



National Resource Center for Participant-Directed Services (NRCPS) Program Membership Benefits

Members-only website

This password protected area of www.participantdirection.org features materials and resources with exclusive access for NRCPS member agencies. Features include a news feed, events calendar, member directory, online library, and an interactive blog. The online library features tools and resources related to participant-directed programs, recordings and supporting materials from Member Forums, copies of presentations and materials distributed at national conferences, and other relevant resources. Members may submit helpful tools and resources to share with one another via the online library as well. The member blog features timely topics in the field of participant direction and updates on the activities of the NRCPS. Member agency representatives are able to comment on blog posts and participate in online discussion with peer programs.

Online Member Forums

Member Forums are held on a quarterly basis to keep members informed of the latest promising practices and developments throughout the field of participant direction. Topics of forums are member-driven to ensure that these educational events are timely and relevant. Forums allow members to not only receive information useful in program design and implementation and policy development, but also allow members to network with peers. A recording of each Member Forum and related resources are made available on the members-only area of the NRCPS website following each forum.

E-Newsletter

The e-Newsletter is distributed on a quarterly basis to keep members abreast of upcoming events, notable news in participant direction, and resources available through the NRCPS.

Member Inquiry

At times, members may have program issues that need a quick follow up instead of in-depth technical assistance. Members may be interested in what other states have done about legally liable relatives in participant direction or what factors impact the costs of FMS services. For these types of quick answers, members may reach out to NRCPS staff to provide information, research, and tools as appropriate.

Introduction to Participant Direction Webinars

Online trainings in participant direction are offered throughout the year for program member agency staff. These trainings provide an overview of the philosophy and history of participant direction, relevant research, basic program elements, and person-centered language. Available for new program staff at member agencies.

Members-Only Event at Biennial FMS Conference

Every two years, the NRCPPDS hosts a Financial Management Services Conference in Baltimore, Maryland. Experts on Fiscal/Employer Agent issues, including tax, labor, workers' compensation and information management issues for participant direction programs convene to share experience and information. Member agency representatives are invited to join a members-only event at the conference.

Engage with Peer Programs in Participant Direction

Through membership, state agencies that administer or seek to administer participant-directed programs have the opportunity to connect with one another in order to exchange insights and resources. To foster these peer to peer relationships, the NRCPPDS seeks to provide agencies with the opportunity to engage via the members-only website, member forums, and other communications. In addition, the NRCPPDS hosts members-only events at relevant national conferences for members to network and receive information on the latest developments in participant direction.

Access to the National Participant Network

The National Participant Network is a national network of participants and their representatives who participate (or plan to participate) in self-direction to make living in the community possible. Through feedback and input from the NPN, member agencies will have access to products and resources that represent the participant perspective. Member agencies will be connected with their respective NPN state delegates in order to strengthen participant involvement at the state and local level. Also, members have the opportunity to seek input from the larger NPN on their own products. For example, members may find it beneficial to seek the NPN's thoughts on allowable goods and services or whether outreach materials and methods are participant-friendly.

Contribute to public policy priorities

Membership includes representation at the national policy level to discuss critical policy issues related to participant direction and educate policymakers. Members will be able to provide insight into potential key areas for the NRCPPDS public policy agenda, participate on teleconferences related to public policy topics, and receive email alerts on emergent policy issues and periodic issue briefs related to participant direction. The NRCPPDS Public Policy Advisory Committee includes membership representation.

Contribute to the research agenda

Our research helps practitioners to be more effective in their work advancing participant direction. Member agencies have a voice in identifying areas of research to be conducted by the NRCPPDS. The NRCPPDS consults with the program membership when developing new research projects and also utilizes program data provided by members to inform ongoing research. Member agency representatives will have easy access to new research briefs and reports developed by the NRCPPDS as soon as they are available.

To learn more about NRCPPDS Program Membership for state agencies, please contact Molly Hurt Morris at membership@participantdirection.org or 617-552-1663.