

Minnesota Olmstead Plan Review 2015-2018

What is the Minnesota (MN) Olmstead Plan?

In 1999, the Supreme Court ruled that people with disabilities have certain rights. The Olmstead Decision says people must get to make the choices that are best for themselves.

The governor created the Olmstead Subcabinet. This Olmstead Subcabinet:

- Talked with people with disabilities from all over the state to get their opinions about life in Minnesota
- Created the Minnesota Olmstead Plan in 2015 with everyone's feedback
- Made sure the plan had clear goals about many parts of life and ways to measure the goals

The Minnesota Olmstead Plan highlights how important these ideas are in Minnesota. The Plan also acts like a map, making sure that we are going in the right direction.

People with disabilities have the right to make decisions about their everyday lives. This idea is person-centered planning. It is at the heart of the Minnesota (MN) Olmstead Plan.

What is person-centered planning?

In person-centered planning, people are in charge of their choices. They decide how much support they might need. These choices might include:

- Living near family and friends
- Deciding the right level of support
- Working in a meaningful job
- Going to school in the best setting
- Taking part in community life

These are all important values of the Minnesota Olmstead Plan.

What is the Olmstead Implementation Office?

The Olmstead Implementation Office (OIO) works for the Subcabinet. The OIO put together a report to review what the Subcabinet worked on from 2015 – 2018.

What does the OIO report say about the Minnesota Olmstead Plan?

The report reviews the 13 topic areas in the Minnesota Olmstead Plan. The report goes over each area and the goals that are measured.

Some goals have already been met. Some are still in progress. The state of MN is addressing goals that need improvement. Of the 47 goals in the Minnesota Olmstead Plan, over half of them have been met or are going as planned. Here are a few of our success stories:

In Health...

- Thousands more adults and children with disabilities have visited the dentist every year compared to the time before the Minnesota Olmstead Plan.

In Transportation...

- More than 4,000 curbs are more accessible.
- 250 pedestrian signals are now accessible.
- Improvements were made to over 30 miles of sidewalks, too.

In Waiver Approvals...

- 70% of waivers are now being approved in a timely manner.

The state of Minnesota has seen great progress in other areas, too. These include people getting jobs, finding integrated housing, and gaining access at school to the best learning environment.

What is Minnesota still working on?

We are still working on some areas such as:

- Creating more access to community housing and other supports for people staying in state treatment places in Anoka and St. Peter
- Transitioning more students from school to college and training programs
- Increasing positive ways to help students in Minnesota schools while reducing emergency behavior situations

We continue to address these challenges and others to improve life for all Minnesotans.

How do I learn more about the Minnesota Olmstead Plan and 2015-18 report?

We are thrilled about the improvements here in Minnesota. Do you want to learn more or find out how to get involved? You can go to our website at <http://www.mn.gov/olmstead> to:

- Read the 2018 Minnesota Olmstead Plan and the 2015 – 2018 report
- Share a story about the Minnesota Olmstead Plan
- Sign up for our newsletter
- Follow us on Facebook
- Learn about upcoming meeting

How can I contact the MN Olmstead Implementation Office with questions?

You can:

- **Send an email:**
MNOlmsteadPlan@state.mn.us
- **Send a letter:**
Olmstead Implementation Office
400 Wabasha Street N, Suite 400
St. Paul, Minnesota 55102
- **Call the office:** 651- 296-8081
- **Go to the MN Olmstead website:**
<http://www.mn.gov/olmstead>
and click the **Participate** tab to learn more.

Thank you for your interest in the Minnesota Olmstead Plan!