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Issue 27, October 29, 2014

TM COMMUNICATOR

WORDS FROM TAMMY

Idaho is one of 25 states to receive the No Wrong Door Planning Grant. This planning grant will allow Idaho to develop a state plan to transform their multiple access functions to long-term services and supports (LTSS) into a single No Wrong Door (NWD) system for all populations and all payers. Using these awards, each state grantee will develop a plan to create a single statewide NWD access system to LTSS for all populations and all payers that meet the states' unique needs and circumstances. The NWD system will make it easy for people of all ages, disabilities and income levels to learn about and access the services and supports they need.

For these purposes, "all populations" means everyone, regardless of age, income, or disability and "all payers" means any state administered program that provides LTSS to the people that will be served by the NWD System. States will design systems that will best organize, structure, and operate the various NWD functions. It is expected that states will better integrate, and in some cases restructure and strengthen, their existing ADRC NWD programs and other state administered LTSS access programs. This would be accomplished in order to realize the joint vision across ACL, CMS and VHA of each state having a single NWD System that is a fully integrated for all populations. Congratulations to the Idaho Commission on Aging for securing this funding!

Thank you for all you do,
Tammy Ray - IHC Project Manager

Happy Halloween

WHAT SARAH HAS TO SAY

Helping your participant develop their circle of support is extremely important. A circle of support is there to assist the participant in accomplishing personal visions or goals. Most of the individuals that are involved in the circle of support are not paid to help; they are involved in helping because they care about the person and they want to participate to make the person's life better. These people are typically family members, co-workers, neighbors, congregation members and sometimes service providers.

A support circle can:

- Support the person to find his/her voice
- Assist in planning for the future the person wants
- Help with decision making
- Work with the individual's service providers and monitor services received
- Monitor the individual's health
- Support community connections
- Stand ready to give support
- Support the person at family events
- Help the individual to manage his/her finances
- Spend time with the person assisted
- Help her/him find a job
- Advocate on their behalf
- Provide friendship
- Celebrate together

Thank you all for being amazing,
Sarah Spaulding - IHC Project Coordinator

TRAINING TIPS - The Independent Living Philosophy

Money Follows the Person Idaho Home Choice is grounded in the Independent living philosophy and we should remember this when we are working with individuals and transitioning them back into the community. The National Council on Independent Living sums up the Independent Living Philosophy the best:

The Independent Living Movement is founded in the belief that people with disabilities, regardless of the form, have a common history and a shared struggle, that we are a community and a culture that will advance further banded together politically.

"Independent Living philosophy emphasizes consumer control, the idea that people with disabilities are the best experts on their own needs, having crucial and valuable perspective to contribute and deserving of equal opportunity to decide how to live, work, and take part in their communities, particularly in reference to services that powerfully affect their day-to-day lives and access to independence.

According to traditional thought, disabilities are impairments to be cured through medical intervention. In practice, people with significant disabilities are treated at best by the medical industry as diseases to be cured, and more often, since most disabilities cannot be cured, as incapable and undeserving of optimal and self-directed care. The significant underestimation of the abilities and life quality of people with disabilities has led to a state in which the evaluation of people with disabilities by medical professionals, so highly valued by society, has come to infringe on basic human and civil rights.

The Independent Living Model sees the problem differently and understands disability as a construct of society. In this model, the problem lies in the environment, not the individual. Though many people have physical, intellectual, or mental attributes that deviate from the 'norm,' disability is manifested in society through purposefully created and maintained physical, programmatic, and attitudinal barriers.

People with disabilities do not see themselves as problems to be solved, and ask only for the same human and civil rights enjoyed by others. Remarkably, this viewpoint is not generally accepted in society today and the Medical Model is still so deeply ingrained in us as a society that people with disabilities may spend their entire lives in nursing facilities often described as "tortuous" or even be refused treatment at a hospital, and at a professional's discretion, denied life-saving "futile care".

If you have questions about Independent Living contact one of Idaho Center's for Independent Living:

Disability Action Center - DAC (Regions 1, 2 & 3): <http://dacnw.org/>

Living Independence Network Corporation - LINC (Regions 3, 4 & 5): <http://lincidaho.org/>

Living Independently for Everyone - LIFE, Inc. (Regions 6 & 7): <http://www.idlife.org/>



Question of the Month:

Who could I contact if a participant needs a smoke detector but cannot afford one?

Currently there is a program in Idaho that is willing to install a free smoke detector into qualified homes for free. To see if your participant qualifies contact the American Red Cross.

SHOUT OUTS!

This month's shout out is more of a welcome. We would like to take the time to welcome our new Bureau Chief for Long Term Care, Beth Kriete. We are excited to have her on board!! Welcome to Medicaid and to Idaho Home Choice!

As of 10/29/2014
We have transitioned...

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