

Resources/Additional Information

The resources below were compiled to share what other providers and other states are engaging in to work toward HCBS compliance. The information for New England Village, Volunteers of America (Southeast) and Family Residences & Essential Enterprises, Inc. was obtained through their presentations, shared at the August 2016 Reinventing Quality Conference.

New England Village (NEV)

[\(http://www.newenglandvillage.org/\)](http://www.newenglandvillage.org/)

This provider has begun exploring a collaborative, expanded relationship with the Town of Pembroke, Massachusetts to explore needed public transportation options. They are also in the process of re-evaluating their financial and physical assets. The trade association in Massachusetts also partnered and assembled 14 provider members to form an HCBS workgroup. They developed a certification tool to help ensure providers enrolling are able to comply with the HCBS Rule. NEV also developed a three year strategic plan for their business and identified the following priorities to focus on:

- External relations
- Evaluation of new programs or ways to add populations
- Human capital
- Technology/System enhancements for ongoing monitoring of identified HCBS requirements

NEV has implemented some reverse integration strategies, but it was not the only approach utilized in a given setting to work toward HCBS compliance.

Volunteers of America Southeast

[\(http://www.voasoutheast.org/Disabilities1.html\)](http://www.voasoutheast.org/Disabilities1.html)

Volunteers of America Southeast engaged in targeted efforts to identify transition age youth opportunities to support movement directly into competitive employment. Project GATE is a state collaborative effort between the state's Department of Mental Health/Developmental Disabilities (MH/DD) and Department of Vocational Rehabilitation (VR). Specific information about this project is highlighted here: http://www.communityinclusion.org/article.php?article_id=395

Family Residences & Essential Enterprises, Inc. (FREE) – New York

[\(http://www.familyres.org/\)](http://www.familyres.org/)

This provider's goal was to raise awareness of families and the community specifically to demonstrate that people with disabilities could participate in the community like everyone else – this would assist in helping their community understand and support their efforts in HCBS compliance. FREE organized a Community Theater experience (via the BroadHollow Theater Company) to move a center-based theater production to a community setting. FREE also developed web content and subsequent videos to highlight this effort's success.

Indiana-specific Initiatives

Indiana's Sheltered Workshop Transition contractors (Sycamore Services, Inc., and The Arc of Northeast Indiana) have been working over several months to develop and implement innovative practices for transitioning individuals from sheltered work to community employment. One of the initiatives that both agencies have utilized is an internship model which provides individuals with various work experiences within a larger business setting. Both agencies worked to build relationships with local employers on the benefits employers and the individuals would receive from an internship program.

Both have worked closely with hospitals in their area to establish several internship opportunities across the settings. For example, an internship “rotation” has included stocking medical supplies in patient rooms, grounds keeping, janitorial, customer service, logistics and scheduling. There have been several placements in competitive employment at both the internship sites and with other business where there was a job match based on the skills acquired during the internship. One of the major outcomes of this work will be a comprehensive report and “road map” that providers will be able to utilize to model similar programs in their area.