

The Role of the Waiver Support Coordinator in Facilitating Self-Advocacy

Presented by
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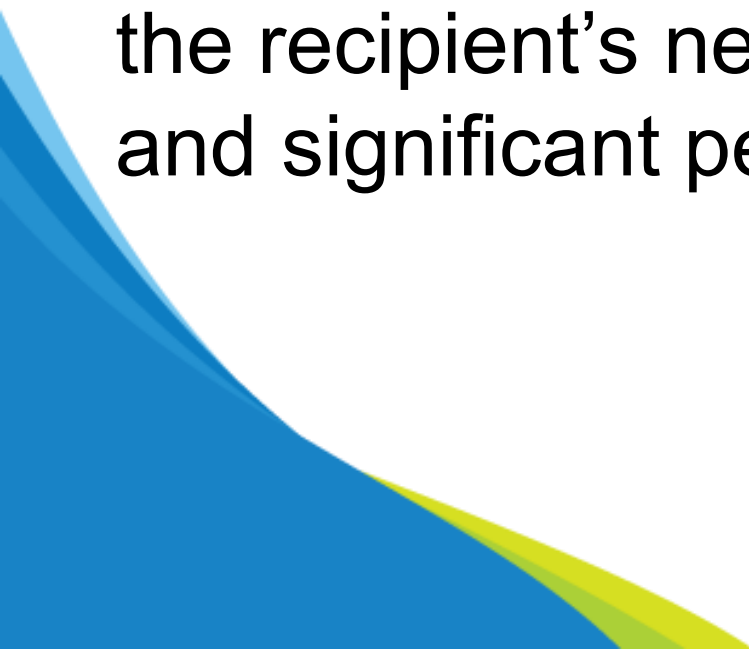
Rick Scott
Governor

Barbara Palmer
APD Director



Person-centered planning (iBudget Handbook)

“A planning approach based on the recipient’s perspective rather than that of a program or resource used to identify the services and supports necessary to meet the recipient’s needs involving the recipient and significant people in the recipient's life.”



What stands out to you in this definition? Type it in the chat box.

This presentation discusses -

1. Self-advocacy;
2. Connection between self-advocacy and person-centered planning;
3. Facilitating self-advocacy in person-centered planning


and is intended to help WSCs engage individuals in person-centered outcomes.

1. Self-advocacy

Speaking up...




A self-advocate -

- Tells others what they think, want, and need
 - Makes their own decisions
 - Knows and understands their rights
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Power and control are not taken away by the WSC, providers, family, friends, or others in their life.

Principles of Self-determination

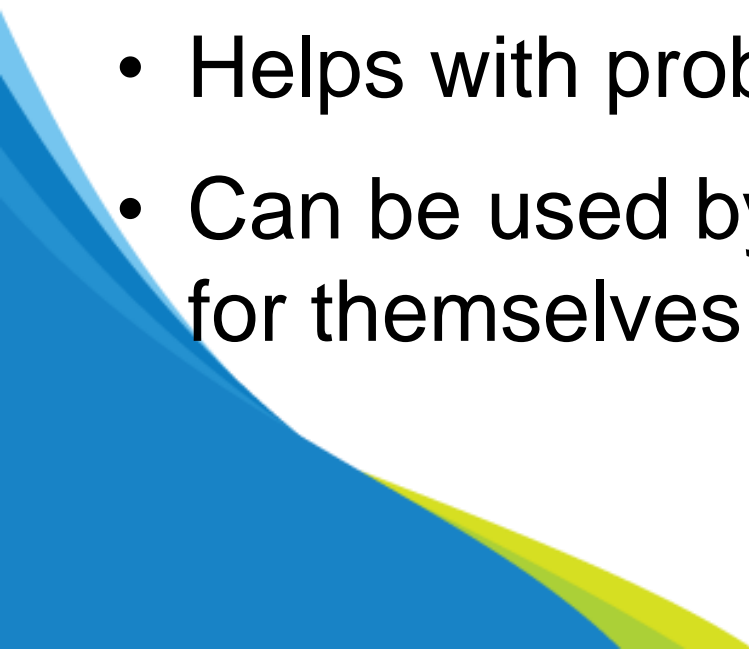
- Freedom
 - Authority
 - Support
 - Responsibility
 - Confirmation
- 

With the help of a Circle of Support, a self-advocate directs his/her own life.

2. Self-advocacy and person-centered planning

When these are linked together...

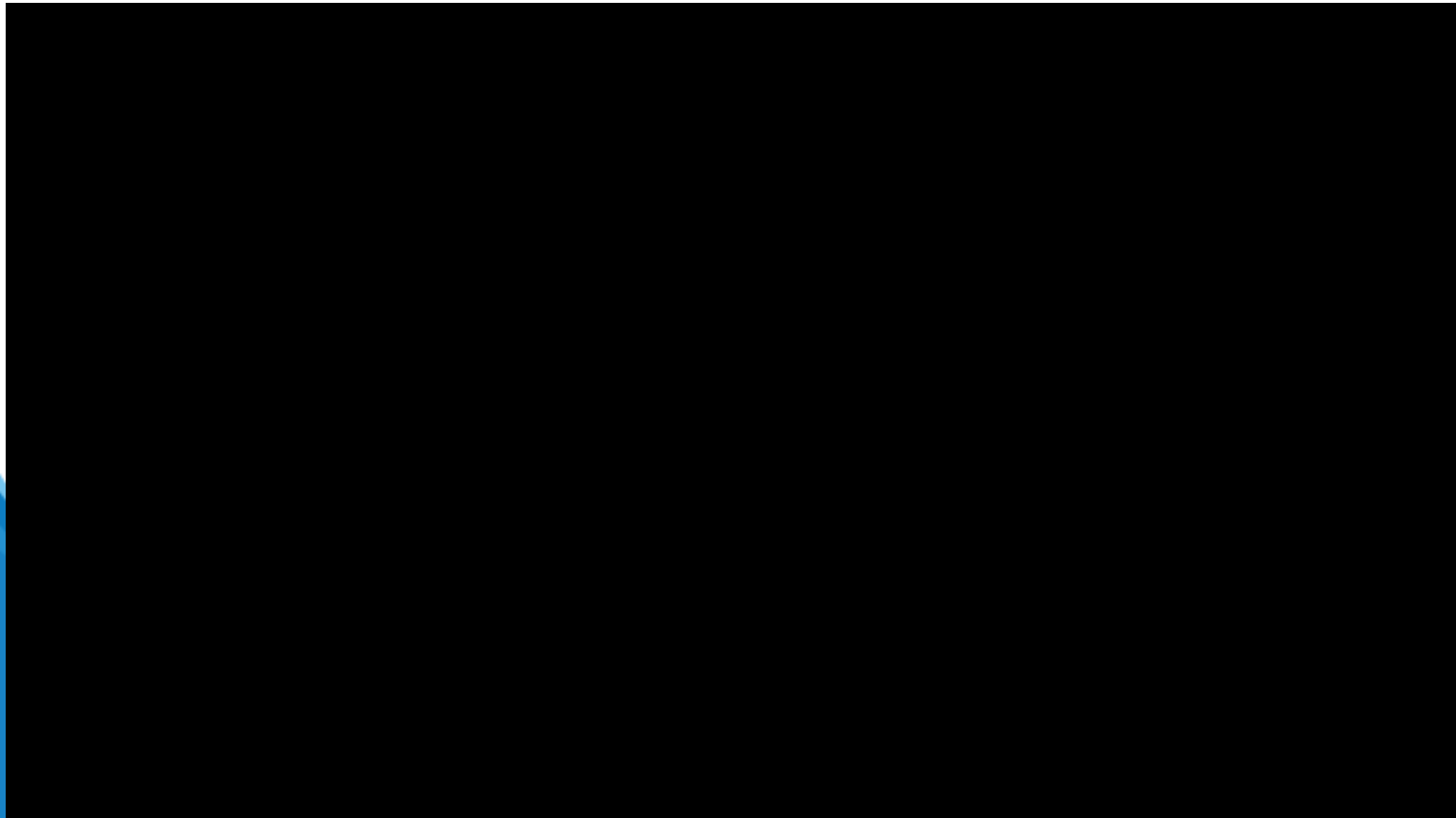
The individual is empowered and directs a plan that -

- Reflects what is important to and for them
 - Declares their goals, needs, and preferences
 - Helps with problem-solving and evaluating
 - Can be used by the individual to advocate for themselves
- 

3. Facilitating self-advocacy and person-centered planning

Commit to a different mindset...

People with developmental disabilities have human needs, not “special needs.”



“Loneliness is the biggest disability.”

~Steven M. Eidelman



“When self-advocates are taken seriously and listened to...a dialogue that enables increased community engagement, thereby...improving quality of life, [can] result.”

According to the dictionary, a facilitator is:

“someone or something that facilitates something; especially: someone who helps to bring about an outcome...by providing indirect or unobtrusive assistance, guidance, or supervision”


The WSC who facilitates self-advocacy -

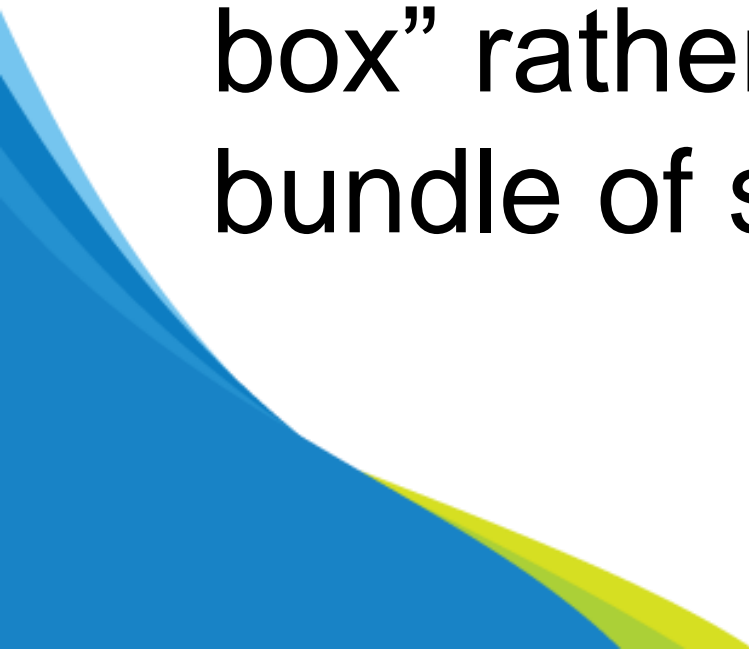
“Provides necessary information and support to ensure that the individual directs the process to the maximum extent possible and is [empowered] to make informed choices and decisions and assisted where needed to make these choices.”

CMS rule 42 CFR 441.301(c)(1)

What are some key words in that statement? Type them in the chat box.

Support self-advocacy by engaging the individual in discovery -

- Meaningful outcomes
 - Experiences
 - Conversations
 - Relationships
 - Successes and failures
- 



Collaborate with the individual and their Circle of Support to “think outside the box” rather than within the bundle of services!

Activity

Thomas likes going out into the community. The problem is, the group home's routine is to choose an activity that everyone wants to do. Everyone agrees to go bowling twice a week. Thomas likes bowling, but he tells you he really wants to go fishing, and to do it as much as he wants. His housemates never agree to go fishing. There is no room in his budget for Life Skills Development 1 (Companion) and the Waiver is the payor of last resort. How can you make it possible for him to go fishing without requesting Waiver funding?

What are some of your ideas? Type them in the chat box.

“What is the most important thing in the world? It is the people, it is the people, it is the people.”

~ Māori Proverb

Questions?

In the chat box, please tell us what APD can do to help you in your role as a facilitator of self-advocacy.

Thank you!