



Supported Living: Making the Difference

Start Date: 1/2017

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| <p>System Gap Addressed</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Many individuals with intellectual and other developmental disabilities (I/DD) in North Carolina have not had access to one of the most person-centered service options available: receiving supports needed in one’s own home. • Services provided to people with I/DD are increasingly shifting to smaller scale settings, including group homes, host families or private homes but still do not provide person-centered, individualized supports. • While smaller, congregate settings offer physical integration into the communities, they rarely provide the opportunity for true, inclusive community integration. |
| <p>Initiative Goals and Timeline</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Expand and strengthen North Carolina’s capacity to support people with I/DD to participate in supported living. • Launch a stakeholder group known as the Learning Community to support individuals with I/DD and their families, MCO and state staff to build a clarified understanding of supported living concepts and improve their capacity to support individuals to utilize the service. • Provide technical assistance to providers and direct support staff on practices that facilitate supported living. |
| <p>Description of Activities</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Launch a statewide kickoff event to promote the supported living waiver service and provide opportunities for stakeholders to become engaged in the work that will shape the future direction of the service. • Partner with 4 pilot demonstration agencies to serve up to 24 individuals in models to learn and evaluate the supported living service. • Provide opportunities to participate in webinars and workshops to expand the understanding of the supported living service, including meetings focused on better supporting individuals with the highest level of support needs. • Develop a supported living guidebook to understand, transition to and evaluate supported living services. |
| <p>Achievements and Outcomes to Date</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Information about the initiative was shared in the Mountain Xpress on March 15, 2017 reaching an estimated audience of 25,000 readers. • Hosted kick-off conference, “Supported Living: A Shared Vision” in Greensboro on March 28 and 29, 2017 attended by 282 people. • Keynote presentation and breakout sessions offered to reinforce initiative at NC Training, Instruction, Development, and Education (TIDE) conference in Wilmington on April 24, 2017 and sessions in Asheville on October 24 and 25, 2017. • Presentations focused on NCCDD’s Supported Living and Rethinking Guardianship initiatives to Vaya Provider Advisory Council I/DD Subcommittee on May 17, 2017 and June 21, 2017. |

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Achievements and Outcomes to Date

- Presentations at state-operated Developmental Centers, including the J. Iverson Riddle Developmental Center on May 19, 2017 and at the Murdoch Developmental Center on May 24, 2019.
- Presentation at Provider Summit and Learning Academy on December 13, 2017 to advance initiative.
- With Community Bridges Consulting Group, launched the on-line Learning Community with "Supported Living 101" webinar on September 25, 2017 and hosted the Health vs. Safety and Risk vs. Liability" webinar on December 11, 2017.
- Hosted eight Learning Community webinars in 2018-2019: four facilitated by each of the providers and four that focused on topics that impact transitions to supported living: the coordination of healthcare, Supported Decision-Making, Direct Support Professional credentialing, and an examination of survey data.
- Hosted two stakeholder meetings in April 2018 to discuss individuals with the highest level of needs and developed a list of common issues/challenges and priorities for the initiative to address.
- Hosted three Virtual Stakeholder Meetings in 2018 and 2019 to give family members and people with I/DD a way to inform the system without needing to travel for a face-to-face meeting.
- Presented at the 2018 National Association of Councils on Developmental Disabilities (NACDD) Annual Conference in Maryland on July 11, 2018.
- Conducted a Beyond Behaviors Workshop led by I/DD behavioral health expert David Pitonyak on July 31, 2018. 199 individuals participated.
- Developed an initiative page on Vaya Health's website: <https://www.vayahealth.com/learn-more/idd/supportedliving/>
- Made a Learning Journey to Project Transition near Philadelphia, Pennsylvania in March 2019.
- Presented at the NC Providers Council Conference on October 11, 2019.
- Produced success story video vignettes shared at the "Supported Living: Including Everyone" Conference in Cary on October 29-30, 2019. The conference featured I/DD behavioral health expert David Pitonyak and a panel of eight individuals with I/DD living in their own homes.
- Finishing the Supported Living Guidebook/Resource Manual titled "It's My Home."
- **45 people have moved into their own homes, 18 from group living arrangements.**

Expected System Change as Result

- All activities related to this Supported Living initiative will be that individuals interested in choosing the supported living option have organizational support to do so.