

HENNEPIN COUNTY  
MINNESOTA

# Community Informational Sessions September to December 2024

Health and Human  
Services A-1500  
Government Center  
300 South Sixth Street  
Minneapolis, MN 55487-  
0240

612-596-6631

**Trainings are offered in  
person and electronically.**



The trainings are free and open to the public. Community Trainings are offered in person and electronically. Each topic includes specific details.

## **Long Term Services & Supports**

### Promoting Choice and Independence

Seniors and persons with disabilities receive help to live in their communities as independently as possible through services offered by aging and disability services. Our professionals help people access available home and community-based services and possible funding sources so that they can remain in their home longer and prevent or delay institutional care.

### **To make a referral to Hennepin County's "front door".**

Call the access and initial consultation phone number at **612-348-4111** and select **option 1 for English then 0 for Front Door.**

- General inquiries and consultation do not need the specific person's information.
- Referrals for in-person assessments require the following:
  - 1) Person's name, birth date, Social Security number, address, phone number and contact information.
  - 2) Income, asset, and health insurance information
  - 3) Summary information on health and functioning level

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# How to Register for Community Information Sessions (Required)



To register, **register online** [CommunityInfoSessions@Hennepin.us](mailto:CommunityInfoSessions@Hennepin.us)  
or call **612-596-6631**. Please register early.

Include the title of the training session and your name, phone number and email address, in that order. Please indicate if you prefer an electronic option vs. in person training.

We will verify your registration and will let you know if the session is cancelled.

All sessions are FREE and open to the public.

## **Funds Available for Person Centered Planning**

**Funds are available now.** Person centered planning is an interactive planning process which helps a person with disabilities prioritize their life goals. Certified facilitators use various person-centered planning tools to document the person's life plans and goals. County funds are available for those not open to home and community-based waiver funds. You may also access planning funds through the service [family training and counseling services](#) if you have waiver services.

County funds are focused on transition age students (18 to 23) with an Individual Education Plan with or without a Hennepin County case manager. Funds are available on a first come first served basis. To enroll contact your case manager or email [jerry.mellum@hennepin.us](mailto:jerry.mellum@hennepin.us) for information or request training information below.

### **Electronically:**

For more information a YouTube video with more information is available.

- When registering include the title Person Centered Planning, your name, your phone number and email address. We will forward you the specific training topic within one week of your registration.

**Register by email [CommunityInfoSessions@Hennepin.us](mailto:CommunityInfoSessions@Hennepin.us) or calling 612-596-6631**

# It's Working!

**It's Working!** This flexible, creative and unique, self-directed vocational work program that is county funded. The program is for people with developmental disabilities who have case management and currently aren't open to wavier services. This program enables you to employ your own staff, write your own plan and identify vocational services that will help the person with a disability find and maintain employment. **If you qualify there is currently no waiting list.**

## Program criteria

- For those people with disabilities age 14 to adults who don't have waiver services and have DD case management in Hennepin County.
- The program can pay for staff support, vocational assessments, on the job training, goods related to work, job searches and technical assistance and more. It has helped several people start their own business.

**Who will benefit from the information?** Case managers and interested participants who don't currently have waiver services, are ages 14 through adulthood and have a county or contracted case manager for developmental disabilities, and/or related conditions.

## Electronically:

More information is available on a YouTube about this program.

- When registering include the title It's Working, your name, your phone number and email address. We will forward you the specific training topic within one week of your registration.

**Register by email [CommunityInfoSessions@Hennepin.us](mailto:CommunityInfoSessions@Hennepin.us) or calling 612-596-6631**

# Home and Community Based Waiver Services

An overview of home and community-based waiver programs, including the Community Access for Disability Inclusion Waiver (CADI), Community Alternative Care Waiver (CAC), and Brain Injury Waiver (BI), Developmental Disabilities (DD), Elderly Waiver (EW) and the Alternative Care Program. We will review the service menu for each program, provide examples of how the programs are used. The MN Department of Human Services program "[Waiver Reimagined](#)" will modify the way some waiver services are provided. This session will also provide an overview of Consumer Directed Community Supports (CDCS).

## Who will benefit from the information?

Parents, legal representatives and people with disabilities

**In Person: Thursday, October 3, 2024, 5 PM to 7 PM**

**Hennepin County – Ridgedale Library, Lady Slipper Room, Rm 275, 12601 Ridgedale Dr, Minnetonka, MN 55305**

[directions](#)

## Electronically:

A YouTube training with more information on this topic is also available.

- When registering include the title Waiver Overview, your name, your phone number and email address. We will forward you the specific training topic within one week of your registration.

**Register by email [CommunityInfoSessions@Hennepin.us](mailto:CommunityInfoSessions@Hennepin.us) or calling 612-596-6631**

# Adult Housing for People with Disabilities

We will discuss the continuum of housing options for people with disabilities and recent changes. This training will address the questions 1) Where do you want to live? 2) How will you afford the staff support necessary and 3) How will you afford rent and food? The training will help you to determine which services best meet your needs, discuss funding, the process to begin. Hear stories about creative housing options in Hennepin County and what other people did to get started.

## Who Should View the Training?

Parents, legal representatives and persons with disabilities seeking housing.

**In Person: Thursday, November 14, 2 PM to 4 PM**

**Hennepin County Golden Valley Library, 830 Winnetka Ave N, Golden Valley, MN 55427**

[directions](#)

## Electronically:

A YouTube training with more information on this topic is available.

- When registering include the title Adult Housing, your name, your phone number and email address. We will forward you the specific training topic within one week of your registration.

**Register by email [CommunityInfoSessions@Hennepin.us](mailto:CommunityInfoSessions@Hennepin.us) or calling 612-596-6631**



# Vocational Supports for People with Disabilities

Learn about changes in vocational options and supports available for people with disabilities. We will discuss the services employment development, support, and exploration. Also learn about "employment first" philosophy and the role of the Department of Vocational Rehabilitation Employment First MN (E1MN) in finding work for a person. Hear about the creative county funded program "It's Working!" that lets you employ your vocational staff and write your own plan for support.

## Who Should View the Training?

Parents, legal representatives, and persons with disabilities

**In Person:** Thursday, November 7, 2024, 10 AM to 12 N  
**Hennepin County – Brookdale Library, Creekside Room,**  
**6125 Shingle Creek Pkwy, Brooklyn Center, MN 55430**  
[directions](#)

## Electronically:

A YouTube training with more information on this topic is available.

- When registering include the Vocational Services topic, your name, your phone number and email address. We will forward you the specific training topic within one week of your registration.

**Register by email [CommunityInfoSessions@Hennepin.us](mailto:CommunityInfoSessions@Hennepin.us) or calling 612-596-6631**

# Guardianship/Supported Decision Making

At age 18, any person is considered a competent adult unless a petition is filed for guardianship in probate court. It will review recent changes in the guardianship law which increase a person's rights and an option called "supported decision making". The training will also describe the individual powers assigned by the court, outline the responsibilities of the guardian, and offer options to complete the process at no cost. This introductory session will provide basic information on the difference between guardianship and supported decision making and conservatorship.

## Who Should View the Training?

Parents, legal representatives and persons with disabilities

**In Person:** Thursday, November 7, 2024, 1 PM to 3 PM  
**Hennepin County – Brookdale Library, Creekside Room,  
6125 Shingle Creek Pkwy, Brooklyn Center, MN 55430**  
[directions](#)

## Electronically:

A YouTube training with more information on this topic is available.

- When registering include Guardianship, your name, your phone number and email address. We will forward you the specific training topic within one week of your registration.

**Register by email** [CommunityInfoSessions@Hennepin.us](mailto:CommunityInfoSessions@Hennepin.us) **or**  
**calling 612-596-6631**

# **NEW Overview of the Elderly Waiver and the Alternative Care Program for those 65 and older**

## **County Long-Term Care Programs for People Over 65**

Hennepin County representatives will discuss long-term care programs and services available for people 65 years and older. The goal of these programs is to prevent nursing home admissions by providing services at home to keep people successful and safe.

Programs we will discuss are Elderly Waiver and Alternative Care Program. Bring your questions!

## **Who will benefit from the information?**

People who are 65 and older who may need in home support services and their legal representatives.

## **In Person:**

### **Van Cleve Rec Center**

Southeast Seniors

**Wednesday, November 20, 2024**

**1:30 PM to 2:30 PM**

901 15th Ave. SE

Minneapolis, MN 55414

## **Electronically:**

A YouTube training with more information on this topic is also available.

- When registering include the title Waiver Overview, your name, your phone number, and email address. We will forward you the specific training topic within one week of your registration.

**Register by email [CommunityInfoSessions@Hennepin.us](mailto:CommunityInfoSessions@Hennepin.us) or calling 612-596-6631**

## **NEW IN PERSON and ELECTRONIC SESSIONS on Consumer Directed Community Support**

### **Virtual Consumer Directed Community Support (CDCS) Question and Answer Sessions**

This session is for current CDCS users or future users who have questions about Hennepin processes or plan writing. Bring your questions about processes that you need clarified. The focus should be on how CDCS works or how to write/update your CDCS plan. We will not be able to answer specific questions about approved or denied items.

**\*Prerequisite:** You should already have a referral in to Hennepin County for CDCS services or open to CDCS, be open or screened for a waiver and be open to Medical Assistance (MA).

#### **Electronically:**

<b>Wednesday,</b>	<b>September 18, 2024,</b>	<b>9 AM to 10 AM</b>
<b>Monday,</b>	<b>October 7, 2024,</b>	<b>4 PM to 5 PM</b>
<b>Wednesday,</b>	<b>October 16, 2024,</b>	<b>9 AM to 10 AM</b>
<b>Monday,</b>	<b>November 4, 2024</b>	<b>4 PM to 5 PM</b>
<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>November 20, 2024</b>	<b>9 AM to 10 AM</b>
<b>Monday,</b>	<b>December 2, 2024</b>	<b>4 PM to 5 PM</b>
<b>Wednesday,</b>	<b>December 18, 2024</b>	<b>9 AM to 10 AM</b>

Click ["join the meeting now"](#) to join the session.

**Microsoft Teams** [Join the meeting now](#)

Meeting ID: 294 089 049 637

Passcode: qMxnGd

**Dial-in by phone**

[+1 612-263-6117, 518048714#](#)

Phone conference ID: 518 048 714#

**Register by email** [CommunityInfoSessions@Hennepin.us](mailto:CommunityInfoSessions@Hennepin.us) **or**  
**calling 612-596-6631**

## An Overview of Consumer Directed Community Support Services (CDCS)

In person three-hour trainings that provide an overview of CDCS to learn about what CDCS is and how to navigate the enrollment process. CDCS is a self-directed service that offers flexibility for people receiving services to be the employer of their staff, set a pay rate within a range for them, write their own plan and manage how services are delivered. These monthly, in person trainings will answer your questions and provide the details you need to start services.

**\*Prerequisite:** You should already have a referral in to Hennepin County for CDCS services or open to CDCS, be open or screened for a waiver and be open to Medical Assistance (MA).

**In Person: Wednesday, September 4, 2024, 9:30 AM to 12:30 PM**

**Hennepin County – Ridgedale Library, Lady Slipper Room 275**

**12601 Ridgedale Dr, Minnetonka, MN 55305**

[directions](#)

**In Person: Wednesday, October 9, 2024, 9:30 AM to 12:30 PM**

**Hennepin County – Ridgedale Library, Room 172**

**12601 Ridgedale Dr, Minnetonka, MN 55305**

[directions](#)

**In Person: Wednesday, November 6, 2024, 9:30 AM to 12:30 PM**

**Hennepin County – Ridgedale Library, Lady Slipper Room 275**

**12601 Ridgedale Dr, Minnetonka, MN 55305**

[directions](#)

**In Person: Wednesday, December 4, 2024, 9:30 AM to 12:30 PM**

**Hennepin County – Ridgedale Library, Room 172**

**12601 Ridgedale Dr, Minnetonka, MN 55305**

[directions](#)

You decide.

Your help.

Register by email [CommunityInfoSessions@Hennepin.us](mailto:CommunityInfoSessions@Hennepin.us) or calling 612-596-6631

# Rideshare Transportation Updates for Hennepin County

Also hear about new developments like Metro Move, a new ride service for those with waiver services, and others. This session is offered electronically on TEAMS. See the link below.

## Who Should View the Training?

Parents, legal representatives, and persons with disabilities



**Tuesday, December 10, 2024, 5 PM to 6:30 PM**

## Microsoft Teams

[Join the meeting now](#)

Meeting ID: 294 076 519 851

Passcode: fD8eSu

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### Dial in by phone

[+1 612-263-6117,,219286384#](#) United States, Minneapolis

[\(612\) 263-6117,,219286384#](#) United States (Toll-free)

[Find a local number](#)

Phone conference ID: 219 286 384#

**Register by email [CommunityInfoSessions@Hennepin.us](mailto:CommunityInfoSessions@Hennepin.us) or  
calling 612-596-6631**

## **Consumer Support Grant (CSG)**

CSG is an alternative to Personal Care Assistance (PCA) Services (MA Homecare). It is directed by the person or caregiver/parent. CSG allows people enrolled to access a different set of support services within their CSG budget. Examples are prescribed special diets, art therapy, music therapy, and support staff. Please register for the online training below by calling 612-348-2939 or emailing [HSPH.LTSS.CSG@hennepin.us](mailto:HSPH.LTSS.CSG@hennepin.us) .

### **Who Should View the Training?**

People who attend must have open Medical Assistance and have a current PCA assessment. Please have the individual's medical assistance number and a copy of the most recent PCA Assessment.

### **How to sign up and attend training? \***

To start the Consumer Support Grant training is required and is online.

**If you are interested in completing the CSG Training, please email the address below to receive online training materials.**

Please note, much of this training can be completed on a smart phone. Should you have additional questions or need assistance, please reach out to the CSG Team and we would be happy to assist you.

Email: [HSPH.LTSS.CSG@hennepin.us](mailto:HSPH.LTSS.CSG@hennepin.us)

CSG Coverage Line Voicemail: 612-348-2939

# Spanish CSG Electronic Training

## **Subsidio de respaldo al consumidor hispanohablante (CSG, por sus siglas en inglés)**

CSG es una alternativa a los servicios de ayuda del cuidado personal (PCA) y cuidado domiciliario (MA). Este subsidio es administrado por la persona, el cuidador o padre de familia. El subsidio CSG permite a las personas inscritas acceder un grupo de servicios de ayuda con el presupuesto de CSG. Por ejemplo: dietas especiales recetadas, terapia artística, terapia musical y personal de ayuda. La capacitación en línea (por Internet) es en español y explicará como la persona puede tener acceso a este programa y como utilizar los fondos distribuidos.

### **¿Quién debe asistir?**

Las personas que asisten a esta capacitación deberán tener el servicio de asistencia médica y tener una evaluación actual PCA. Favor de tener el número de asistencia médica de la persona y una copia de la evaluación PCA más reciente.

### **¿Cómo inscribirse y asistir a la capacitación?**

Debido a la pandemia del COVID-19, CSG ha cambiado sus capacitaciones a una plataforma digital (por Internet). Para poder iniciarse en CSG, usted tiene que capacitarse.

Si está interesado(a) en hacer la capacitación CSG, se pide que escriba al correo electrónico de abajo, para que reciba los materiales de capacitación. Tenga en cuenta que, la mayoría de esta capacitación se puede hacer con un teléfono inteligente. Si tiene alguna otra pregunta o si necesita ayuda, comuníquese con el personal de CSG y con mucho gusto lo ayudaremos.

Correo electrónico: [HSPH.LTSS.CSG@hennepin.us](mailto:HSPH.LTSS.CSG@hennepin.us)

Línea telefónica CSG donde puede dejar correo de voz: 612-348-2939.



# **Somali CSG Electronic Training**

CSG waa u bedel Adeegyada Kaalmada Daryeelka Shakhsiyeed (PCA) (MA Home care). Waxaa haga qofka ama daryeelaha / waalidka. CSG waxay u oggolaaneysaa dadka ka diiwaangashan inay marin u helaan noocyo kala duwan oo adeegyo taageero ah miisaaniyadooda CSG. Tusaalooyinka waxaa ka mid ah: Cunnooyinka gaarka ah ee loo qoro, daaweynta farshaxanka, daweynta muusikada, iyo shaqaalaha taageerada.

Tababarka khadka tooska ah ee internetka wuxuu sharxi doonaa sida qofku u heli karo barnaamijka iyo sida loo isticmaalo lacagaha loo qoondeeyay.

## **Kumaa ka qeyb galaya?**

Dadka imanaya waa inay lahaadaan Gargaar Caafimaad oo furan oo ay yeeshaan qiimeyn PCA oo hadda ah. Fadlan hayso lambarka kaalmada caafimaad ee qofka iyo koobiga qiimaynta PCA-ga ee ugu dambeeyay.

## **Sidee loo qoraa oo loo xaadiraa tababarka?**

Sababo la xiriira COVID 19 Faafida, CSG waxay u dhaqaaqday qaab tababar internetka ah. Si loo bilaabo CSG, tababar ayaa loo baahan yahay.

Haddii aad xiisaynayso dhammaystirka Tababarka CSG, fadlan emaylkan hoos ku soo dir si aad u hesho qalabka tababarka internetka. Fadlan la soco, in badan oo tababarkan ah ayaa lagu dhammayn karaa taleefanka caqliga leh.

Haddii aad qabtid su'aalo dheeraad ah ama aad u baahan tahay caawimaad, fadlan la xiriir Kooxda CSG waana ku faraxsanahay inaan ku caawino.

Iimayl: [HSPH.LTSS.CSG@hennepin.us](mailto:HSPH.LTSS.CSG@hennepin.us)

Khadka Tooska ah ee Cilmiga Caymiska ee CSG: 612-348-2939

# Family Support Grant (FSG)

The Family Support Grant (FSG) program provides cash grants to families of children with certified disabilities. The goal is to prevent or delay out-of-home placement of children with disabilities and promote family health and social well-being by providing access to family-centered services and supports specific to the child's disability.

This session will explain the basics of the FSG program and how to complete the application to ensure program compliance.

Who Should Attend? Case managers and families who want additional information to apply for their eligible child.

## Eligibility Criteria:

- Person must be under age 25.
- Must live in biological or adoptive home, or transitioning home from a temporary licensed residential facility if grant is awarded.
- Family income must not exceed \$125,635 (income verification is required, such as, check stubs, W-2's, tax returns, public assistance approval letters)
  - Except in cases where extreme hardship is demonstrated
- Must be currently disabled through one of the following ways:
  - Social Security Administration (SSI)
  - State Medical Review Team (SMRT)
  - Children who are working with a CMH case manager
  - Individuals that have a Lead Agency Rule 185 DD Case Manager, must still be certified disabled

Note: Families receiving services under the Developmental Disabilities Waiver, Community Alternative Care Waiver, Community Alternative for Disabled Individuals Waiver, Brain Injury Waiver, Consumer Support Grant or Personal Care Assistance are not eligible for the Family Support Grant.

Please reach out to the FSG team to request the electronic training session by emailing [HSPH.ADS.FSG@hennepin.us](mailto:HSPH.ADS.FSG@hennepin.us) or calling 612-348-2939.

# **YOU Are Invited to the 2024 Fall Transition Extravaganza!**

**Tuesday, October 15, 2024, 2 PM to 5 PM**

**An afternoon of information about services available for transition-age people with disabilities (ages 16-23) and their families, case managers, and school staff. (Live Event in Person)**

- A vocational services **provider fair!**
- Presentation on Guardianship and Supported Decision Making
- Staff from the Department of Vocational Rehabilitation
- Info on programs and services from Hennepin County and MORE!

**Ridgedale Library, 12601 Ridgedale Dr,**

**Minnetonka, MN 55305, Robert H. Rohlf Room**

- Information
- Answers
- Refreshments

- In Person
- Collaboration
- Spectacular!



**Register by calling 612-596-6631 or email [CommunityInfoSessions@Hennepin.us](mailto:CommunityInfoSessions@Hennepin.us). Please include your name, email address and the topic name (Extravaganza) and date!**



**Community Section**—Hennepin County does not explicitly endorse the following organizations but includes their information and training topics as a public service for the general public.

## **Supported Employment Training Nicole Rabinowitz, Inclusive Networking**

Nicole Rabinowitz grew up in Minneapolis and graduated from the University of Kansas. She was trained in Customized Employment through Marc Gold and Associates and currently is an associate who trains and certifies those seeking Discovery Certification. Nicole is very passionate about supporting job seekers in finding integrated, competitive employment as well as providing support and innovative training to employers, employment specialists and job coaches to create more diverse and inclusive work environments. Nicole is the founder of Inclusive Networking where she provides trainings in Customized Employment and services in discovery, job development and ongoing supports.

[inclusivenetworking.com](http://inclusivenetworking.com) Contact: [nicole@inclusivenetworking.com](mailto:nicole@inclusivenetworking.com)

# discapitados abriéndos caminos

## d.a.c Family Center—Serving Spanish families, children, youth with disabilities.

[www.dacfamilycenter.org](http://www.dacfamilycenter.org)

As elders, advocates, educators and friends, the Ana and Kevin Pérez serve Spanish families, children, youth with disabilities, helping them over the hurdles of the healthcare, public services, schools and community systems. By being a constant source of support, d.a.c. has become a home away from home for the diverse community it serves.

- **Educate** We help you understand your child, youth, adult or family member with disability, and teach you how to get the resources they need, and the support you need. Our training is offered to make sure they understand their rights and responsibilities under IDEA also ADA.
- **Connect** We work closely with each family to bridge the culture and language gap that can be frustrating when dealing with hospitals, clinics, schools, and social services. We also host a weekly support group to help families connect with others who are experiencing disabilities. We also provide different trainings and bring resources from the community.
- **Listen** No two families are the same. By listening to your family's needs we make sure you get personalized support to help you cope with disability. From attending hospital appointments, to visiting with you at your home, we are there for you every step of the way.

**Address:**

discapitados abriéndose  
caminos 107 7th Avenue South  
South St. Paul, MN 55075

**Email:** [centro@dacmn.org](mailto:centro@dacmn.org)

**Internet:**

[www.dacfamilycenter.org](http://www.dacfamilycenter.org)

**Phone:** 651-293-1748

**Fax:** 651-293-1744

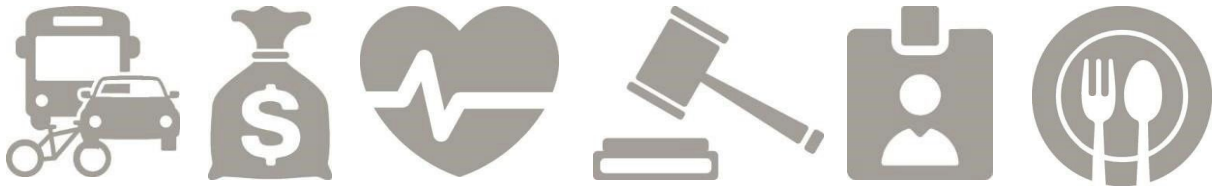
# ARE YOU 14-26 YRS OLD?

WE ARE HERE, HELPING  
YOU THRIVE



Health - Housing - Education - Transportation and IDs Job or Career - Cash and Food

- Relationships and support



## CHECKOUT

[www.hennepin.us/helpforyouth](http://www.hennepin.us/helpforyouth)





## Minnesota Independence College and Community

Minnesota Independence College and Community (MICC) is a nonprofit organization dedicated to transforming the lives of autistic and neurodivergent young adults. Since 1996, MICC has been providing comprehensive vocational and life skills training programs designed to help participants achieve independence and self-sufficiency.

Located in the heart of Richfield, just 15 minutes south of Minneapolis, the unique campus provides an experiential learning and apartment-living environment where participants can thrive.

The three-year College Program focuses on independent living skills, holistic healthy living, career skills and employment, and social and emotional learning.

### Independent Living Skills and Home Care

- Shopping
- Planning meals
- Cooking
- Personal hygiene
- Managing money
- Public transportation
- Goal setting
- Problem solving

### Career Skills and Employment

- Certified Century College certificates:
  - Retail Hospitality
  - Culinary
  - Health and Health Services
- Employment search
- Professionalism
- Maintaining employment

### Social-Emotional Learning

- Making and keeping friends
- Personal boundaries
- Self-awareness
- Participant-led clubs
- Evening and weekend social activities
- Off-campus excursions
- Special events

Participants live on-campus in fully furnished three-bedroom apartments with their peers. Skill development is assessed regularly, and instruction is adjusted as participants progress towards greater independence.

MICC believes in the potential for participants to live an independent, vibrant life and offer a variety of programs to support them on their journey.

Call or click to schedule a campus visit and learn more about how MICC can help you or your loved one achieve independence and success.

### Contact

7501 Logan Avenue S, Suite 2A  
 Richfield, MN 55423  
 612-869-4008

[www.miccommunity.org](http://www.miccommunity.org)  
[info@miccommunity.org](mailto:info@miccommunity.org)

## **The Arc MN**

The Arc MN The Arc Minnesota promotes and protects the human rights of people with intellectual and developmental disabilities. People with disabilities and their families trust The Arc for information, assistance, education, and public policy leadership. Including and supporting people who have disabilities 641 Fairview Avenue N., St. Paul, MN 55104  
Phone: [\(866\) 797-1122](tel:8667971122)

[www.arcminnesota.org](http://www.arcminnesota.org)





# WHAT IS E1MN?

**E1MN means Employment First Minnesota. Minnesota plans to support people with disabilities to find jobs. Your waiver case manager, employment service provider, and vocational rehabilitation counselor work together. They help you find and keep a job. There are four parts to E1MN. Engage, Plan, Find, and Keep.**

## 1. Engage

***This part is paid for by your waiver.*** This is a chance for you to learn more about working and what it means for you. It is a time for you to ask questions so that you can make an informed choice. You will work with an employment service provider during this phase.

## 2. Plan

***This is also paid for by your waiver.\**** A job developer from an employment service provider will work with you. They will learn about your interests and strengths. They will also help you get ready for a job search. The job developer will work with you to learn about different kinds of jobs. This may include watching jobs or visiting workplaces. You'll make a resume to tell employers about your skills. And, you'll practice job skills like interviewing.

## 3. Find

***Vocational Rehabilitation Services (VRS) pays for someone to help you find a job.*** This person will help you apply for jobs, talk to employers, and support you with interviews. It could be the same employment service provider. They help you engage, plan, and keep. Or it could be a different provider.

## 4. Keep

***Once you find a job, a job coach from an employment service provider can help you learn how to do your job.*** They will also check in with you to make sure things are going well. They will help you solve any problems you might have with your employer. Your waiver will pay for this service.

Some employment service providers work with both VRS and waivers.\* Finding a provider who does both can make the process easier for you! When you are looking for employment support, your waiver case manager can help you with this.

### **Waiver Case Manager\***

Your county or tribal government will assign you a waiver case manager. They can help you identify, access, and navigate employment support and services. They can also give you information a person needs to make informed choices about working. Hennepin County Funded DD Employment Services and case management may be available for those not on a waiver with DD Rule 185 eligibility.

### **Vocational Rehabilitation Counselor**

A vocational rehabilitation counselor works for Vocational Rehabilitation Services. They will work with your employment service provider to help you find a job. The job will fit your skills and interests. They might help you get special equipment to be able to do your job or pay for training to help you get a job.

### **Employment Service Provider**

They help you make informed decisions about work. Then, they help you set and reach work goals.

# WHAT WILL HAPPEN TO MY BENEFITS IF I WORK?



## **SSI has work incentives**

They help people on SSI work without worrying about losing their benefits. SSI lets you keep some of your money without reducing your benefits. SSI doesn't count all of the money you earn when they figure out how much SSI you will get. They also subtract disability expenses from your income. They do this before they calculate your SSI payment. SSI also makes it easy to get back on SSI if your job doesn't work out.

## **SSDI work incentives**

You can have a trial work period. It lets you try working without losing your SSDI benefits. You can earn a certain amount of money and still keep your SSDI benefits. If your income goes over the limit, you can keep your SSDI for a few more months to make sure that your job works out.

## **Health benefits**

If your income is low enough, your Medical Assistance will not be cut. Once you start making more money, you can keep your Medical Assistance. There is a special program for people with disabilities who work. You pay a monthly fee —like an insurance premium, and you can stay on Medical Assistance. This will help you keep the supports you use in place.

## **ABLE accounts**

ABLE accounts let you save money without hurting your benefits. You can put money in your ABLE account with money you earn from a job. Family members can also put money into an ABLE account for you. ABLE accounts can pay for things you need because of your disability. You can pay for food or transportation. You can pay for school or job training. You pay for a home and for someone to help you at home.

## **Where to get help**

Don't worry! You don't have to figure this out on your own. Trained benefits planners can help you understand disability benefits. They also explain how work affects them. Their goal is to help you understand how work and your benefits can work together. Contact the Disability Hub to get your questions answered, [www.disabilityhubmn.org](http://www.disabilityhubmn.org) or call them at 1-866-333-2466.

# HOW DO I GET STARTED?

Talk to your county or tribal case manager to find services and supports to help you get a job.

## What if I don't have a case manager?

Contact Disability Hub at [www.disabilityhubmn.org](http://www.disabilityhubmn.org) or call them at 1-866-333-2466. They can connect you with resources to find a job. In Hennepin County you can make a referral for case management services by contacting Front Door Social Services at: 612-348-4111 option 0

## What will happen first?

You will be able to ask about working. You can ask how it affects your benefits and what support can help you work. This will help you decide if competitive integrated employment is for you.

## Then what happens?

You will work with a job developer. You will learn about jobs that fit your skills and interests. You might visit different workplaces. You might try out different jobs or have interviews to learn about a job. You might use this time to learn new skills and to develop a resume. During this time, you will also learn if there are supports that would help you do your job.

## What if I know what kind of job I want?

Once you know what kind of job you want, Vocational Rehabilitation Services (VRS) will help you find a job. They will assign someone to work with you on your job search. They will help you fill out applications. They will go to interviews with you and talk to employers about your skills. They will also help you get any work supports you need.

## I got the job! Now what?

You will work with a job coach who will help you learn your job. Once you know your job, they will check to make sure things are going well.



**Customized Employment (CE)** is another way of finding competitive integrated employment. CE matches the strengths, skills, and abilities of people with significant disabilities. It matches them with the unmet needs of employers.



# WHAT ARE THE ADVANTAGES OF WORKING?

## Financial security

People who work in Competitive Integrated Employment (CIE) earn more money. Social Security and benefits programs have rules that promote work. These rules let you work, earn, and save more.

## Learn new skills

CIE gives you the opportunity to use the skills you have. It also gives you an opportunity to learn new skills. Learning new skills can help you feel more confident and feel accomplished.

## Build new relationships

People who have CIE meet new people at work. They have a bigger social network. This can help you have stronger connections with your community.

## Increase Independence

People who have CIE have more independence. Earning more, learning new skills, and having a big social network can all help you be more independent.

## Have a sense of purpose

Working is one way that people have a sense of purpose. Having purpose means that you have meaningful activities and goals. This can help you be healthier physically and mentally.

### Still Have Questions?

Contact the Disability Hub to get your questions answered. Visit [www.disabilityhubmn.org](http://www.disabilityhubmn.org) or call them at 1-866-333-2466.

# COMMUNITY LIFE ENGAGEMENT

## What is Community Life Engagement?

Community Life Engagement is support to help you take part in your community. It is for when you are not at work.

## What is the benefit of Community Life Engagement?

When you find a job, your employer may not need you daily or only need you for part of a day. Community Life Engagement means you can do activities that matter to you. You can do them when you are not working. Community Life Engagement can help you try new things. It can help you learn new skills and meet new people.

## What kinds of things would I be doing?

It depends on your interests and what is important to you! Some people volunteer. Some people work on their hobbies or follow other interests. Some people join groups of other people with the same interests. The goal is to help you be an active participant in your community.

## What if I don't know what I want to do?

A provider agency will work with you to identify your skills and interests. They will help you find opportunities that are a good fit for you. They can also help you explore activities to see what you like.

## How do I learn more about Community Life Engagement?

Your case manager can connect you with provider agencies. You can ask them how they support people to take part in Community Life Engagement.



You can also contact the Disability Hub. They can give you more information and answer your questions. Visit their website at [www.disabilityhubmn.org](http://www.disabilityhubmn.org) or call them at 1-866-333-2466