

**TRANSFORMING SERVICES IN ONTARIO**  
**FOR PEOPLE WHO HAVE A DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITY**

**1. What should be the roles and responsibilities of different parts of society in supporting individuals who have a developmental disability?**

**Family**

S same supports/assistance that any family would provide, regardless of whether or not a family member has a label

S i.e. emotional and financial supports

**Government**

S legislation should address the supports that families are providing

S current legislation does not support/promote family involvement

S Ministry need to communicate and partner more effectively with other Ministries

S once certain forms (eg. T2200) has been completed and accepted there should not be the need to re-submit in future

S tax exemptions eg. land transfer tax, property tax

S build in an accountability mechanism

S streamline services

S single point of access - info should be available at one location about service needs/options

**Community**

S consider tax exemptions for not-for-profits

S responsibility of community employers to reflect all members of community in their staffing compliment

S incentives (tax relief) for hiring someone with a disability

S sharing of community resources eg. seniors services, recreational services

**Ministry**

S supporting O.D.A.

S develop the capacity to collect, analyze and respond to data

**Service Providers**

S -promote inclusion - connect people to their community

S act as advocates

S ensure basic care needs are met

S liaison role with community eg. nursing facilities, long term care

S role model appropriate supports

S maximize individual potential

S remain committed to the person

S remain fiscally responsible

S demonstrate accountability

S share resources - get away from “turf” protection - tap into existing community services

**2. What strategies and resources would help individuals receive seamless supports throughout their lives, including points of transition?**

- S address needs for respite services
- S access to health services particularly to serve those with mental health issues is of great concern
- S effectiveness of auxiliary services ie. R.S.A. should be noted
- S improve relationship between education system and community providers
- S ease transition from community agencies to long term care facilities
- S remove mentality of “slots/spaces” and ownership of people. Services should wrap around people

**3. What supports and services that are currently available work well and should be built on for the future?**

- S Regional Support Associates are very effective
- S S.S.A.H. - good model for individual finding
- S Personal Planning - Life Plans that are fluid, ongoing and responsive
- S building supports around people
- S transfer payment agencies

**4. How should a reasonable level of government funding for an individual be determined?**

- S no individual dependent upon supports and services should be living below the poverty line
- S this should reflect cost of living increases
- S this should also reflect “cost of doing business” increase WSIB
- S funding should be based on individual need and adjusted as needs change

**5. Services are changing in Ontario for people who have a developmental disability. What would you like to see happen?**

- S global planning - maximizing individual potential, respect and dignity of people
- S continue with commitment to depopulation
- S refer to responses to questions 1 - 4
- S inclusive communities should be the vision
- S the promotion of Social Capital

**6. What do you think are the priorities the government should address?**

- S authority within regional offices
- S linking accountability to resource allocation and effective use of those resources based on quality of life indicators
- S creating more linkages to other ministries
- S funding for community capacity building
- S funding for innovation

**7. Additional Comments**

- S consistency in requests for information, software systems, etc.
- S developing bureaucratic efficiencies in information gathering and statistical analysis