



DD News and Updates

# Newsletter

**Volume 26**  
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## Special Edition



## Learn about our new workgroups

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# Division Updates: Meet the Workgroups

## Your Voice Matters!

The Division, in collaboration with the Court, is working with four new workgroups. Each workgroup focuses on an important topic. The goal of the workgroups is to better support adults that get developmental disability (DD) services. The four workgroups are:

1. Guidance about Conflict Free Case Management (CFCM) and Independent Facilitation (IF).
2. Individual Support Plan (ISP) Guidance (also called a Person-Centered Plan (PCP)).
3. Guidance About Goods and Services.
4. Guidance about Adults with Intellectual or Developmental Disabilities (I/DD) Who Are Aging.



# Division Updates: Meet the Workgroups

## Workgroup #1

### Guidance about Conflict Free Case Management (CFCM) and Independent Facilitation (IF)



This workgroup explores how to best rollout CFCM/IF. This includes how to:

- Introduce people to CFCM/IF, including what it is, how it works, and when it will happen.
- Work as a team to create or edit CFCM/IF guidance materials. This includes what, and how, to let people know:
  - The different members of a person's support team and what each of them do.
  - The staff person that will write and submit the Individual Support Plan (ISP) (or Person-Centered Plan (PCP)).
  - The staff person that will write and submit any needed paperwork, like Purchase Orders (POs).
  - How someone can have more choice over who their CFCM/IF is.
  - The process for preparing for the ISP/PCP.

There have been four workgroup meetings so far. The last workgroup session was April 3<sup>rd</sup>. The Division shared drafts of new CFCM/IF documents. The new [DD Guidebook](#) was one of the documents shared with the group.

For more details about this workgroup, please review the [March Court Monitor's Report](#).

# Division Updates: Meet the Workgroups

## Workgroup #2

**Individual Support Plan (ISP) Guidance (also called a Person-Centered Plan (PCP)).**



This workgroup focuses on planning and writing good Individual Support Plans (ISP) (or Person-Centered Plans (PCP)). This includes how to write plans that:

- Meet Medicaid rules.
- Allow the greatest use of the person's individual budget.

The goal of this workgroup is to support strong ISPs/PCPs so changes don't have to be made to it during the plan year.

One workgroup session took place so far. There are no other workgroup sessions scheduled yet. The Division is working with the Court Monitor to create a plan to move forward with this workgroup.

# Division Updates: Meet the Workgroups

## Workgroup #3

### Guidance About Goods and Services



This workgroup focuses on goods and services. The goal is to make information about goods and services easier to find and understand. This includes how to place a purchase order (PO).

There have been two workgroup sessions so far. The Division made a spreadsheet to track workgroup feedback. This spreadsheet stores member comments, advice, questions, and next steps. Some topics the workgroup talked about are:

- How to talk to people and share information about goods and services.
- How to get repayment for buying a good or service.
- Opportunities and limits to goods and services.
- What Fiscal Intermediaries (IFs) may do the same or different.
- Training options people can explore.
- How to lower the number of denials.
- Resources on writing Individual Support Plan (ISP) (or Person-Centered Plan (PCP)) goals.

Members of the workgroup agreed to meet again in 6-8 months. During this check-in, members will share progress and give more feedback. This session will happen in Summer 2025.

# Division Updates: Meet the Workgroups

## Workgroup #4

### Guidance about Adults with Intellectual or Developmental Disabilities (I/DD) Who Are Aging



This workgroup focuses on two main things. The first are things that support a good life for people aged 62 and older. The second is how providers can bill for people who choose to stay at home for part of their day.

There have been two workgroup sessions so far. The workgroup members included people who lived in a group home setting. Members created a vision statement during the sessions.

The workgroup will schedule a third meeting. The Division will find other adults with I/DD to join the workgroup. The Division will focus on enlisting adults over age 62 and live on their own, in a Shared Living Arrangement (SLA), or with family. The person's family members may also join.

The next workgroup session is on Tuesday, May 6<sup>th</sup> from 10:30am to 12pm. The session will take place online using Zoom. The goal of this meeting is to create a document explaining how older adults can get support.

The Division will also meet with provider agencies in May. They will talk about the billing details in different living situations. **Providers can bill at the community rate for activities provided in the person's home.** The only exception is for group homes since this support is included in the group home rate.

If you would like to join this workgroup, please contact Steven Seay by email at [Steven.Seay@bhddh.ri.gov](mailto:Steven.Seay@bhddh.ri.gov) or phone at 401-462-6609.

# Report Suspected Abuse

## QA Hotline 401-462-2629

### Mandated Reporting

Reporting suspected occurrences of abuse, neglect, and mistreatment of individuals with developmental disabilities

To report abuse and serious incidents call the BHDDH Quality Assurance (QA) Unit **hotline at (401) 462-2629**. The hotline is open 24-hour hotline, seven days per week, 365 days per year. Staff respond to reported incidents of abuse, neglect, mistreatment, and financial exploitation.

### BH Link is Here for You

BH Link's mission is to ensure all Rhode Islanders experiencing mental health and substance use crises receive the appropriate services they need as quickly as possible in an environment that supports their recovery. Visit the BH Link website at [www.bhlink.org](http://www.bhlink.org).

**If under 18 CALL:** (855) KID (543)-LINK(5465)

**VISIT the 24-HOUR/7-DAY Triage Center at:**

975 Waterman Avenue, East Providence, RI

Call 911 if there is a risk of immediate danger.

If you or someone you know needs support now, call or text **988** or chat [988lifeline.org](http://988lifeline.org)



### For More about the Division

Want to find out more about the Division? Visit the [Division's webpage](#). You will find information on services, resources, and more.

To contact Division staff, review the Contact List attached to this newsletter. You can also find a full list of staff on the [Division's Contact Us webpage](#).

You are always welcome to send general questions to [BHDDH.AskDD@bhddh.ri.gov](mailto:BHDDH.AskDD@bhddh.ri.gov). Please do not email critical issues.

The Division is open Monday to Friday from 8:30 AM - 4:00 PM.