

MARYLAND DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

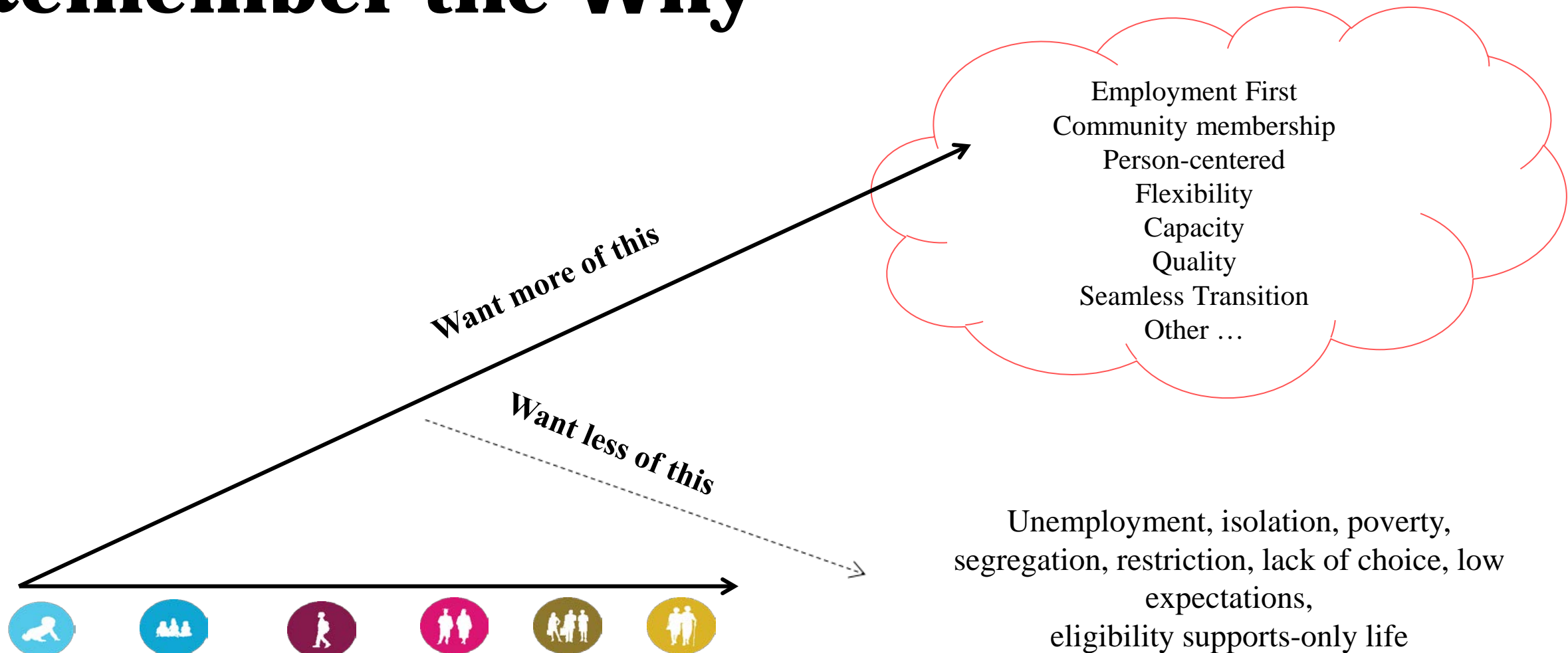
# **Developmental Disabilities Administration**

## **Using Assistive Technology to Support Employment and Community Life**

### **Employment First Webinar**

Friday, December 21, 2018

# Remember the Why



# Guest Presenter

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**Daphni Steffin, MBA, ATACP**

Director of Assistive Technology and  
Information Systems, The Arc Baltimore



## *Scenario #1*

# **Benjamin**

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- Benjamin is competitively employed at a local law office 3x a week
- When first employed, he received intensive on-site supports as he learned his job tasks
- Currently needs minimal direct support monthly to maintain his job (Follow Along Job Supports only)
- Prefers to not have people physically with him on the job site

# **Benjamin**

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## **After July 1, 2020:**

### **Follow-Along Supports:**

- Once Benjamin has been authorized for this support, any month that he is employed *and* receives at least 2 direct support services designed to assist him to maintain employment the provider can bill for monthly Follow-Along Supports
- If Benjamin didn't work and/or didn't receive the 2 direct support services, the provider simply does not bill
- No need to submit a new service authorization to change this service unless Benjamin decides to no longer return to her job and a new service is identified

# Benjamin

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## After July 1, 2020:

**Follow-Along Supports** (built in assumption of 6 hours, including 2 direct interactions):

- Indirect Support:
  - Supports provided that include things done *on behalf of* Benjamin
- Direct Support:
  - Supports provided that include *engagement directly with* Benjamin
  - Technology can be as a means for providing Direct Support (Skype, FaceTime)

# **Benjamin**

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## **Technology used to provide Direct Support:**

- Need for support should be outlined in PCP
- How the particular technology will be used to support Benjamin to reach his goals/outcomes should be outlined in PCP
- Use of technology as a Direct Support should be documented appropriately, just like an in-person Direct Support

*Scenario #1*

# **Benjamin**

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**The person using Assistive Technology to achieve greater independence**

VS

**A provider using technology for service/support delivery**



# Faith

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- Faith is competitively employed full-time at a local hospital working as a laundry aide
- Faith needs both Follow-Along and Ongoing Job Supports to remain successful on her job
- Faith's Employment Services provider is beginning to utilize technology to remotely check-in, fading in-person supports

# Faith

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- Faith doesn't currently use AT, but there are some time management concerns on the job (for example: staying on task)
- A team meeting is held to explore what options may exist and it is decided that an AT assessment would be a good place to start
- Because this is an employment related goal, explore DORS first

# Faith

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- Job Coach checks-in a few times a month through Follow-Along supports
- Eventually, Faith uses Facetime to check in with Job Coach (this is used for service delivery)
- Time that virtual support is provided, is billable time in the same way as face-to-face direct support
- Could fall under Follow-Along and/or Ongoing

# Faith

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## After July 1, 2020:

### Follow-Along Supports:

- Once Faith has been authorized for this support, any month that she is employed *and* receives at least 2 direct support services designed to assist her to maintain employment the provider can bill for monthly Follow-Along Supports
- If Faith didn't work and/or didn't receive the 2 direct support services, the provider simply does not bill
- No need to submit a new service authorization to change this service unless Faith decides to no longer return to her job and a new service is identified

# Faith

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## After July 1, 2020:

### Ongoing Job Supports:

- Can be billed for any direct employment supports provided above and beyond 6 hours of support and 2 direct supports provided through Follow-Along within a given calendar month
- If Faith didn't work in a particular month, or the service wasn't provided, the provider simply doesn't bill
- No need to submit a new service authorization to change this service unless Faith decides to no longer return to her job and a new service is identified

# Guest Presenter

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**Andrew Drummond, M.Ed., ATC-PgCert**  
Maryland Technology Assistance Program (MDTAP)  
Maryland Department of Disabilities



# Wrap Up

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- Questions?
- [Staci.Jones@Maryland.gov](mailto:Staci.Jones@Maryland.gov)

# Wrap Up

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## Next Webinar:

**Date:** January 18, 2019

**Time:** 10:00 a.m.- 12:00 p.m.

**Topic:** To be announced