

Positive practices	Benefits
1. Ongoing participation in community teams: - TIES consultants represent the insight and expertise regarding positive behavioral supports and mental health issues in the framework of person centered planning.	- <i>Build capacity within teams to blend mental health services within existing support.</i> - <i>Assurance of continued participation in supported community life.</i>
2. Individualized program recommendations: - Positive behavioral support plans are developed within the team process. - Plans are written in “user friendly” formats and accessible to direct providers. - Plans are updated on a regular basis.	- <i>Positive and planned approach to mental health issues in community settings.</i> - <i>Shared vision of support across community teams.</i> - <i>Continuity of care over time (plans span the regular turnover of direct providers).</i>
3. Therapeutic relationships: - Training of direct providers on skills in therapeutic rapport and providing “situational counseling.” - Offering counseling and psycho-therapy with DD expertise.	- <i>Emotional support in daily life.</i> - <i>Assuring access to effective counseling/therapy.</i>
4. Build intensive supports/interventions within community programs: - Offer extensive training to teams supporting severe and persistent mental health challenges. - Safety accommodation for individuals with aggressive, destructive or self injurious tendencies. - Ongoing evaluation to avoid rights violations.	- <i>Offer comprehensive behavioral supports in the community.</i> - <i>Assured safety for consumer, care givers, and the community.</i> - <i>Prevent emergency stays in more restrictive settings.</i> - <i>Close monitoring of individual rights.</i>
5. Training on mental health issues and positive behavioral supports: - Offer at low cost to assure access of direct care staff. - Offer frequently to accommodate staff turnover.	- <i>A trained and educated work force.</i> - <i>Regular and accessible dissemination of best practice.</i>
6. Environmental adaptations: - Safety features designed to minimize the adverse impact of challenging behaviors (e.g. - impact resistant glass on windows, sound proof apartment walls). - Modifications are designed in a manner to blend in with the decor of supported living. - Modifications are developed in concert with positive behavior plans.	- <i>Offer safety features formerly only available in institutional settings to the community.</i> - <i>Safe, low stress life styles.</i>
7. Psychiatry with DD expertise: - Creation of a specialty clinic. - Education of community psychiatrists on DD issues. - Education of teams in effective use of psychiatric visits.	- <i>Psychiatric services available to consumers.</i> - <i>Community psychiatrists educated on DD issues.</i> - <i>Improved capacity of community teams to partner with psychiatry.</i>
8. Crisis response services in the community: - Emergency access to behavioral specialists and/or psychiatry. - Access to a pool of specially trained direct providers to enhance support in community living and work settings. - Brief stays in a “crisis home” in the community.	- <i>Appropriate crisis response.</i> - <i>Continuity of care in the community.</i> - <i>Avoid unnecessary and costly stays in more restrictive settings or jail.</i>

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