

ISAC Recommendation #6: Support People with Complex Needs



People with disabilities who have both physical and behavioral health needs receive the medical treatment and supports needed throughout their lifespans. People are more able to live an everyday life when individuals, families, and providers plan and prepare to provide and modify supports as needs and challenges change. Opportunities for a full community life are dependent on adequate supports and the commitment to build capacity within the larger human service delivery system.

Current Strategy	Accomplishments that support this Strategy	Recommendation for this Strategy (retain, revise, replace)
1. Develop Capacity Building Institute (CBI). ODP, in collaboration with the Office of Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services, will establish a training opportunity for members of the IDD and mental health fields to better serve individuals and self-advocates with IDD and autism in addition to mental health needs.	CBI completed the third cycle in May 2019. To date, over 150 individuals have completed the Institute’s training course, which facilitates a broader understanding of individuals with complex needs and strengthens networks across the commonwealth to limit barriers to a successful life in the community.	Recommend retain this initiative, noting the funding through MFP will end in June 2020.
2. Improved support for individuals and self-advocates with complex medical needs. ODP will develop in coordination with the HCQUs and ASERTs increased access to information and guidance for individuals and self-advocates with new onset or longstanding complex medical health needs.	Health Care Quality Units continue to offer and develop informational content for individuals and self-advocates as well as natural and paid supports. This includes live, in-person presentation of contents as well as online content. Content accessible through HCQU websites and HCQUs all publish curriculum of training and presentations offered. ASERT has developed the LANTERN (Lifespan Autism iNstruction, Training, Education, and Resource Navigation) to assist in accessing information by categorizing information available on MyODP and PAautism.org. Information is categorized by content (“Competencies”) and intended audience for the material (“Tier”)	Retain
3. Improved used of data. Use data related to individuals with complex medical needs, complex dental needs or complex mental health needs to	Progressing toward the implementation of the Health Risk Screening Tool. PA Protocol for initiation of use of the HRST, beginning with	Retain. Explore possibilities of a broader implementation of the HRST as experience with the tool grows.

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inform ODP policy and program design. This data will enhance the development of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Training and education. • Strategies to target identified health risks. • Improved capacity. 	individuals in residential setting has been developed. HRST will generate data on health risks, diagnoses, and medication use which will in turn inform development of strategies to mitigate risk and improve capacity. Data via survey and participant input is being collected as part of CBI, culminating in a white paper at the completion of Cycle 4 detailing input from participants for ODP/OMHSAS for building capacity and improving supports across the system.	
4. A dual diagnosis training curriculum will be made available online. Currently the Health Care Quality Units and ODP provide training in established dual diagnosis curriculum. An online format will provide greater access for users and will be more convenient in time and pace of the information.	Dual diagnosis curriculum has been made available online via MyODP.	Revise recommendation to: Promote use of online dual diagnosis training curriculum.

New Strategies and/or Strategies that have been implemented but were not included in the original 2016 list

1. Dual Diagnosis Conference – Implemented 2017. Next Dual Diagnosis Conference is scheduled for August 2019 in Altoona, PA. Since the first conference in 2017, each conference has met expectation for capacity.

2. Develop online training modules for Functional Behavioral Assessment. This is in progress as a coordinated effort between BAS and ASERT. This will promote a more standardized approach to the FBA and will allow for a greater number of individuals to build competency in this area.

3. Professional Conference Series – Initiated 2017. Specialized opportunities for clinicians in practice and in training, such as psychiatrists, psychiatric residents, Nurse Practitioners, Licensed Social Workers, Behavior Specialists and DSPs, offering enhanced exposure to and education about the needs of individuals with I/DD and MH diagnoses and networking with other professionals & clinicians.