**OHIO DODD WORK GROUP**

**Draft Service Definition # 3**

**Revised January 20, 2015**

**Integrated Community Supports/Community Inclusion Supports**

*Note: Goal to have one service title and definition across waivers. The final title and definition agreed upon is intended to replace Community Inclusion under SELF waiver and Adult Day Habilitation under other waivers.*

Integrated Community Supports provides participants with opportunities to engage in integrated, community based activities that support socialization, education, recreation and personal development for the purpose of:

(1) Building and strengthening relationships with others in the local community who are not paid to be with the person;

(2) Learning, practicing and applying skills that promote greater independence and inclusion in their community, including skills in arranging and using public transportation; and,

(3) Engaging in activities that build social capital.

Integrated Community Supports involve the provision of supports for participation in regularly scheduled activities in integrated community settings. Integrated Community Supports can originate from a person’s home, residential setting, employment setting or day habilitation setting consistent with the CMS transition plan, but only shall be provided in integrated community settings, separate from the participant’s private residence or other residential living arrangement. Integrated Community Supports enable the person to experience greater participation, involvement and meaningful connection with his or her community, through support to participate in community activities, join community associations, clubs or other membership-based groups, and form relationships with other members of the community with and without disabilities, who are not paid staff and who increase the person’s network of natural relationships and supports. Integrated community supports include “mainstream” recreational, social, educational, cultural, spiritual, athletic activities that are frequented by individuals without disabilities as parts of their meaningful lives.

Integrated Community Supports can include but is not limited to the following:

* Person-centered assessment or discovery process to identify a participant’s interests, desires, preferences and support needs related to community participation, community involvement and building/sustaining meaningful relationships with other members of his or her community.
* Supports to participate in community activities consistent with the individual’s interests, preferences and goals
* Opportunities for social skill development
* Support to join community organizations, associations or formal/informal groups
* Community Mobility and safety training
* Volunteering
* Money management/budgeting to facilitate participation in integrated community activities.
* Supports to build self-determination/self- advocacy skills and experiences
* Activities that build social capital
* Peer support and mentorship
* Supports and opportunities that increase problem solving skills to maximize an individuals’ ability to independently participate in integrated community activities.
* Supports to develop and maintain a meaningful social life that offers opportunities for personal growth, independence and natural supports through community involvement, participation and relationships.
* Support to participate in self-advocacy organizations and activities that build self-advocacy skills.

Integrated Community Supports may also be used to provide supported retirement activities consistent with individual preferences, goals and needs. Rest time throughout the day can be accommodated within Integrated Community Supports where the service is supporting retirement activities. Integrated Community Supports for retirement should enable participants to participate in “mainstream” retirement activities in their communities and to interact with others with and without disabilities who are retired in their communities.

Integrated Community Supports shall be coordinated with any employment services or supports a participant may be receiving to reinforce employment as a priority life activity. Integrated Community Supports shall also be coordinated with any needed therapies in the individual’s person-centered service plan, such as physical, occupational, or speech therapy. Integrated Community Supports can include supports for volunteering where the volunteering is not being done to help someone prepare for employment.

This service shall be delivered in a variety of integrated community settings that offer opportunities for the individual to achieve his or her personally identified goals for community integration, involvement, exploration and for developing and sustaining and network of positive natural supports. All settings where Integrated Community Supports is provided must meet all of the following criteria (no later than March 17, 2024, subject to the CMS approval of Ohio’s settings transition plan):

1. The setting is integrated in and supports full access of individuals receiving Medicaid HCBS to the greater community, including opportunities to seek employment and work in competitive integrated settings, engage in community life, control personal resources, and receive services in the community, to the same degree of access as individuals not receiving Medicaid HCBS.
2. The setting ensures an individual's rights of privacy, dignity and respect, and freedom from coercion and restraint.
3. The setting optimizes, but does not regiment, individual initiative, autonomy, and independence in making life choices, including but not limited to, daily activities, physical environment, and with whom to interact.
4. The setting facilitates individual choice regarding services and supports, and who provides them.
5. The setting is selected by the individual from among setting options that conform to the above criteria, including at least one non-disability specific setting option.

Integrated Community Supports may not be provided in any of the following settings (no later than March 17, 2014 subject to the CMS approval of the Ohio settings transition plan):

* Settings located in a publicly or privately-owned facility that provides inpatient treatment;
* Settings located on the grounds of, or immediately adjacent to, a public institution;
* Settings that have the effect of isolating individuals receiving Integrated Community Supports from the broader community of individuals not receiving Medicaid-funded HCBS.

Transportation for participants to get to and from the service is covered under Non-Medical Transportation and is not included in the rate paid to providers of this service. Transportation during service delivery can either be covered under Non-Medical transportation or included in the rate paid to providers for Integrated Community Supports but not both.

Personal care/assistance may be a component part of integrated prevocational services as necessary to meet the needs of an individual, but may not comprise the entirety of the service.

Service Limitations:

* If Integrated Community Supports includes meals, meals provided as part of these services shall not constitute a "full nutritional regimen" (3 meals per day).
* A participant’s individual service plan may include two or more types of non-residential habilitation services (e.g. Supported employment individual, Supported employment small group, Prevocational services, Integrated Community Supports); however, more than one service may not be billed during the same period of time (e.g. the same hour).
* Homemaker Personal Care services may not be billed during the same period of time (e.g. the same hour) as Integrated Community Supports.
* Working-age individuals wishing to access Integrated Community Supports shall confirm their agreement, at each service plan meeting or review meeting, following at least a bi-annual “informed choice” process, with the following:
  + Integrated Community Supports are not an alternative to working in competitive, integrated employment but are appropriate supports for times when individuals are not engaged in activities or services that are focused on obtaining or working in integrated, competitive employment, unless the individual has been through the “informed choice” process and made a decision not to seek competitive, integrated employment
  + Engaging in activities designed to advance an individual on his/her Employment Path is something the individual is committed to doing in addition to participating in Integrated Community Supports.
* Integrated Community Supports are available at the following staffing ratios: 1:1, 1:2, and 1:3.
* Integrated Community Supports can be provided for up to [6] hours a day and up to [5] days a week. Hours in a given day do not have to be contiguous. Time spent in transportation to and from the service shall not be included in the total amount of services provided per day.

Service Exclusions:

Integrated Community Supports payment shall not be made for the following:

(1) Vocational or prevocational services.

(2) Services that duplicate or replace education or related services defined in Public Law 94-142 that are also available to the individual.

(3) Medicaid funds may not be used to provide compensation to individuals for participating in Integrated Community Supports.

(4) Support for participants volunteering in for-profit organizations or businesses or volunteering to benefit the Integrated Community Supports service provider.

(5) Support for any activity involving paid work of any kind.

(6) Services provided in settings that do not meet the criteria included in the service definition.

(7) Services for older adults provided by Senior Centers funded by the federal Older Americans Act; supplemental individualized supports to participate in these services can be covered under Integrated Community Supports.

(8) Activities which are the responsibility of the waiver-funded residential services provider for the individual, such as cooking or laundry activities, skill development focused on keeping a home, food shopping, and similar activities.