

## IDAHO -- 2001 Real Choice Systems Change Grant

### Identified Problems with the States' Long-Term Care System

- Citizens with disabilities are located across all parts a large state that contains urban, rural and frontier areas.
- Almost the entire state is a designated health-professions shortage area.
- A lack of infrastructure for community-based services keep citizens isolated in institutions or, if in private settings, prevents them from full community living.
- Little is known about the desires of people with disabilities, their families, or their providers.

### Perceived Strengths

- Persons with disabilities, family members/guardians, and all stakeholders are committed to working for change.
- Change could be accomplished effectively as there is a large number of advocates involved in existing chartered groups.
- The population of the state is small enough to actually work effectively across the entire state.

### Primary Focus of Grant Activities

- Conduct a statewide anti-stigma campaign.
- Conduct a statewide needs and resources assessment.
- Conduct an economic analysis of current service and support utilization.
- Implement a community development project.
- Conduct an effectiveness study to test and refine a community plan.

### Goals, Objectives, and Activities

**Overall Goal.** To propose a statewide plan to increase service integration, consumer and stakeholder input, and create a monitoring system for continuous quality improvement.

**Goal.** Increase access to all services.

#### *Objectives/Activities*

- Conduct a statewide anti-stigma campaign.
- Consider use of a Medicaid-only medication option.
- Work to increase access to community-based affordable housing, transportation, and employment.

**Goal.** Increase availability and adequacy of services.

***Objectives/Activities***

- Conduct a needs and resources assessment.
- Conduct a survey of consumers, providers, legislators, and policymakers.

**Goal.** Increase or maintain the value of services and supports across the system.

***Objectives/Activities***

- Conduct an economic analysis of current service and support utilization.
- Maximize appropriate funding strategies and leveraging of available funds.
- Improve the match between services and supports and their reimbursement by exploring the potential for bundling services into a single daily rate and simplifying documentation requirements.

**Goal.** Increase or maintain quality of services and supports across the system

***Objectives/Activities***

- Develop a plan for changing the ways services and supports are delivered.
- Implement a community development project.
- Conduct an effectiveness study to test and refine a community-based plan.
- Develop an implementation plan for statewide application of the final community plan.

**Key Activities and Products**

- Develop videos, TV and radio spots, and print materials for the anti-stigma campaign.
- Conduct a needs and resource assessment.
- Develop a database to assess the cost-benefit of various system configurations.
- Implement a community development project.

**Consumer Partners and Consumer Involvement in Planning Activities**

- Input from a variety of individuals and advocacy groups.
- The Community Integration Committee (CIC) helped plan the grant by assessing the service delivery system. The CIC was convened in September 2000 made up of people with disabilities, family members, and multiple public and private groups that represent or provide services to people with disabilities. The include: the State Independent Living Council, Idaho Department of Education Division of Vocational Rehabilitation, Office of Mental Health Consumer Affairs, Idaho Council on Developmental Disabilities, State Commission on Aging, State Planning Council on Mental Health, University of Idaho's College of Education, Medicaid Division and advocacy groups such as the Brain Injury Association of Idaho.

## **Consumer Partners and Consumer Involvement in Implementation Activities**

- The CIC has been expanded to include more representation of consumers and other life areas including housing and transportation and will serve as the guidance committee for the project.
- Additional people will be sought to fill specific roles as appropriate.

## **Public Partners**

- The project is housed under the Idaho Dept. of Health and Welfare's (DHW) Divisions of Medicaid and Family and Community Services and contracted to the Idaho State University Institute of Rural Health, which has offices in several locations across the state.
- Council on Developmental Disabilities.
- DHW—Medicaid, Mental Health, Developmental Disabilities, Substance Abuse, and Children's Mental Health Departments.
- Idaho Division of Vocational Rehabilitation.
- Idaho Housing and Finance Association.
- Department of Transportation.
- Commission on Aging.
- State Mental Health Planning Council.
- Department of Education—Special Education Section.
- Department of Labor.

## **Private Partners and Subcontractors**

The Community Integration Committee, chartered by the Idaho Department of Health and Welfare, includes a large number of agencies and organizations, listed below:

- State Independent Living Council.
- Living Independence Network Corporation (LINC).
- Council on Developmental Disabilities.
- Comprehensive Advocacy Incorporated.
- AARP.
- Idaho Commission on Aging.
- Area Agencies on Aging.
- Consortium of Idahoans with Disabilities (CID), a group of over 30 disability/aging organizations statewide.
- Brain Injury Association of Idaho.
- The National Alliance of the Mentally Ill-Idaho Chapter.
- Idaho Health Care Association.
- Nursing Home Association.
- Idaho Housing Finance Association.
- Idaho Psychological Association.

## **Public and Private Partnership Development/Involvement in the Planning Phase**

- The primary vehicle for participation was the Community Integration Committee (CIC). However, additional comments were solicited. Most of the public and private partners are represented on this committee, whose work began long before the announcement of the System Change grants. The starting point for the grant was an interim report from the Community Integration Committee.
- Information was sought from the organizations listed above, as well as others. The method for seeking input was as follows: (a) through their participation on the CIC, (b) use of the CIC interim report, (c) a “think tank” day to convert the interim report into usable content for a cross-disabilities version of the report, (d) a second “think tank” meeting with a subcommittee vetted to speak for the larger group to make sure that we had captured the spirit of the recommendations, and (e) e-mail and phone calls for revisions during the writing process. Multiple versions of the grants were passed back and forth with some members of the CIC for comment.

## **Public and Private Partnership Development/Involvement in Implementation**

### **Public Partners**

- The CIC will continue to function in a key role for the project.
- The Interagency Working Group, composed of local, state, and federal agency representatives and providers, will provide technical assistance to the CIC and other work groups.
- Various state agencies will be consulted depending on the activity to be conducted.

### **Private Partners**

The state will develop partnerships with the media and other private agencies to extend the reach of the anti-stigma campaign. Other partners will be included as appropriate.

## **Oversight/Advisory Committee**

- The CIC has expanded to include more representation of consumers and will serve as the guidance committee for the project.
- An Interagency Working group will provide technical assistance to the CIC and other work groups.

## **Formative Learning and Evaluation Activities**

- Working group meetings and bi-annual reports will track and monitor progress.
- Outcomes data will be collected using a variety of measures (e.g., SF-12, quality of life measures, etc).
- Data collection will be ongoing, tailored for each activity. Information from each phase of the plan will be incorporated into phases that follow.

**Evidence of Enduring Change/Sustainability**

- The evidenced-based proposed plan that will be the end product of all the other activities in the grant, to the extent that it is funded and carried out.
- The state will have the final authority to accept, modify, or reject the proposed plan.

**Geographic Focus**

Statewide.