



Eric Holcomb, Governor
State of Indiana

Division of Disability and Rehabilitative Services
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TO: Bureau of Disabilities Services Waiver Providers, individuals, and families

FROM: Shelly Thomas, Outcomes Management Director, BDS

RE: BDS Mandatory Provider Training - Choice of Services and Settings

The Bureau of Disabilities Services mission is “To connect people with disabilities and their families to resources and supports to live their best life.” In support of this mission, BDS is committed to supporting our provider network in working toward a true person-centered system which empowers an individual to direct their services to the greatest extent possible.

As part of that commitment, BDS is hosting a web-based training opportunity focused on choice of services and settings.

Participants will learn about:

- What it means for individuals exercising choice in selecting a home, a housemate, a provider, waiver services, and non-waiver services;
- What it means for individuals to choose who provides support; and
- How to support individuals when making choices in life.

This opportunity is being provided at no cost to participants and is mandatory for all approved Bureau of Disabilities Services home and community-based services providers. This means if your organization is a current BDS service provider of any home and community-based services, an executive level staff member of your organization is required attend this training. Sign-up, participation, and completion of this training will be verified and monitored throughout the training.

All others, including individuals with disabilities, program managers, direct support professionals, case managers and families are welcome to attend.

Advance registration is required to receive a link to join. Please do not share the log in information or share your email address with others or use it to register other people. To verify attendance virtually, Zoom uses your email address. If you share it with others, attendance cannot be verified. If you call in instead of using the log in info, Zoom will not track your attendance. You must have an account with Zoom (free to register) and it should be the same email address used to register for ease of verification and log in.

We are offering this training at three different times. Please be aware that each session is capped at 500 attendees, so if your first choice is full, please choose another date.

- November 2, 2023, at 10 - 11:30 a.m. ET - Register [Here](#)
- November 21, 2023, at 1 - 2:30 p.m. ET - Register [Here](#)
- November 29 2023, at 10 - 11:30 a.m. ET - Register [Here](#)

If you need accommodations to participate, please email sarah.vansickel@fssa.in.gov at least three days prior to the event.

If you have questions, please contact us at BDS.Help@fssa.IN.gov. We look forward to continuing to educate and support providers to empower individuals to live, love, learn, work, play and pursue their dreams!