



SHIAWASSEE Health & Wellness

INDEPENDENT FACILITATION

What is independent facilitation?

An Independent Facilitator is a person who helps the Person-Centered Planning (PCP) process with the person receiving behavior health services.

The terms independent and external mean that the facilitator is independent of or external from the Community Mental Health Service Provider (CMHSP.)

Independent facilitators must not have any other role within the CMHSP. It also means the person has no financial interest in the outcome of the supports and services outlined in the PCP.

Using an independent facilitator is valuable in many different circumstances, not just when there is a disagreement or conflict.

When should you use an independent facilitator?

- Before you preplan your PCP
- You want your needs and desires put forward by someone who doesn't decide what will be paid for
- You are concerned that your plan will not become action
- You need some changes in your life
- You want control for planning your life

Who can be your independent facilitator?

- An advocate
- A family member
- Someone you trust
- Someone who puts your needs FIRST
- Someone other than your Case Manager or Supports Coordinator

You can facilitate your own PCP or any person you want can choose to help you at no charge. *However, to be paid through Medicaid, the facilitator must be free of any financial interest in the outcome of the supports and services outlined in your PCP and be trained to be an Independent Facilitator.*

What is the role of the independent facilitator?

- Personally know the individual who the PCP is about
- Help the person with all pre-planning activities and assist in inviting participants to choose planning tool(s) to use in the PCP process
- Facilitate the PCP meeting(s)
- Provide needed information and support to ensure that the person leads the process
- Make sure the person is heard and understood
- Keep the focus on the person
- Develop a PCP in partnership with the person that expresses the person's goals
- Make certain the PCP is written in a language understandable to the person
- Provide services and supports to help the person achieve their goals

If you have questions or want to learn more, please call Shiawassee Health & Wellness:

(989) 723-6791

or visit our website at: shiabewell.org