

Testing the Effectiveness of Person-Centered Planning in Maine Adults With Developmental Disabilities

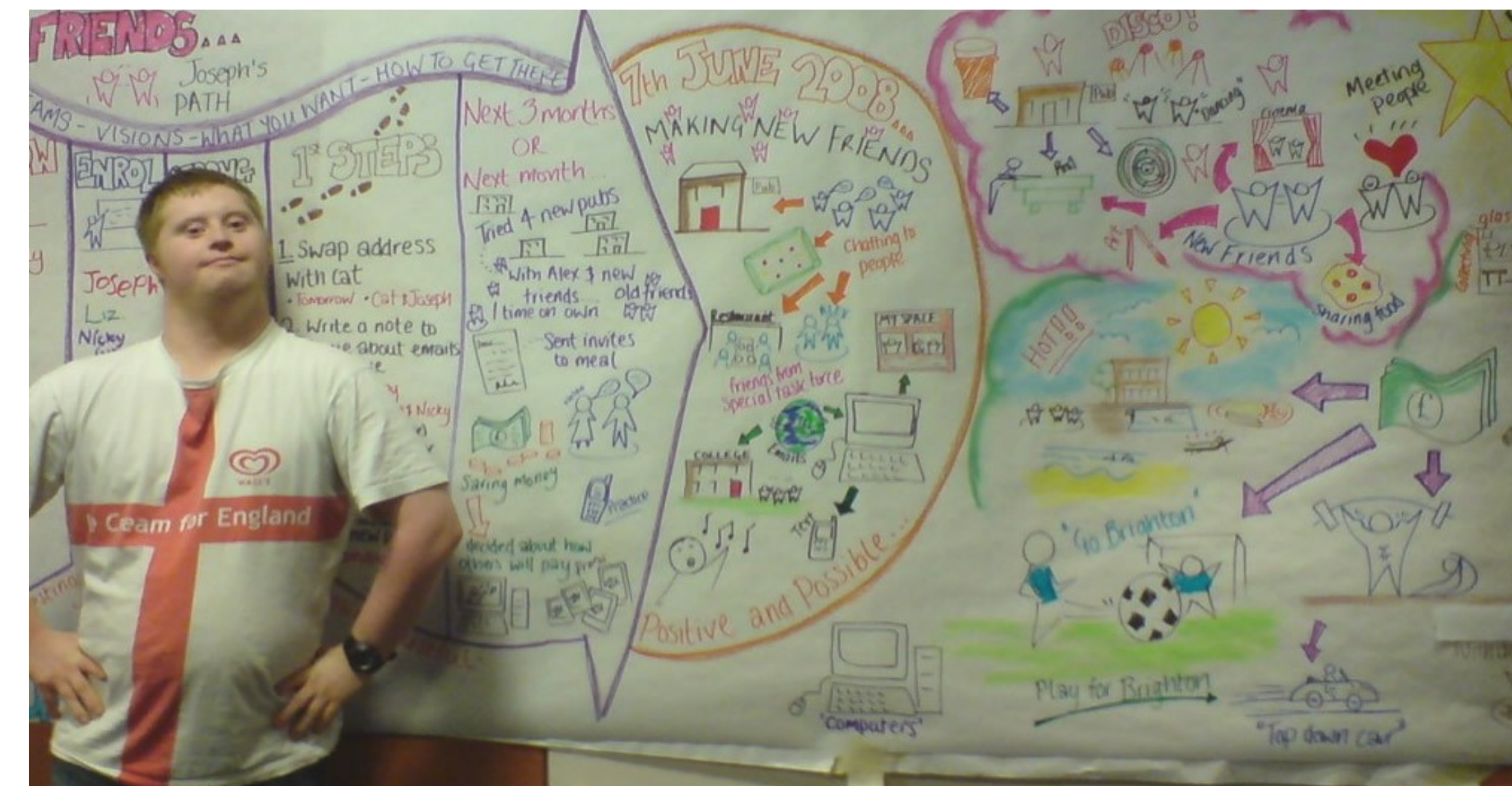
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Questions About Fidelity

Very little research exists that looks at the fidelity of the person-centered planning process used in Maine with adults living with developmental disabilities. Person-centered planning is a requirement of the Maine Office of Aging and Disability Services (OADS) and Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS). The effectiveness of this requirement in Maine for adults with developmental disabilities remains unknown.

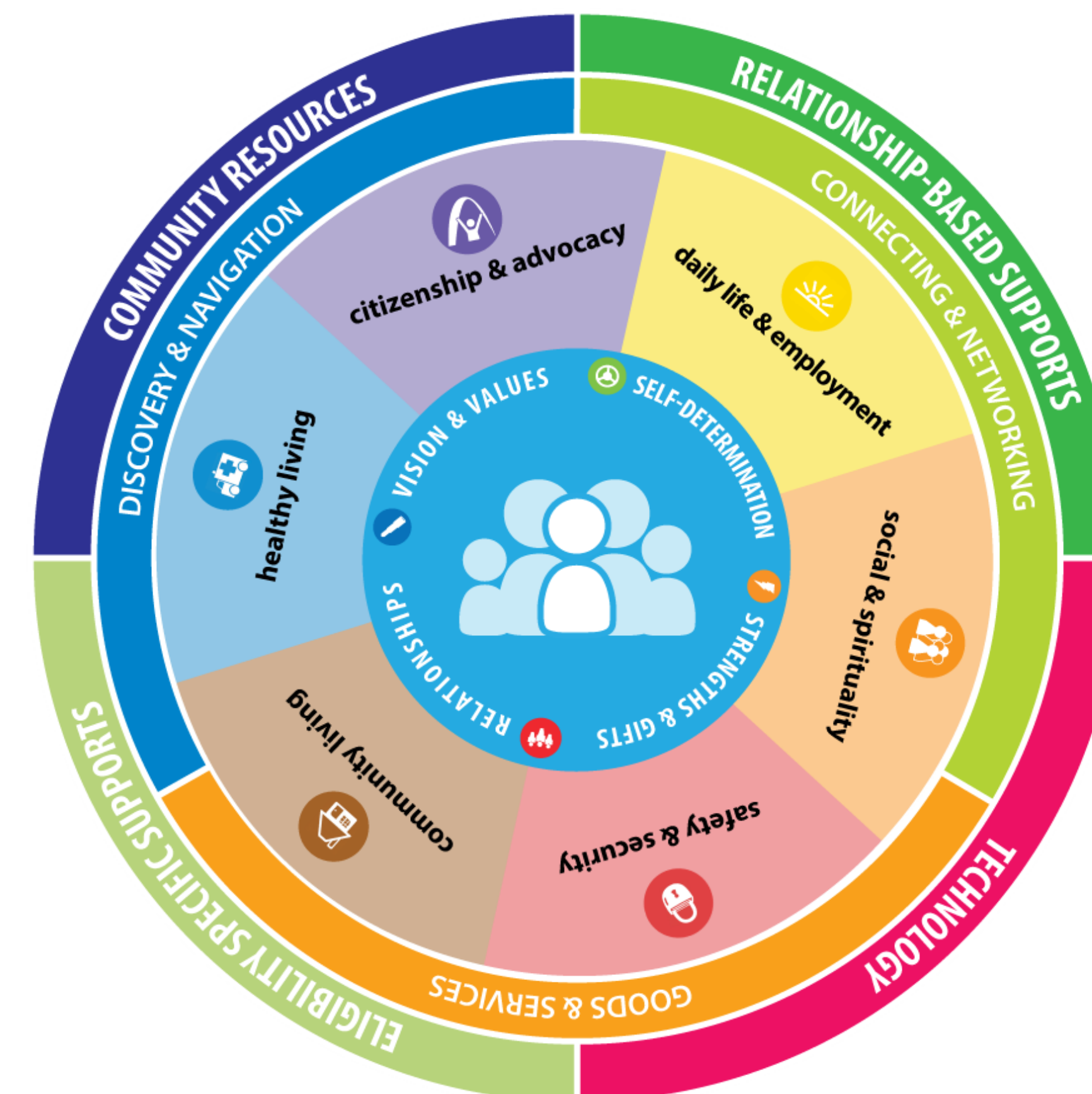
Person Centered Planning

According to Maine's Office of Aging and Disability Services (OADS) Person-Centered Planning (PCP) is the required annual planning process for adults receiving developmental services in Maine. PCP involves identifying and describing the person's needs and goals as well as the paid and unpaid supports and services the person requires to live a meaningful and self-directed life. When Person-Centered Planning is effective, people have enhanced opportunities to make personal choices, experience independence, and participate as meaningful members of their community.



The Goal

The goal is to develop a tool to measure the quality of person-centered planning in Maine adults with developmental disabilities. The objective is to test the fidelity of the person-centered planning process in terms of Maine OADS and CMS requirements in relation to the philosophical foundational literature on person-centered planning. The instrument is designed to assist OADS in measuring the quality of PCP in Maine and to identify areas of need among case managers.



Source: Center for Autism Support and Training <http://centerforautismsupportandtraining.com/self-direction/circles-of-support/>

GOOD LIFE

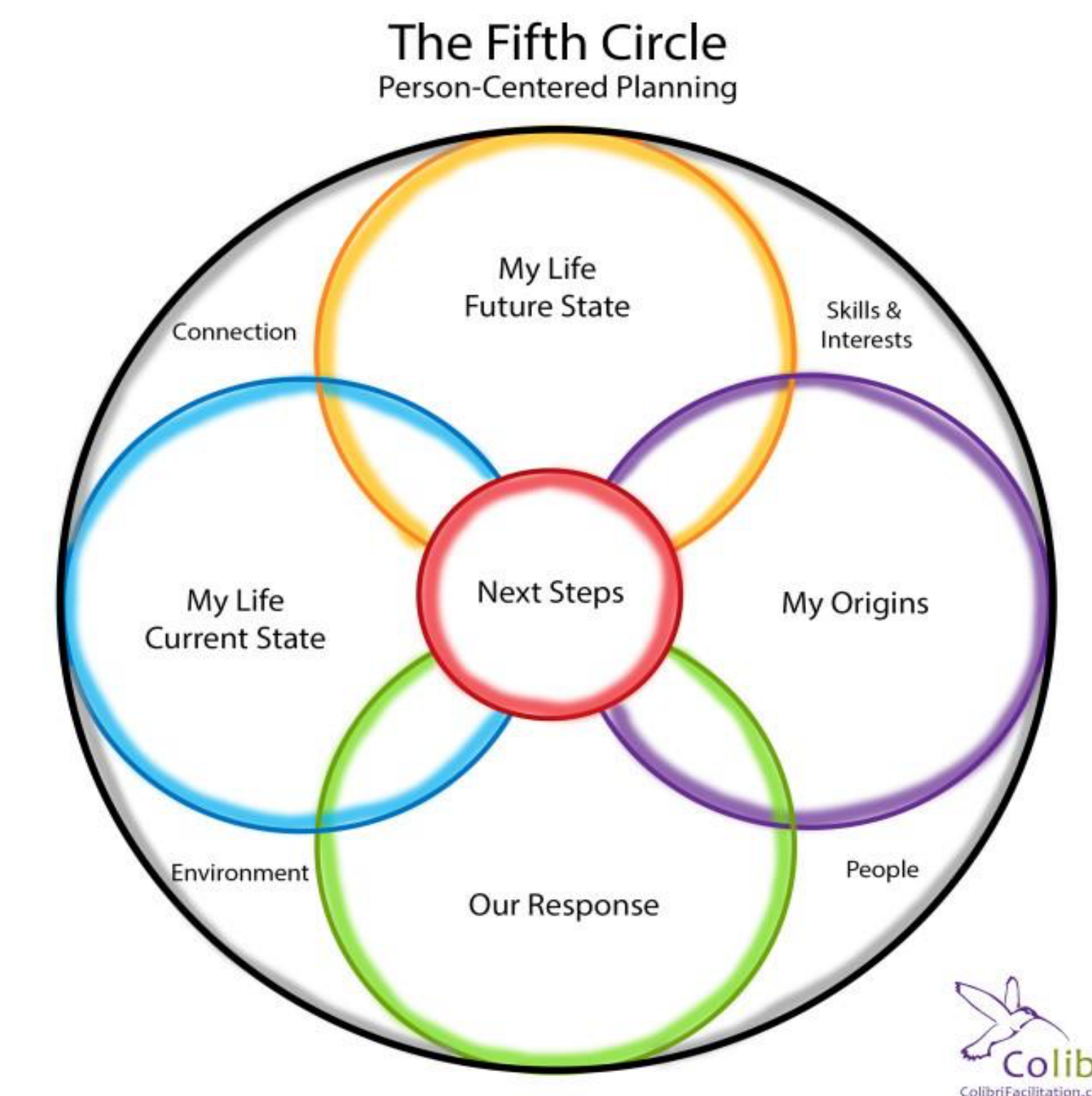
Project Partners

The University of Maine Center for Community Inclusion and Disability Studies (CCIDS), Maine's University Center for Excellence in Developmental Disabilities (UCEDD) was established to bring together the resources of the university and Maine communities to enhance the quality of life for individuals with developmental disabilities and their families. The statewide mission is met through interdisciplinary education, research and evaluation, community engagement, and dissemination of state-of-the-art information that reflect the guiding principles of inclusion, diversity, universal design and access, and social justice.

The mission of NH-ME LEND is to prepare leaders to enter the field of maternal and child health (MCH) in order to improve the lives of children with neurodevelopmental disabilities and their families, with particular attention to the needs of children with Autism Spectrum Disorders (ASD).

Recommendations

Pilot a program for testing the instrument. Further refine the instrument in collaboration with OADS. Work with the State Independent Living Association to identify how the instrument might be used with other populations.



Project Activities

- Review Maine OADS and CMS requirements for PCP.
- Research the philosophical foundations of PCP.
- Identify constructs that should be measured in instrument so that it could be used to determine if the process is consistent with state and local requirements.
- Assist in writing questions and developing scoring system.
- Work with project mentor to refine instrument and eliminate redundant items.
- Help develop a plan for piloting the use of the instrument.

How Do You Know It's Person-Centered Planning?

The Person is at the Center

- The process is rooted in respect for the person & a commitment to build inclusive communities.

Family members & friends are partners

- They have important knowledge & can make contributions that cannot be replaced.

Listening & Learning Continue

- recognizes that positive possibilities unfold as the people involved learn from experience.

Focus on Developing Capacities

- Reflects what is important to the person, now & for the future. It insists that the person have real opportunities to contribute to the life of their communities & to benefit from their contributions in turn.

Hopeful Action Happens

- Action is based on hope that grows from the positive changes that individuals & their allies have already made.