider Reviews (QEPRs) on the Community Life Focused Outcome Area (FOA) in March 2023. This section of the QEPR had not been scored since October 1, 2021, due to the COVID-19 Public Health Emergency (PHE), which ended on May 11, 2023.

The Appendix K, which governed the ability to create flexibilities in our NOW/COMP waivers, also ended on November 11th, 2023, at 6 months post the end of the federal PHE. This data collection used the standard Qlarant tool for Community Life and was not calculated into the overall QEPR score for providers during this timeframe.

Effective for all reviews beginning January 1, 2024, and later, Qlarant will resume scoring the Community Life FOA and the results will be calculated into the overall QEPR score as it was prior to the public health emergency.

The scored items in the Community Life section of the Qlarant review tool begin on page 23 and can be found here: [QEPR Provider Record Review](#).

Two webinars to acquaint providers with this FOA were held in November and December 2023. The trainings were recorded and the links to each recording are provided below.

- [Community Engagement and Documentation Part I](#)
- [Community Engagement and Documentation Part II](#)

For those providers who would like a copy of the PowerPoint used during these presentations, click the links below.

- [Community Life Engagement and Documentation - Part I](#)
- [Community Life Engagement and Documentation - Part II](#)

DBHDD Policy Information

Since December 1, 2023, DBHDD updated or developed the following policies:

[Family Support Services Participant Eligibility, 02-406](#)

[Provider Manual for Community Behavioral Health Providers, 01-112](#)

[Provider Manuals for Community Developmental Disability Providers, 02-1201](#)

Please direct all policy-related questions to the Office of Provider Relations via the Provider Issue Management System (PIMS). To submit your questions, [click here](#).

JUST A REMINDER...

Question for your Provider Relations Team?

The **Provider Issues 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 ISSUES 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
Carole Crowley
Sharon Pyles

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



BE WELL



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