



## VALUES & PRINCIPLES FOR POLICY FRAMEWORK

CORE VALUES	CONNECTING, BUILDING PRINCIPLES
<p><b><u>EQUALITY:</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Lack of personal control or autonomy, deprivation of human dignity, segregation and abuse (including seclusion &amp; restraint) should not be experienced by any population or tolerated by our society for any reason.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Personal autonomy, access, accountability, responsibility over one's life decision-making processes, including control over publicly-funded and personal resources required to support an individual in their personal needs and pursuits, result in better outcomes (improved quality of life, for example).</li> </ul>
<p><b><u>CHOICE:</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A fundamental commitment of providing supports is to discover and honor individual choice. However, options that foster a "separate but equal" scenario or that promote exclusion in mainstream society are not options that foster true individual choice or empowerment.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Current system has built-in biases that support segregated outcomes which limit the ability of individuals to fully actualize or pursue their own personal goals or motivations, and restricts individuals' quality of opportunity.</li> </ul>
<p><b><u>COMPETENCE:</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Competence should be presumed in all individuals, and public policy should presume the highest expectations on both the system and the individuals.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Public systems with high performance outcomes in terms of meeting individualized support needs aimed at assisting an individual to maintain meaningful employment in an integrated setting, earn a sufficient income, generate assets, live independently, forge strong communal relationships in inclusive settings and attain optimal self-sufficiency results in a decreased reliance on public supports and financing over the long-term.</li> </ul>
<p><b><u>COMMUNITY:</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The provision of supports should be measured as to how proximate a person's life in the community is to peers without disabilities.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Individuals with disabilities are chronically under-represented in all aspects of society, and as a result their quality of life (in terms of employment, wealth, and health indicators) is significantly lower than any other subpopulation in the U.S. (stratified across race, age, and gender).</li> </ul>
<p><b><u>HOME:</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Everyone deserves a home, not a home-like setting.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>People with numerous social relationships have healthier outcomes and are less likely to be abused.</li> </ul>
<p><b><u>WORK:</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Working-age individuals with disabilities should be supported to pursue a working lifestyle.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Work should not be optional for individuals who are capable of working and rely on public assistance for sustainability</li> <li>It should be presumed in all facets of public support structures that individuals with disabilities want to work.</li> <li>A well-compensated and well-trained workforce is critical to providing supports.</li> </ul>
<p><b><u>DIGNITY OF RISK:</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Future systems of supports and service delivery should break away from paternalistic cycle and instead promote and respect the dignity of risk.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The nature of cognitive impairments associated with a DD/ID disability makes individuals living with DD/ID particularly vulnerable to the prejudices of external stakeholders, which negatively impede and impact the ability of these individuals to make informed, choices based on personal desires as opposed to external influences and pressures.</li> <li>Families (of biology or of choice) of adults living with ID/DD are an important component in considering supports.</li> </ul>
<p><b><u>EQUITY:</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>All citizens with disabilities should receive public resources that are directed at assisting the individual in producing outcomes related to inclusive education, integrated employment, and independent living within typical community settings.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Systems should be prohibited from preventing certain subpopulations from resources that would allow them to strive for, attain and achieve personal objectives related to increasing one's self-sufficiency, independence, and economic progress in integrated settings.</li> </ul>