



**PIERCE COUNTY COMMUNITY CONNECTIONS
DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES DIVISION**

5 Year Strategic Plan

January 2010 – December 2014

Pierce County Community Connections
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ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS:

Pierce County Executive

Pat McCarthy

2010 County Council

Dan Roach, District 1 Joyce McDonald, District 2
Roger Bush , District 3 Timothy Farrell, District 4
Rick Talbert, District 5 Dick Muri, District 6
Stan Flemming, District 7

2010 Pierce County Community Connections Developmental Disabilities

Advisory Board Members

Diana Stadden, Chair Amy Okeze, Co-Chair
Maureen Bala Ashley Barker
Amy Blair Wally Nash
Karen Vindivich

Pierce County Community Connections Department

Helen Howell, Director

Denise Rothleutner, Indirect Services Manager

Susy Stremel, Developmental Disabilities Interim Program Supervisor

MISSION, VISION & GUIDING VALUES:

MISSION:

It is the Mission of the Pierce County Developmental Disabilities Advisory Board to influence the quality of supports to individuals with developmental disabilities; to respect personal choice and diversity; ensure fundamental human rights; and optimize individual strengths across all communities.

VISION:

We envision a future where individuals with developmental disabilities have:

- Power and choice in making decisions and directing their lives;
- Relationships with people whom they love and care about and who love and care about them;
- Recognition for what they can contribute to our community;
- Active involvement in the communities where they live;
- Opportunities to use all of their strengths and support for their areas of need; and
- Opportunities to live healthy, safe, and enjoyable lives.

GUIDING VALUES:

We believe that:

- Every person must be treated with respect, compassion, and dignity;
- Every person in the community can make a contribution;
- Each person's unique cultural, spiritual, and developmental needs must be honored;
- Responsibility is shared in partnership with the community;
- Diversity enriches our community, and we must build upon this strength;
- An attitude of cooperation and collaboration must be demonstrated;
- Ideas, priorities, and solutions must be developed at the community level;
- Holistic approach to supports and services is vital;
- Services must be barrier-free and accessible;
- Services must be responsive, flexible, and tailored to meet changing needs throughout an individual's life;
- Services must be efficiently operated and proven effective for those served; and
- We are advocates for needed change.

THE PLANNING PROCESS:

THE DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES ADVISORY BOARD PROVIDES OVERSIGHT AND INPUT INTO THE PIERCE COUNTY DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES 5 YEAR PLAN.

MANY ASPECTS OF SERVICES IN DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES ARE NOW DEFINED IN USE AND REGULATED AT A FEDERAL OR STATE LEVEL. FOR THOSE REVENUE SOURCES THAT DO ALLOW FOR LOCAL DISCRETION IN THEIR USE, THE BOARD CONDUCTED A SURVEY OF COMMUNITY NEEDS DURING DECEMBER OF 2010 AND UTILIZING THE SURVEY AND THROUGH THE DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES PUBLIC ADVISORY BOARD MEETINGS, COMPRISED THE ELEMENTS OF SERVICE PRIORITIES LISTED IN THIS PLAN.

THIS PLAN LISTS THE THREE DISTINCT PROGRAM AREAS OF THE DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES DIVISION; ADULT EMPLOYMENT AND DAY PROGRAM SERVICES, EARLY INTERVENTION SERVICES AND INFORMATION AND EDUCATION SERVICES. EACH AREA HAS SET PERFORMANCE MEASURES DESIGNED TO ASSURE THAT SERVICES MEET THE NEEDS OF THE COMMUNITY. THE PERFORMANCE MEASURES WILL BE EVALUATED AND REPORTED ON A QUARTERLY BASIS TO THE COMMUNITY.

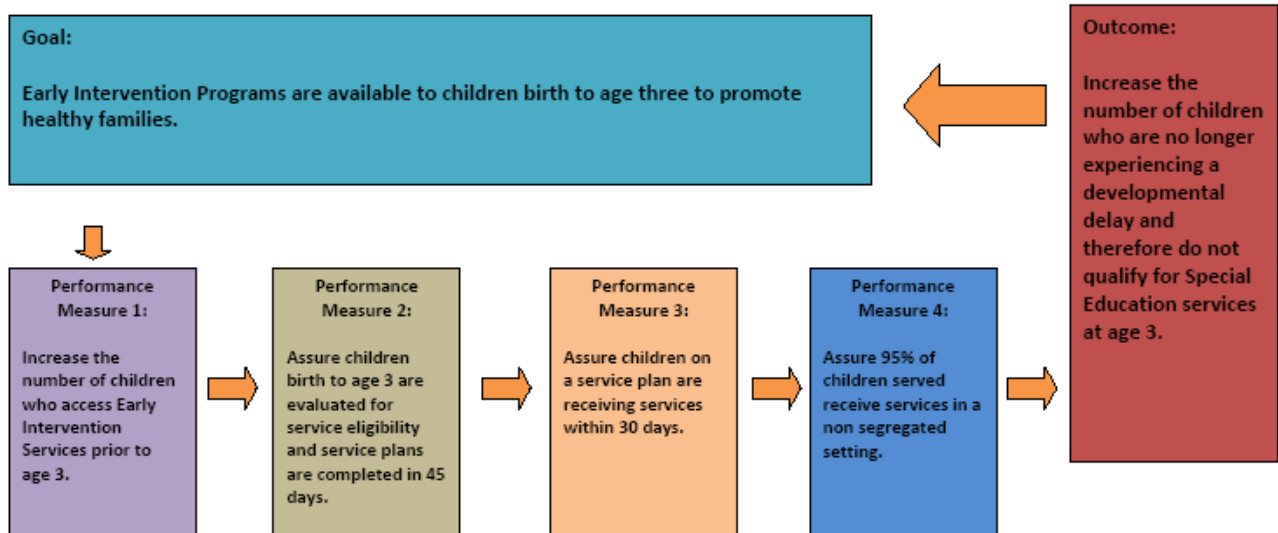
EARLY INTERVENTION SERVICES

While all children grow and develop in unique ways, some children experience delays in their development. The term “Early Intervention” refers to the supports and services available to families with children under the age of three who are not developing as expected, have a medical condition that can delay normal development or are for any other reason experiencing a developmental delay.

Services are designed to meet the developmental needs of the child as well as the needs of the family related to enhancing the child’s development. They are intended to build upon the natural learning opportunities available everyday within the daily routines of the family and child. Services and supports are coordinated by a Family Resources Coordinator (FRC). The family’s FRC will assist in accessing the individualized services and supports that will meet your child’s unique needs.

Early Intervention Services are provided in Pierce County by network of service providers and funded by the Department of Early Learning, The Division of Developmental Disabilities, Local School Districts and Pierce County Property Tax dollars.

Early Intervention Services



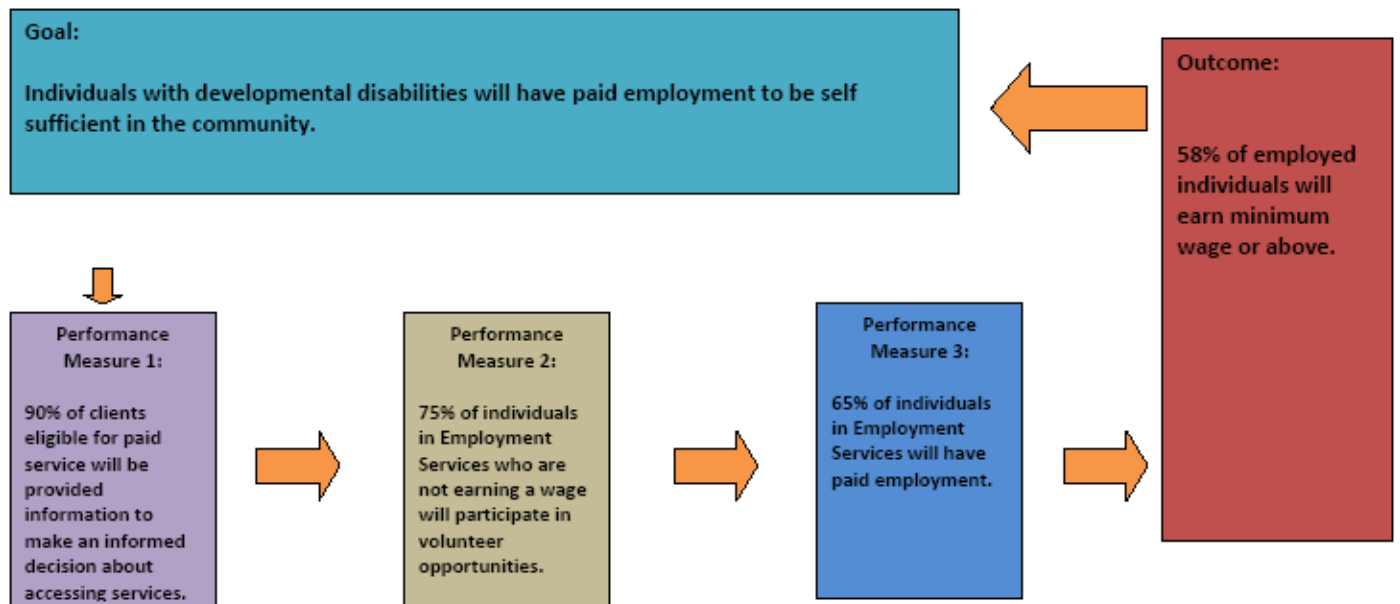
ADULT EMPLOYMENT AND DAY PROGRAM SERVICES

We believe that all individuals have the ability and deserve the opportunity to contribute to their community. This may be through paid employment, or volunteer activities on a pathway to employment. Adult Employment Programs offer supports and services which assist individuals with developmental disabilities in achieving their employment or pathway to employment goals. Services and support levels are individualized and are dependent on each person's need. The goal is always to support the individual to achieve the greatest independence and self-sufficiency possible in employment.

Adult Day Programs include supports and services available to those ages 62 and over, or by exception through the Division of Developmental Disabilities. These services support individuals with developmental disabilities to access their community in ways typical for their age group.

Adult Employment and Day Programs are provided in Pierce County by a network of service providers and funded by the Department of Social and Health Services, Division of Developmental Disabilities, Local School Districts and Pierce County Property Tax dollars.

Adult Employment & Day Program Services



INFORMATION AND EDUCATION SERVICES:

While all individuals with developmental disabilities and their families are unique in what they need and how they live, many express a need for information to help support themselves or a family member to be an active participant in the community. Information and Education Services refers to the supports and services available to individuals with developmental disabilities and families who have a child or adult child with a developmental disability to meet this need.

Services are designed to meet the following established priorities for the community:

- **Support individual and family self sufficiency;**
- **Increase involvement in inclusive activities in the community; and**
- **Increase the leadership and participation of those with developmental disabilities.**

Information and Education Services are provided in Pierce County by a network of service providers and funded by the Department of Social and Health Services, Division of Developmental Disabilities and Pierce County Property Tax dollars.

Information and Education Services

