



## **Rebuilding DDA Providers with Technical Assistance**

***Penn-Mar Human Services and TransCen Inc.***

**Location:** Statewide

**Funding:** \$150,000 | \$52,900 Match

### **GOAL**

Give technical assistance to community providers during and after COVID-19 to help them think of new ways to provide services. This will lead to more people with developmental disabilities receiving the services and supports they need and want.

### **SUMMARY**

The federal, state, and local governments responded to COVID-19 by asking people to do new and challenging things, like staying at home, being socially distant, and quarantining when sick. Community service providers across the state responded to the new rules with different and creative ways to support people. This project will support 5 community service providers licensed, certified, or approved by the Maryland Developmental Disabilities Administration (DDA).

The Council sees this as a chance to help change the way people with developmental disabilities receive services and supports, so they can live the lives they want.

### **ACTIVITIES**

Penn-Mar and TransCen will help providers reimagine, refocus, and rebuild their services, and establish best practices by:

- Providing technical assistance and training.
- Creating and supporting a learning group with staff from the 5 providers so they can learn from each other.
- Helping providers develop and put in place a strategic plan using best practices.

- Creating, supporting, and training a group of people with developmental disabilities from the 5 providers. They will also learn from each other and provide information about what is working and what is not.
- Supporting people with developmental disabilities and family members to share input with service providers about what they need and want.
- Sharing the information learned from the project at a statewide conference. This will teach other providers in Maryland how they can make changes and better support people to live the lives they want.

The 5 providers are:

- The Chesapeake Center – Talbot County
- Langton Green – Anne Arundel County
- Star Community, Inc. – Washington County
- Chimes Maryland – Baltimore City
- Rock Creek Foundation – Montgomery County

## **OUTCOMES**

- Providers across Maryland learn new and creative ways to better support people with developmental disabilities, using lessons learned from COVID-19.
- More people with developmental disabilities receive services and supports they need and want at home, with their provider, and/or in the community.