
DDSD-DDW Numbered Memo 2020-04

Date: August 14, 2020

To: All DDW Providers, Trainers, Agency Administrators, and the DDSD Compliance Team

From: Teresa Tomashot, DDSD Training Manager

Subject: Changes to Required Trainings and Request for Input

In response to recent surveys, trainer meetings, and conversations, the DDSD Training Unit has some exciting news to share regarding changing training requirements and the development of additional online modules.

Effective immediately, the Pre-Service Manual, Pre-Service, and Teaching and Support Strategies modules will no longer be required. They will be replaced with the following online modules:

- **Pre-Service Manual** (*for Service Coordinators and Case Managers*) will be replaced with:
 - Intro to Person-Centered Planning and
 - Intro to WaiversBoth are available online at: <http://www.cdd.unm.edu/other-disability-programs/disability-health-policy/ddsd-courses/index.html>
 - We are in the process of creating resource tools to provide additional information.

- **Pre-Service** (*for Direct Support Professionals and Direct Support Staff Supervisors*) will be replaced with:
 - Intro to Person-Centered Planning and
 - Intro to WaiversBoth are available online at: <http://www.cdd.unm.edu/other-disability-programs/disability-health-policy/ddsd-courses/index.html>

- **Teaching and Support Strategies** (*for Direct Support Professionals and Direct Support Staff Supervisors*) We have eliminated this training requirement. This information will be provided within the Person-Centered Planning or ISP Critique modules.

While staying true to our values, we would also like to share with you the direction the Training Unit is pursuing and hopes to have completed by January 2021. Our goal is to

create user-friendly, accessible, efficient, and concise online trainings for all waivers for all Direct Support Professionals, Direct Support Staff Supervisors, Service Coordinators, Case Managers, and DDS Staff. During this time, we recognize the need for more training options available in all the waivers. These online courses will include:

- **Advocacy** - Combining Advocacy 101 and Advocacy Strategies. *Contact:* Edward.Santiago@state.nm.us
- **Health** - Combining Health and Wellness Coordination and Foundations for Health and Wellness (and eventually Indications of Illness and Injury). *Contacts:* David.Espinosa@state.nm.us and Jennifer.Bartos@state.nm.us
- **Communication** - to replace Participatory Communication and Choice Making. *Contact:* Destinie.Jaramillo@state.nm.us
- **Support Strategies** - to replace Positive Behavior Support Strategies. *Contact:* Jacob.Archuleta@state.nm.us

We are collaborating with you to create the most up to date learning system available. If you would like to give your input while these modules are in their development stages, send your comments directly to the TU staff listed above. You may also contact your regional training coordinator for information about stakeholder Zoom meetings that will be taking place before these modules are finalized.

Lastly, we have been tasked to revise Chapter 17 in the DD Waiver Service Standards. We are seeking your feedback and suggestions regarding revisions to the current standards. Please send your comments to Christyn.Faggion@state.nm.us or Teresa.tomashot@state.nm.us.

The changes we are making are in line with our long-term plans. The need to conduct on-line trainings due to COVID-19 has accelerated our work. We hope these modifications are helpful, as they are intended to be, during these uncertain times. If you have questions, input or concerns regarding any of the aforementioned, please do not hesitate to contact any member of the Training Unit. As always, thank you for all you do and for all your hard work!