

Survey Results and Analysis Services in CILs to Support Community-Based Living May 2010

Background

Many centers have expressed an interest in adding or enhancing services that support community based living for persons with disabilities, including nursing home transition services. Federal policies and legislation over the past several years have provided more funding streams, as well as more complexities, to the choices that individuals have. This short survey asks questions that will help the IL NET determine what areas of training and technical assistance would be of most value to the CILs concerning supports and services for community based living. This report summarizes the results from the 88 respondents who completed the survey.

Summary of Survey Results

When asked about which areas of specific training would be most useful out of 12 choices, “finding and assisting those at risk of nursing home placement and helping them avoid placement” was marked by 60.2% of respondents; “understanding the funding streams that can support community-based living, e.g. state plan Medicaid, Medicaid waivers, Managed Care, Money Follows the Person, Health Care Reform provisions” was marked by 59.1% of respondents; and “curriculum for training consumers in managing personal assistants” was marked by 59.1%. The remaining choices were close behind in ratings:

- understanding long-term care in America, including the systems that can support community-based living, e.g. CMS, AAAs, AoA, VA – 58%
- working with nursing homes to gain their support for transition – 56.8%
- finding resources to support community-based living – 55.7%
- how to set up a consumer-directed personal assistance program – 51.1%
- working with elders – 48.9%
- collaborating with the local ADRC – 47.7%
- assisting individuals in assessing their needs and developing a transition plan – 46.6%
- finding nursing home residents who want to transition: – 44.3%

When asked which of the topics areas would attract them to actually participate in a training, there were three that ranked highest:

- working with nursing homes to gain their support for transition – 69.3%
- understanding the funding streams that can support community-based living – 65.9%
- understanding long-term care in America – 62.5%

When asked about their center's services that support community-based living, 87.5% indicated they provide nursing home transition; 79.5% offer housing location and referral services coordinated with nursing home transition; and 72.7% offer IL Skills training specific to skills needed for getting out of a nursing home and avoiding return.

Other services include:

- benefits advisement concerning Medicaid, Medicare, etc. – 64.8%
- financial assistance with moving expenses and getting set up in the community – 60.2%
- other case management that supports returning to the community or avoiding nursing home placement – 58%
- consumer-directed personal assistance services – 56.8%
- Medicaid waiver coordination/case management – 44.3%
- Nursing home diversion (organized program focused specifically on avoiding nursing home placement, not general IL services) – 36.4%
- Other (answers included home mod and ramp program, referrals to ADRC, post-transition services, and assistive technology) – 21.6%

When asked the open-ended question, "Please state what you believe your center's greatest challenge is in assisting individuals or maintain community-based living," 11 respondents indicated that the lack of accessible/affordable housing was the biggest challenge. A wide range of answers were given including "funding for home modifications," "overall CIL funding," "costs for fingerprinting providers," and "no affordable attendant care services."