

GUIDING PRINCIPLES

The principles which guide the Philadelphia service system as it seeks to assist and support people with an intellectual disAbility to achieve the highest quality of life state supports and services offered to people must be:

SELF - DIRECTED Directed and controlled by the individual.

FULFILLING Designed to meet the wishes, dreams, desires and needs of the individual.

INTEGRATED Provided in settings that are integrated in the community and used by other, non-disabled people.

STIGMA - FREE Free of labels that demean or offend the individual.

HIGH QUALITY Of the highest possible quality.

SUPPORTIVE Designed to insure that individuals who need the support of others are provided that support.

RESPECTFUL Respectful of each person's right to privacy and personal autonomy as well as all other rights granted by law or regulation.

ACCESSIBLE Physically accessible to all people, with accessibility not only "provided for" but made meaningful, via responsive transit systems and the provision of assistance to those who need it to move successfully through-out their community.

EMPOWERING Designed to enhance the person's ability to make choices, live independently, and take control of his/her life, including the right to take risks and chances.

POSITIVE Provided in positive, non-intrusive, non-punishing ways.

GROWTH-ENHANCING Designed to help the person grow and develop, building on his/her present abilities and gifts while teaching new, more challenging skills.

FLEXIBLE Flexible, with the ability to change as the desires and needs of the individual change.

INDIVIDUALIZED Responsive to the uniqueness of the individual and respectful of the cultural diversity that characterizes our society.

APPROPRIATE Designed so as not to "over serve" or overprotect the individual.

MEANINGFUL Designed to promote meaningful lives, meaningful relationships, and meaningful careers, with time for relaxation and fun.

ACCOUNTABLE Provided honestly, responsibly and respectfully by people of integrity, with full accountability to the people served.

CONTINUALLY EVALUATED Regularly evaluated internally and externally to insure that all practices are reflective of state-of-the-art thinking and best practices.

COLLABORATIVE Designed by a partnership formed between the individual, his or her circle of support, and all of the people who are or will be providing services.

STABLE Maintained for as long, and only as long as they are needed.

—Values and Guiding Principles developed by the Community Collaborative, 1991.