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## Lunch & Learn Webinar: Provider Experiences with Supported Living



### Presenter:

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*This webinar is being sponsored by the NCCDD and North Carolina Money Follows the Person Project (NC MFP), a Medicaid project that assists Medicaid-eligible North Carolinians who live in inpatient facilities to move into their own homes and communities with supports.*

# Demographics

## Who we are serving:

- 7 people
- Ages range from 27-62
- 2 people have attended college
- 2 people have previously lived in group homes
- 4 people were already living in their own homes when Supported Living began

## Where they are from:

- 2 people from the Vaya area
- 1 people from the Sandhills area
- 3 people from the Trillium area
- 1 person from Alliance area

# Living Arrangements

## **Where are they living:**

- 2 people own their homes
- 5 people are renting
- 2 people live in single family homes
- 1 person lives in a condominium
- 4 people live in apartments

## **Who lives with them:**

- 5 people live alone with supports as needed
- 1 person lives with a roommate and receives support from paid staff
- 1 person has a live-in caregiver, who provides paid support

# Housing Finances

## **How they got their homes**

- 2 people receive Rental Assistance: Key Program, HUD
- 2 people have homes their family purchased for them
- 3 are renting from traditional landlords

## **How are they paying to live:**

- 3 people are family subsidized
- 4 people make it on their wages and public benefits

# Type of Supports

## **Breakdown of Supported Living Level**

- 4 people receive Supported Living Level 1
- 3\* people receive Supported Living Level 2
- \*1 person receives an individualized rate: SL3 rate as an SL2 service

## **Transition Service funding**

- 2 people have used it to purchase furniture, bedding, bath and kitchen items, rent & utility deposits

# Getting out of the house

## **Additional Services**

- 3 receive Community Networking
- 4 receive Supported Employment Services
- 2 are receiving both Community Networking and Supported Employment

## **How they spend their day**

- 3 people are working in competitive employment
- 2 people are self employed
- 3 people are volunteering
- Making and selling art
- Theater group
- Special Olympics
- Church activities

# Service Level Takeaways

## Supported Living Level 1

- Scheduling can be more flexible: hours per day and days per week
- People have more control over when and how supports are provided
- Able to pay staff higher wages and incentivize outcomes

## Supported Living Levels 2 & 3

- Focus on developing self advocacy and independent living skills
- Might be their first time living outside family homes or group homes
- Higher support needs may limit flexibility of when and how supports are provided

# What makes it work:

## **For the person/family**

- Self advocates having direct access to their QP
- Having strong natural support networks
- Having their own community connections
- People are working in the community
- People are excited about living in their own homes

## **For the Provider**

- Strong partnership with natural support networks
- Knowing the person's dream and vision for their life
- Transparency; open and honest communication
- Daily rate allows providers to incentivize outcomes
- Service definition allows supports to fit the person's life



## Challenges to success:

- More support hours may not always equal higher wages for staff: Levels 2 & 3
- Risk taking can be difficult for families
- Role changes from caregiving to supporting can be difficult for the person, their family, and staff
- Finding affordable housing
- Living alone may not be affordable without family financial assistance
- Finding live-in caregivers
- Waiver limit of \$135,000 may not cover 24/7 awake services for people living alone



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Questions?



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**A copy of this archived webinar and PowerPoint presentation will be available at the NCCDD website at**

**<https://nccdd.org/supported-living-making-the-difference.html>**

