



SCO Training #5
Community Participation Support

- **General Overview of CPS** – What is it, and what is its purpose?
- **Services Comparison** – Community Participation Support, In-Home and Community Support, and Companion Services
- **CPS from the Residential Provider** – What does this look like?
- **Outcomes and CPS** – Is it an appropriate service for the individual?
- **How to Monitor CPS** – Important things to know
- **OVR Referrals** – Helpful information for Support Coordinators
- **Resources** – Links to important documents for SCs



WHAT IS COMMUNITY PARTICIPATION SUPPORT (CPS)

Provides opportunities and support for community inclusion

- Participating in community activities, organizations, clubs or groups to develop social networks
- Learning to navigate their local community such as using public/private transportation
- Developing hobbies or leisure/cultural interests
- Promote personal health and wellness through general community classes or activities

It's often helpful to think about your own life and the activities you participate in to obtain a good idea of what Community Participation Support can help individuals with.

Identifying and participating in activities that provide purpose and responsibility

- Volunteer opportunities or adult learning classes
- Developing fine and gross motor development and mobility
- Developing and/or maintaining reciprocal relationships and social capital
- Identifying non-waiver funded activities through community organizations
- Competitive Integrated Employment

This aspect of CPS is really all about helping individuals find out about, and become involved in, activities, groups, you name it, anything of that sort which gives someone that sense of value and worth. That can be helping volunteer with a Red Cross blood donation drive, cleaning up a community park, being involved in a community board or if they attend religious events a board associated with the religion they identify with like how some churches organize cultural festivals. The individual may not know what could give them purpose or what responsibility they want to or feel able to handle – CPS is also for helping find that out. You’ll hear us use the phrase, “interests, strengths, and preferences” or something close to that, often with CPS because of the different ways it can support an individual.

What is the purpose of the Community Participation Support Service?

- Community Inclusion
- Purpose and Responsibility
- Local Community
- Social Networks and Natural Supports
- Competitive Integrated Employment



Questions





COMPARING CPS TO OTHER SERVICES

Services Comparison



<u>CPS</u>	<u>IHCS</u>	<u>Companion</u>
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Opportunities and support for community inclusion• Building interest in and developing skills and potential for CIE	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Acquire, maintain, improve skills to live in the community• Live more independently	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Providing supervision or assistance to ensure health, safety, welfare• Perform incidental activities of daily living

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These services are often used interchangeably even though they have distinct objectives to assist the individual. Although they differ in terms of the technicality of each service all three services core goal is to assist the individual in creating a more meaningfully community life – this is not distinct to just these three services, but is the core goal of all ODP services.

**Can an individual receive
CPS from their Residential
services provider?**

YES

The SC must ensure that the individual is provided choice among all willing and qualified providers.

Residential habilitation service providers are responsible to do the following:

- support with the development and maintenance of relationships with people in the broader community,
- support wellness activities,
- support an individual with civic responsibilities,
- and support engagement with hobbies and personal interests.

Part of home and community based services is that individuals should be able to receive services in the community. If CPS is requested for or by an individual receiving residential services, choice of all willing and qualified CPS providers should be offered to the individual first. That does not mean you have to compile a list before anything else, but the individual has to be informed that they have the right to talk to other CPS providers, tour a facility-based program, meet staff, look at a provider's website if they have one, any of those things, to make an informed decision. It is also important that the outcome or outcomes which CPS is connected to in an ISP are things that another service is not responsible for.

An individual receiving CPS from their Residential Habilitation provider outside of the weekday hours of 8am to 5pm must meet the following conditions:

- For any day for which the individual receives Community Participation Support outside of typical hours, or any day on a weekend, the Residential Habilitation provider bills “With Day”; and
- The activities for which the individual is supported are in a community location or community hub with a total of 3 or fewer people receiving the Community Participation Support service; and
- The activities for which the individual is supported are part of a regularly scheduled activity, group, or class that is directly connected to **an inclusion or employment outcome** that the Community Participation Support service is supporting the individual to pursue.

For example, the individual receives CPS to attend a library group every Wednesday afternoon and on Sunday evenings which is part of an inclusion outcome for the individual. For the Sunday evenings, the Residential Habilitation provider must bill “With Day” regardless of how many hours the individual is supported for this CPS activity. (This information can be found in the CPS Q&A Version 3 document on the Community Participation Support page of home.myodp.org)



Questions





Outcomes and CPS

Questions to ask before CPS is authorized on an ISP:

- What is the specific outcome that will be worked on by CPS?
- What are the expectations of the service?
- What will be the frequency and duration of CPS services?
- What actions is/are the provider responsible for to support the individual to achieve this outcome?

Other questions to ask when reviewing outcomes:

- How involved is/was the individual in developing their outcome(s)?
- Does it match with what you know about the individual's interests, goals, and preferences?
- Things to consider:
 - What conversations are happening, and with whom?
 - Does the ISP need to be updated?
 - Are other services more appropriate to meet the individual's needs and the community participation or employment outcome?

What materials could be used to ensure it is person-centered, such as the Life Course Integrated Support Star and/or Life Domain Vision Tool (family and individual perspectives), or the Mapping Relationships Tool? Continuing conversations related to the outcome and service is important.

Prevocational CPS Employment Outcomes

- All participants receiving prevocational CPS services must have a competitive integrated employment outcome included in their service plan.
- There must be documentation in the service plan regarding how and when the provision of prevocational services is expected to lead to competitive integrated employment.



Prevocational CPS Includes:

- Developing appropriate worker traits
- Learning work environment expectations
- Situational assessments
- Identifying available transportation to and from work
- Work-related evaluations

Prevocational services can be provided in the community and/or in a licensed facility, should be clearly indicated in documentation from the provider and can be the entirety of the CPS service but is not required to be. There may be individuals who have CPS applicable to more than 1 outcome.

Anyone receiving services in a licensed 2390/Vocational Facility should be receiving prevocational CPS at least part of their time in the facility, and must have an employment outcome. It is also important that the individual be asked if they are interested in employment, even if they are already receiving prevocational CPS, and if the provider has been showing them opportunities for employment that interest them or would be similar to what they currently are working on. Interests change. Just because someone does not currently want to work in the community does not mean they never want to. That just means, right now, they may not be interested. They may need to explore the options available and experience what some other jobs are like.

**Can someone attend
an ATF/ 2380 but
receive prevocational
services?**

*Yes, but they still **MUST**
have a competitive
integrated employment
outcome in their ISP.
Staff also must have
the appropriate
certification.*





Questions





How to Monitor CPS

How to Monitor CPS



- What does the individual prefer to do while receiving CPS in the facility and/or community?
- Do the activities that the individual engages in outside the facility align with their interests and preferences?
- Has the facility completed an interest assessment with the individual?
- Are the activities they are engaged in consistent with that assessment?
- Does the ISP need to be updated to include a more expanded interest/preference list?

- Is the individual experiencing meaningful community participation, based on his/her interest and preferences that includes inclusion in activities that involve persons without disabilities who are not paid or unpaid caregivers?
- Do the community activities promote community membership and contribution?

These activities should also help the individual develop relationships with other members of their community. Review ISP for community activities and how they will help the individual achieve goals related to community inclusion. As part of this service, opportunities should be offered to the individual that link with their interests and preferences. The ISP should reflect the interests and preferences of the individual.

- Has there been discussions with the individual to promote and increase community opportunities?
- Is the agency making consistent and ongoing efforts to provide community opportunities to the individual?
- Does the agency have documentations of those conversations?
- Can the agency provide examples of community opportunities they have explored with the individual?

These are some questions an SC can ask to determine exactly how a provider is demonstrating the effort to involve individuals in the community (progress notes, conversations, etc.) Individuals receiving CPS must be provided opportunities to spend time in the community that are consistent with each individual's preferences, choices and interests. Providers must be facilitating these conversations on a consistent and ongoing basis, and these conversations must be documented. It is always a good idea, and best practice, to also have those conversations with the individual.

How to Monitor CPS (Continued 3)



- Does the individual participate in activities to build skills or to explore employment possibilities?
- Are these activities based in the facility, in the community, or both?
- If these activities are taking place in the community, is the individual making connections to others in the community, and are these connections helping them reach their employment goals?
- Does staff describe the activity as related to building skills or exploration of interest in job areas?

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As with other services, part of monitoring CPS is reviewing the ISP for goals and outcomes. For prevocational CPS, the SC should be looking for outcomes and goals related to employment, and then reviewing provider documentation for how programming is helping the individual achieve those prevocational and/or employment goals.



Questions





OVR Referrals

An Office of Vocational Rehabilitation (OVR)
Referral is **required** prior to CPS services being authorized when
an individual is under 25 years old and:

- Wants to receive prevocational CPS Services in any setting for which they would receive subminimum wage, OR
- The OVR Case was closed due to:
 - OVR was unable to contact the individual after repeated attempts
 - The individual chose to stop receiving OVR services, or their actions made it impossible to continue (such as repeatedly missing meetings with OVR)

When is a referral to OVR **not required** prior to CPS services being authorized:

- If the individual is 25 years old, or older,
- If the individual is under 25 years old, but will not be making subminimum wage or receiving the pre-vocational component while receiving CPS services, or
- If OVR has determined the individual is ineligible for services **or** the individual's case has already been closed

There is no time limit on how long ago OVR made the determination. However, if it seems like the individual's skills and/or needs in a Competitive Integrated Employment (CIE) setting may have changed since the last determination, the SC should consider making another referral for OVR services. Any individual over 25 seeking CIE can still have an OVR referral completed if they wish.



Questions



Resources



[Consolidated Waiver \(pa.gov\)](#)

- This includes the current Consolidated Waiver and recent Record of Change

[Community Living Waiver \(pa.gov\)](#)

- This includes the current Community Living Waiver and recent Record of Change

[PFDS Waiver \(pa.gov\)](#)

- This includes the current Person/Family Directed Support Waiver Waiver and recent Record of Change

[ISP Manual \(pa.gov\)](#)

- This is the link to the current ISP Manual

[OVR Referral Process for ODP Employment-Related Services \(home.myodp.org\)](#)

- This is the link to Bulletin 00-19-01

Recap and Closing Comments



- Community Participation Support is a versatile service meant to support community inclusion and participation as well as gaining skills to help obtain competitive integrated employment.
- Support Coordinators should be able to identify when CPS is an appropriate service based on the individuals interests and goals.
- CPS can be provided in a licensed facility and in the community.
- Everyone has different wants and needs related to feeling included and valued by their community, and CPS can help everyone have those needs met.