



Independent Facilitation for the Person Centered Planning Process Frequently Asked Questions 1.0

An Independent Facilitator is a part of the person-centered planning process who assists individuals in planning their life how they see fit. The Developmental Disabilities Institute offers training to prepare individuals to serve as Independent Facilitators. If you would like to request Independent Facilitator training for your group or organization, please complete the [MI-DDI Training Request Form](#).

The following are some frequently asked questions (FAQ's) regarding Independent Facilitation:

What is Independent Facilitation?

Independent facilitation is part of the person-centered planning process. It assures you that you have an ally in directing your person-centered planning meeting. Independent Facilitation is a Medicaid reimbursable service which may not cost an individual any money to use. Often one's Community Mental Health organization pays the Independent Facilitator directly.

What is an Independent Facilitator?

An Independent Facilitator responds directly to your dreams, desires and personal goals. The facilitator coordinates the planning process and assures that the plan is clear to all planning participants and is ready for implementation. This is someone other than your existing Support Coordinator.

Who can be your Independent Facilitator?

You do have a choice of who can be your Independent Facilitator:

- You can facilitate your person-centered planning process
- You can choose someone you trust to facilitate the person-centered planning process

- You can choose someone trained as an Independent Facilitator

What does an Independent Facilitator do?

Independent Facilitators can do all of the following:

- Help you identify your dreams and goals
- Assist you in arranging your planning meeting
- Keep your meetings focused on you (person-centered)
- Make sure you are heard and understood
- Provide information on a variety of supports (i.e. natural, community, system)

What does an Independent Facilitator NOT do?

Independent Facilitators DO NOT generally perform the following duties:

- Decide what will be paid for in your individual service plan
- Authorize your services and supports
- Benefit from the outcome of your plan

What kind of follow up can you expect?

Your Independent Facilitator will contact you to see:

- How things are going
- If you need additional meetings or assistance

Where can you find an Independent Facilitator?

You can locate an Independent Facilitator by:

- Asking someone you know and trust
- Asking your Support Coordinator to get you the names and resumes of facilitators who are formally trained in one of the methods of plan facilitation and who have experience in completing plans that have been successfully implemented
- Search on MI-DDI's ["Find an Independent Facilitator Near You"](#) webpage
- Do it yourself!