

Zoom Link:

<https://friendsnrc.zoom.us/j/87007391708?pwd=end6Njc0a1FETVN0czFhOVZwN1A5Zz09>

Breakout Room Discussion Guide

Instructions: We will break out into three smaller groups to discuss the following questions based on three of the topical issues discussed in the [Self-Directed Respite Voucher Guide](#).

Facilitators: Each session will have a facilitator who will take notes and/or record the session.

Group #1. Talena Ford and/or Nadine Walter, OK Lifespan Respite

Group #2. Aietah Stephens, Sooner Success

Group #3. Tracy Kahlo, Lifespan Respite Washington

Introductions

Please introduce yourselves. As a group, pick two topics from the three provided below. Devote 20-30 minutes to each of those topics.

Don't worry about getting through all the questions. Multiple questions are provided to help stimulate a free flow of ideas while staying on topic. We will return to the main room to provide highlights.

Questions

Topic 1: Stakeholder Involvement (pages 9-11 of the Voucher Guide)

Research on programs' efforts to change their LTSS systems – including those to initiate or expand self-direction programs – has found that their success depends to a significant extent on early and sustained stakeholder involvement and buy-in.

1. *Who are the essential stakeholders in your voucher program?*
2. *Which of the strategies described in the Respite Voucher Guide have you used and found to be most successful in engaging and sustaining stakeholders?*

Topic 2: Marketing and Outreach (pp 13-15 of the Voucher Guide)

Outreach is needed to ensure that all potentially eligible individuals know about the new self-directed program and have the information that they need to decide if it is right for them. Individuals may learn about the new program through formal channels designed by the program, but they may also hear about it from agency case managers, current workers, consumer advocacy organizations, friends and family, and other sources.

- 1. What are the best strategies for general marketing and outreach, especially to families who are not in the public service system?*
- 2. For those of you who have been running your program for a while, have you reduced the intensity of your outreach and marketing strategies? Why or why not?*
- 3. To what extent have you heard about opposition to your program? If you have, how have you countered it?*

Topic 3: Offering Information and Assistance (pp 18-19 of the Voucher Guide)

Providing information and assistance to individuals in self-directed programs can be a key administrative service. The goal is to offer flexible and personalized support to ensure that self-direction works for those who choose it.

- 1. What kind of information and assistance do you provide? How detailed and extensive is it?*
- 2. How do you provide information and assistance to participants in your self-directed respite voucher programs? (e.g., who provides it; how much time do staff spend with family caregivers, staff training required?)*