Champaign County Regional Planning Commission (CCRPC)

Decision Support Person Centered Planning Program By Katie Harmon, LCSW Community Services Program Manager



CCRPC Brief Overview

- CCRPC is currently one of 8 Independent Service Coordination (ISC) agencies in the state of Illinois.
- Beginning in FY20 (July 1, 2019) CCRPC expanded its service area from 3 counties to 13 counties (Department of Human Services, Division of Developmental Disabilities funded program).
 - Counties served include: Champaign, Ford, Iroquois, Vermilion, McLean, Woodford, Tazewell, Mason, Livingston, Putnam, Marshall, LaSalle, and Bureau.

CCRPC Brief Overview

- In FY20, Decision Support Person Centered Planning Program funded through the Champaign County Developmental Disabilities Board (CCDDB) expanded conflict free person centered planning and case management services.
- This represents an expansion from providing person centered planning and case management to only CCDDB funded individuals enrolled in DSC's Community First Program.

• Target populations:

Persons with intellectual and developmental disabilities (I/DD) registering on the Illinois Department of Human Services' (DHS) Prioritization for Urgency of Need for Services (PUNS) database for the first time and/or for their annual update who would like to complete preference assessments.

Preference information is gathered in order to identify what services individuals are looking for as well as to receive additional support until they are selected from PUNS.

- Target populations:
 - Persons with I/DD who are transitioning from an Illinois State Board of Education setting and in need of adult I/DD services.
 - Adults with I/DD registered on PUNS who do not have Medicaid waiver funding and are receiving services funded through the CCDDB (service expanded in FY20).

- Services provided:
 - Conflict free person centered planning and case management services, utilizing the same Discovery and Personal Plan tools developed by DHS and currently utilized as a mandatory requirement by all ISC agencies throughout Illinois for individuals who receive Medicaid waiver funding.
 - Prioritization for person centered planning services will be given to adults in the seeking services category on PUNS. All persons served through the Decision Support Person Centered Planning Program must not be receiving DHS Medicaid waiver funding.

- Services provided:
 - Services assist in the transition process to Medicaid waiver services should persons served be selected from PUNS in the future and shorten the time frame from PUNS selection to implementation of services. Provision of conflict free person centered planning offers individuals an opportunity to explore and express what is important to them. Additionally, outcomes identified by the individual and guardian are specified in the person centered plan.

Person Centered Planning / Case Management Support: FY20 Program Expansion

- Previously worked with clients served in DSC's Community First Program to provide person centered planning and case management services.
- Now work with people receiving services from CCDDB funded programs:
 - DSC
 - Community Choices
 - Rosecrance
 - PACE
 - UCP (prior to closure)
- Development of annual Person Centered Plan utilizing the Discovery Tool and Personal Plan developed by DHS and used by ISCs throughout the state.
- Development of outcomes.
- Advocacy in collaboration with DD provider agencies to provide implementation strategies to assist person with requested outcome(s).

Person Centered Planning / Case Management Support

- Case management support:
 - Linkage and referral to community resources for example, DD provider agencies, CU Special Recreation, Illinois Respite Coalition, internal RPC programs (for example, power bill and rent assistance).
 - Exploring living/housing options assistance in registering on the Statewide Referral Network (SRN) and openings with Champaign County Housing Authority.
 - Assistance in applying for Medicaid, SSI, other eligible benefits.
 - Referrals to CCRPC Independent Service Coordinator (DHS/DD funded) if situation arises to a crisis and person may be eligible for state Medicaid Waiver funding.

Person Centered Planning / Case Management Support

- Completion of Inventory for Client and Agency Planning (ICAP) for new clients (required for state funding).
- Average caseload approximately 40 45 clients.
 - Currently serving a total of 124 clients.
- Completed 34 Personal Plans with clients through December 31, 2020.

Person Centered Planning / Case Management Support

- Providers persons served enrolled in (some enrolled in multiple programs):
 - Community Choices 16
 - DHS/DRS 3
 - DSC 89
 - Rosecrance 7
 - PACE 1
 - No service provider 14 (in the process of referring/connecting to other providers)

Conflict Free Case Management

- Federal Medicaid guidelines specifies that States are required to separate case management functions (including the person centered plan development) from service delivery functions.
- Case management includes: determination of eligibility, provider identification, service plan development, and monitoring of Plan.
- "Conflict free" means that case management must be performed by someone other than a relative of the person served, someone other than a direct provider of service, someone who does not have a financial interest in a provider, or someone who is not employed by a provider.

Discovery

- Discovery is the first component of Person Centered Planning. The Discovery process is designed to gather information about a person's preferences, interests, abilities, preferred environments, activities, and supports needed.
- The Discovery process is not a one-time event, but a series of information gathering activities.
- The ISC will gather information through discussions (face to face, phone, and electronic), observations, and record reviews (evaluations, assessments, case notes).
- This process should begin with the individual and then include the guardian, advocate or family, and others chosen by the individual. It must also include current providers.

Person Centered Planning Policy and Guidelines for DD Waiver Services http://www.dhs.state.il.us/page.aspx?item=100040

Personal Plan

- The Personal Plan is the single, comprehensive personal vision for a person's life. Focuses on the individual's strengths, preferences, needs and desires.
- Developed through a person centered process and serves as a mechanism for sharing information with others who are or will be involved in supporting the person to achieve his/her desired life.
- The Personal Plan provides the basis for receiving services, service monitoring and quality evaluation.

Person Centered Planning Policy and Guidelines for DD Waiver Services http://www.dhs.state.il.us/page.aspx?item=100040

Examples of Personal Plan Outcomes

- A will work on learning to budget his earnings and benefits in preparation to pay bills and live independently.
- B will obtain community employment support from a service provider to increase his productivity and maintain his job at X.
- C will continue to work with his family and apartment services supports to maintain a clean and safe living environment.
- D will work on strengthening his communication skills by engaging in a phone conversation with someone besides his parents once a month.

Examples of Personal Plan Outcomes

- E will explore options of community employment in order to participate in work he enjoys.
- F will explore options of housing in X, IL in order to move closer to family and friends.
- G will receive his spending money in cash weekly in order to independently manage and make financial decisions for himself.
- H will take the necessary steps to learn new MTD routes in order to allow for more independence.

Success Story

ISC had a client who lived in Champaign County with his mother. During the Discovery process, he made it very clear that he would like to live in his own apartment in X, IL where his father, extended family, and friends lived. His mother agreed that this would be the best thing for him and supported his decision. ISC met with client and his mother over a couple of appointments and assisted with making phone calls and filling out rental applications for apartments in X, IL. Within 2 weeks of making phone calls, client and mother received a phone call that a subsidized apartment was available (tenants pay 30% of income for rent). His mother and him went to view the apartment and within 1 month of meeting with ISC, he had relocated to his own apartment in X, IL. The client and his mom were very pleased with services and assistance from the ISC.

Success Story

Client received employment services from UCP and is employed at X where he has worked for 2 years. While employed, he relied heavily on the support from his UCP job coach. When UCP closed suddenly, client was left without the supports he needed to maintain employment. The closing of UCP directly affected client and his job performance. Without the added support of his job coach, client and his mother were contacted regularly by his employer in regards to his work conduct. These communications left both client and his mother in fear of not only losing his job, but having no supports to help him gain other employment if he was terminated.

ISC began to work with client to connect him with other service providers. While waiting for a service provider, ISC began to work with client and his mother to act as a liaison between them and his employer. ISC spoke with employer and explained the situation with UCP and ensured her that ISC was working diligently to get him connected with supports again. They agreed that the situation was not a fault of the clients and he shouldn't be punished for losing supports. The employer agreed that she would refrain from any disciplinary action while he waited to be connected with services. ISC also worked with client in the development of his PCP where the focus of a few of his outcomes were related to his job performance. Since then client has been connected with a service provider for employment services and has maintained his job.

Questions?

Please feel free to contact me directly!

Katie Harmon, QIDP, LCSW Community Services Program Manager 217-531-8265 kharmon@ccrpc.org