

ONTARIO INDEPENDENT FACILITATION NETWORK CITIZEN-FOCUSED FRAMEWORK

Independent Facilitation is a support that makes it easier for people to take on their role as citizens, to be included and belong, and contribute to the communities where they live. However, the Ontario Independent Facilitation Network (OIFN) believes that Independent Facilitation alone does not afford people and families the power, choice, and control over their services and supports, but Independent Facilitation contributes to a broader framework designed to support people to live as citizens with all of the rights and responsibilities this involves.

In the Fall of 2017, the Ontario Independent Facilitation Network adopted the language of a *Citizen-focused Framework* to describe a new framework that is needed in the infrastructure supports of the Developmental Service system, in order to support citizenship and social inclusion. This Citizen-focused Framework is comprised of a number of separate functions that work together services to support people to direct their unique vision for their lives, goals, and needs:

- Direct Individualized Funding
- Affordable and accessible housing resources
- Staffing resources
- Administrative resources
- Inclusive lifelong education and learning opportunities
- Independent Facilitation (help figuring things out)

Citizenship is really the key to social inclusion. The Citizen-focused Framework offers citizens experiencing a developmental disability an opportunity to access resources around employment and volunteerism, identify their key contributions and exchange these in community, find cost effective and personalized solutions around housing, support, and transportation, and access continued opportunities to learn and grow. This framework outlines the foundation for a good life as a contributing citizen while recognizing the inherent challenges and roadblocks that people with developmental disabilities, along with their family members, face.

This framework draws on the foundational work of provincial grassroots organizations, including:

- [Individualized Funding Coalition for Ontario \(IFCO\)](#)
- [Family Alliance Ontario \(FAO\)](#)
- [People First of Ontario \(PFO\)](#)
- [Special Services at Home/Passport Provincial Coalition \(SSAH-PC\)](#)

Foundational References:

- Working Toward an Empowerment Model, 2004
- [IFCO Ad Hoc Paper on Direct Funding, 2010](#)
- Common Vision for Real Transformation: [Part One](#) and [Part Two](#)

A Framework To Support Citizens

A 'separation of functions' is valuable for maximizing the control that people have to live as citizens.



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Developed from:
"A Person Directed Infrastructure: Creating Structures and Resources that Support Citizenship"
written by David Hasbury (Neighbours International) for the Ontario Independent Facilitation Network (OIFN).

Foundational references:

- "Working Toward an Empowerment Model, 2004"
- "IFCO Ad Hoc Paper on Direct Funding, 2011"
- "Common Vision for Real Transformation Parts One and Two"
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• Individualized Funding Coalition for Ontario (IFCO),
• Family Alliance Ontario,
• People First of Ontario,
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