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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.



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.



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.

Quality Review - Staff Qualifications **Monday, May 13, 2024, 11:00 am to 12:00 pm**

This webinar will provide an overview of staff qualification and training expectations which are reviewed during a quality review.

Georgia National Core Indicator (NCI) Data Presentation **Wednesday, May 15, 2024, 10:00 a to 11:00 am**

This webinar will consist of a review of National Core Indicator data collected in the State of Georgia on key outcomes of people receiving services including relationships, employment, community inclusion, staff stability, rights, guardianship, individual planning and planning support. It will also cover data reflecting the workforce crisis and support for families. Georgia data will be compared to national norms and recommendations based upon areas of concerns will be shared with participants in efforts to improve the delivery of service and support.

Person Centered Planning for Direct Support Professional **National Core Indicate (NCI) Data Presentation** **Monday, May 20, 2024, 9:30 am to 10:30 am**

This webinar will discuss person-centered principles, planning and person-centered practices. Principles stress which services and supports should be designed to reflect what is important to and important for a person. The person-centered plan should include services which support the individual's goals and preferences.

Attendees will learn how person-centered practices help staff to support individuals to gain and develop more control over their own lives. Examples of how to support individuals to make choices and to become more self-determining will be shared. National Core Indicators data for Georgia reflect the extent to which person-centered principles in people's lives will be discussed.

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 Statewide Provider Meetings

May 21st - 23rd, 2024
9:00 am to 12:30 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. The agenda is available at the



link below.

[Click here to register!](#)

- May 21st - UGA Tifton Campus Conf Center - 15 R D C Rd, Tifton, GA 31794
- May 22nd - Anderson Conference Center - 5171 Eisenhower Pkwy suite D, Macon, GA 31206
- May 23rd - Douglasville Conference Center - 6700 Church St, Douglasville, GA 30134

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.

[IDD Provider Meeting Agenda](#)



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



Book your hotel room early!

Call 770-945-8787
Mention "DBHDD
2024 BH Symposium"
for group room block



Call for Workshop Proposals

NOW OPEN!!

[Click Here to Submit a Proposal](#)

Deadline to Submit: May 9, 2024



Behavioral Health Awards nominations are now open!

[CLICK HERE](#)
for more details

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

Direct Support Professional Training and Assessment Program

Accepting New Registrants for the DSP Entry Level Credential for Fall 2024

Interested Direct Support Professionals (DSPs) must complete a self-paced online competency-based training (50 hours) through the College of Direct Support administered by the University of Georgia (UGA) and take an exam which will be proctored remotely online. Certified DSPs will receive a one-time bonus of \$6200. The exam will be offered in January 2025.



This online credentialing option is open to those who are already employed by support providers, those in self-direction, or those who are interested in working with adults with intellectual and developmental disabilities. DSPs who are already in another certification program are not eligible.

Registration will be open from May 1st to June 30th, 2024.

Registration and more Information is available here: <https://www.fcs.uga.edu/ihdd/direct-support-professional-credentialing>.

For any questions, contact DSPWorkforce@uga.edu.

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**

Division of Developmental Disabilities

**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
REMINDERS**

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 **IDD Connects system** at least once a month. This will keep your IDDC account active and keep you from being locked out of the system.

Evolving The IDD Service Continuum to Better Serve Georgia

A Brief for the New Community Residential Alternative Models

IN CASE YOU
MISSED IT ...

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.](#)

Office of Disaster Mental Health Services

RELIAS Disaster Trainings for Providers

As we quickly approach hurricane season, it is important to ensure all staff are appropriately trained in the potential disasters which may impact your area. While hurricanes are not a threat everywhere, the potential for flooding, excessive rain, tornadoes, and power outages are common throughout Georgia. The following training courses, available in RELIAS, are a great starting point on your disaster preparedness journey.



- Essentials of Disaster Preparedness Self- Paced
- Emergency Preparedness Regulations
- Disaster Behavioral Health: Public Health Emergencies, Trauma, and Resilience

It is recommended at least one individual per facility completes these courses.

If you have any questions regarding disaster preparedness or trainings, please reach out to

Crisis Counseling Assistance & Training Program Updates



The Crisis Counseling Assistance and Training program (CCP) helps individuals and communities recover from natural and human-caused disasters through community outreach and access to mental health services. The program supports short-term interventions that help:

- disaster survivors understand their current situation and reactions to the problems caused or worsened by the disaster;
- reduce stress and provide emotional support;
- assist survivors in understanding their disaster recovery options;
- promote the use or development of coping strategies;
- connect survivors with other people or agencies who can help them to recover from the disaster.

Information below highlights CCP assistance provided to Georgians through the Georgia Recovery Project.

DR-4738 - Hurricane Idalia

September 2023 - April 2024

Disaster Outreach Services: Secondary Services (Media Outreach)

- 5,798 clicks, with most coming from those age 34-44.
- Most individuals that clicked on the ads were males.
- Valdosta, GA was the zip code we have seen the most clicks in (648).

UPCOMING EVENTS

Georgia Emergency Preparedness
Coalition for Individuals with
Disabilities & Older Adults (GEPC)
Monthly Meeting
CANCELLED

**Region D Healthcare Coalition
Quarterly Meeting
May 3, 2024
Region D
(Atlanta)**

**Behavioral Threat Assessment
and Management
May 7, 2024
GEMA
(Rome)**

**HPP Region E Coalition Meeting
May 10, 2024
Region E
(Athens)**

**Basic Disaster Life Support
May 28, 2024
HPP Region A
(Whitfield County – Dalton)**

TOOLS & RESOURCES

**Georgia Emergency Management
Department of Public Health
Ready.Gov
American Red Cross**

**Georgia Healthcare Coalitions
Department of Behavioral Health
and Developmental Disabilities
Substance Abuse and Mental
Health Services Administration**

Please contact [Kalie Burke](#), Disaster Mental Health Coordinator, for any questions. You can also view the Department of Public Health and DBHDD [Georgia Disaster Mental Health](#) website for additional resources and information.

DBHDD Policy Information

The DBHDD has not updated or developed policies since April 1, 2024, applicable to Community Network Providers.

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](#).

Office of Provider Relations & ASO Coordination

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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S.E., West Tower, Atlanta, GA 30334

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