



- **Access assistance:** One-on-one contacts to provide outreach and information to caregivers on available long-term services and supports can include case management services.
- **Information services:** Generally consisting of trainings for groups of caregivers and presentations on long-term services and supports.

### **How does someone apply for the Family Caregiver program?**

If you are interested in learning more about the Family Caregiver program, contact your local INconnect member at **800-713-9023**. A complete listing of INconnect Alliance members is available on page 86 or you can visit the INconnect Alliance website at **[www.INconnectAlliance.org](http://www.INconnectAlliance.org)**.

## **■ Family Supports waiver**

The Family Supports waiver helps children and adults with intellectual and developmental disabilities live successfully in their home. This is one of two waivers administered by the Bureau of Developmental Disabilities Services.

### **What are the eligibility criteria for the Family Supports waiver and how does someone apply?**

To qualify, a child or adult must have been diagnosed with an intellectual disability, developmental disability, or related condition prior to the age of 22 years, and the condition must be expected to continue indefinitely.

The individual must meet level of care. Level of care is determined by assessing six major life areas. Those areas include self-care, learning, self-direction, capacity for independent living, understanding and use of language, and mobility. The individual must exhibit substantial functional limitations in at least three of the six major life areas.

An individual or his/her guardian may apply for the Family Supports waiver by contacting their local Bureau of Developmental Disabilities Services office for an application packet. A list of the local BDDS offices can be found on page 81.

### **What happens after the packet and application are turned in?**

An intake specialist from the applicant's local Bureau of Developmental Disabilities Services office will contact him or her to schedule a time to complete the preliminary level of care.

### **When will waiver services begin?**

It is the policy of the Bureau of Developmental Disabilities Services that individuals may be placed on a single statewide waiting list after applying for waiver services and meeting Level of Care criteria. Individuals will be targeted in the order they applied for services, from the oldest date of application to the newest.



The following priority criteria allows individuals to obtain the Family Support waiver without waiting:

- Adults ages 18 through 24 who have aged out of, graduated from or have permanently separated from their school setting
- A child of an active member or veteran of the armed forces of the United States or the National Guard

### **What services are available through the Family Supports waiver?**

The Family Supports waiver is administered by the Bureau of Developmental Disabilities Services and provides services to individuals with developmental disabilities that are designed to enable them to live as independently as possible in their home or community setting appropriate to their needs.

#### **Available services include:**

- Adult day services
- Behavioral support services
- Case management
- Day habilitation
- Extended services
- Family and caregiver training
- Intensive behavioral intervention (age 21 and over)
- Music therapy
- Occupational therapy (age 21 and over)
- Participant assistance and care
- Personal emergency response system
- Physical therapy (age 21 and over)
- Prevocational services
- Psychological therapy (age 21 and over)
- Recreational therapy
- Respite
- Remote supports
- Specialized medical equipment and supplies
- Speech/language therapy (age 21 and over)
- Transportation
- Workplace assistance

If you encounter any terms or program names you do not understand, refer to the Indiana Family and Social Services Administration glossary of terms on page 126 or at [www.in.gov/fssa/4999.htm](http://www.in.gov/fssa/4999.htm).

## **■ First Steps**

First Steps is the state's early intervention program. The First Steps program ensures that all Indiana families with infants and toddlers birth through age 3 experiencing developmental delays or disabilities have access to early intervention services. Please go to page 18 for more information about First Steps.

## **■ INconnect Alliance**

The INconnect Alliance is a statewide network of 15 Area Agencies on Aging (serving 16 planning and service areas). Currently, Aging and Disability Resource Centers are housed at the Area Agencies on Aging. Alliance mem-