



Intellectual & Developmental Disabilities Task Force

Task Force Sub-Committees

1) Direct Support Professional Curriculum and Training Committee:

- The establishment of statewide training curriculum for individuals who provide services to individuals with I/DD
- Feasibility of establishing a training certification
- Feasibility of establishing a training registry
- Feasibility of a pilot project to implement any recommendations

Chair: Heather Dane **Facilitator:** Erica Reaves, HMS

Recommendation #1:

Establishment of a minimum standardized statewide training curriculum for individuals who provide supports and services to individuals with I/DD

It is the recommendation of the study committee that the Task Force for the Assessment of Services and Supports for People with Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities develop and vet, in partnership with community stakeholders, a standardized, competency-based training curriculum for direct support professionals supporting individuals receiving home and community-based services and supports. This minimum standard training cannot and should not replace person-centered, individualized training. The training should be made available or administered by the State in multiple modalities, e.g., web-based, in-person. Upon successful completion of the annual required training (i.e., 80% passing score), the direct support professional should receive a certificate of completion. Training should be a billable activity to cover the cost of training administration as well as outlays for direct support professionals' wages and benefits for time devoted to training.

Recommendation #2:

Feasibility of establishing training certification

It is the recommendation of the study committee that the Task Force for the Assessment of Services and Supports for People with Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities develop and vet, in partnership with community stakeholders, a tiered direct support professional training certification process. Training certifications should include both macro-credentials (i.e., degrees, trainings or credentials that are widely recognized by industry/employers) and micro-credentials (i.e., stackable training, credits, or certificates that provide specialized training and result in new skills which enable career growth). Training certifications should be tracked in a statewide registry that is accessible to FSSA, providers, and direct support professionals that also integrates with the vendor's training system to ensure efficiency and real-time completion information.

¹ Indiana House Enrolled Act 1075-2022. Available at:

<http://iga.in.gov/legislative/2022/bills/house/1075#document-95caf6d3>



Intellectual & Developmental Disabilities Task Force

Direct Support Professional Curriculum and Training Committee (continued):

Recommendation #3: Establishment of a statewide training registry

It is the recommendation of the study committee that the Task Force for the Assessment of Services and Supports for People with Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities develop and vet, in partnership with community stakeholders, a statewide registry to track the training activities of direct support professionals. Training certifications including base training (recommendation #1), add-on/tiered trainings (new recommendation), and related activities should be tracked in a statewide registry, allowing for portability of professional development activities across providers and settings.

¹ Indiana House Enrolled Act 1075-2022. Available at:
<http://iga.in.gov/legislative/2022/bills/house/1075#document-95caf6d3>



Intellectual & Developmental Disabilities Task Force

2) Waiver Trends and Support (Emergency waiver) Committee:

- Current trends related to health and safety requests for the community integration habilitation Medicaid waiver or any other service
- The feasibility of the division establishing a pilot project to create special review teams to assist families or individuals in a crisis situation to identify available sources of assistance.

Chair: Holly Wimsatt

Facilitator: Yoshi Kardell

Recommendation 1:

The Division should establish a Special Service Review Team pilot to review certain requests for the CIH Waiver under the Health and Safety category and consider the circumstances of the applicant, collect data, and provide evaluative information that can be applied at the systems level to the Division.

Recommendation 2:

The Special Service Review Team, as part of the pilot, will provide a report every quarter regarding identified benchmarks.

Recommendation 3:

As part of the pilot, the Special Service Review Team should be a multidisciplinary team and members should be paid.

¹ Indiana House Enrolled Act 1075-2022. Available at:

<http://iga.in.gov/legislative/2022/bills/house/1075#document-95caf6d3>



Intellectual & Developmental Disabilities Task Force

3) Incident reporting Committee:

- Create a report to be distributed by Bureau of Developmental Disability Services authorized service providers
- To provide to the authorized service provider the name of each direct support professional who has been the subject of a substantiated incident report

Chair: Jessica Harlan-York

Facilitator: Kim Cauley

Recommendation 1:

The State of Indiana (specifically, the Bureau of Developmental Disabilities Services (BDDS)) should manage the process of incident reporting, including activities associated with:

- (1) developing an intake process for DSPs which includes personally identifiable information (including legal name, date of birth, social security number, driver's license number, or state ID number);
- (2) review the provider investigation and determine what, if any, additional investigation or follow up is needed;
- (3) actions (when substantiated and as determined appropriate) being available on an accessible registry (including a status of "Substantiated – Within Appeals Window" and "Substantiated – Final"); and
- (4) ensuring an appropriate appeal process that is timely and implements clear parameters for substantiation and registry inclusion.

Recommendation 2:

The current definition of an incident is sufficient. State should provide clear guidance on what constitutes addition to the registry based on level of severity of substantiated incident.

Recommendation 3:

The State should develop a DSP registry that includes substantiated incidents available at the individual DSP level and includes individual identifiers (example: legal name, date of birth, social security number, driver's license number, or state ID number). The state should provide clear guidance on what constitutes addition to the registry based on level of severity of substantiated incident. The DSP registry should be made accessible to FSSA staff and BDDS providers as a report for each DSP with a substantiated incident. In the event that an appeal finds that an incident is unsubstantiated, an individual's name will be removed from the DSP Registry.

¹ Indiana House Enrolled Act 1075-2022. Available at:

<http://iga.in.gov/legislative/2022/bills/house/1075#document-95caf6d3>