



# Community *Inclusion*

Community Inclusion is an individualized service that provides supports to individuals with I/DD to build meaningful relationships, be active participants in their community, and connect with others who have similar interests and hobbies.

CI services offer the opportunity to connect with people in your community, fostering an inclusive environment that promotes understanding and friendship. This service is an integral part of creating a “whole life”, helping you find fulfilling ways to spend your time outside of work and supporting your journey towards building a strong sense of community.



*Why is your Community Inclusion group important to you?*

**“I want to make lots of friends.”**

*- Community Inclusion service participant*



## How does it work?

You will receive support in developing a personalized goal and action plan tailored to how you want to contribute to your community and what interests you'd like to explore. If you need assistance identifying your goals, your provider can help you discover your passions through various activities.

Once you find a group or activity you love, your provider will support you in building meaningful connections while gradually stepping back to encourage your independence. This process, known as “fading,” varies for everyone and is a collaborative effort to ensure you continue to receive the necessary support without hindering your developing relationships.

***What happens when you have achieved your goals in CI?*** Your provider will work with you to establish new goals to pursue. If you feel as if you need extra support with your initial goal, your CI provider will be available to step back in to assist. CI is a service designed to be with you for a lifetime.

## How does Community Inclusion Services vary from other services?

CI goal is to have you become an active participant in your community, not just going out into the community. CI can be cocurrent with other services; you do not have to pick or choose. CI Services are available on Basic Plus and Core Waivers. **To be eligible for CI, you must have been receiving employment services for at least 9 months or be 62 years or older.**