

## Twin Cities Regional Capacity Building for Positive Supports

May 13th 1pm-2pm

### Purpose:

The purpose of Regional Capacity Building is to promote and share information about Positive Supports regionally, and share recommendations with state leaders. Positive Supports are practices that improve quality of life and cultural responsiveness. Each region will form a network to build partnerships and help strengthen their communities.

### Focus areas:

- [Positive Behavioral Supports](#)
- [Person Centered Thinking and Practices](#)

**Attendees:** Cortney Kressin, JoAnn Leppink, Colleen Fodness, Jessica Little, Benjamin Johnson, Jeffrey Nurick, Alma Silver, Kerri Leucuta, Jose Hernandez, Kayla Lanes, Rachel Freeman

### Agenda:

- Introductions
- Agency Positive Supports Updates: Successes, challenges, and emerging needs
  - Updates on PBS, PCT, Trauma-Informed Supports, and any Positive Supports related work
  - Jose Hernandez from Affinity described standardizing documentation to keep person-centered content and simplify explanations for newcomers
  - Jessica Little highlighted DHS systems learning reviews and a DHS YouTube explainer on the positive support rule for 245D providers
  - Colleen Fondness from Dakota County emphasized referral practices and caregiver supports.
- Upcoming Trainings & Opportunities
  - Hot Topic: May 19<sup>th</sup> with Stacie Enders on possible changes to Positive Support Services: [AASD and DSD eList: Survey about proposed changes to positive support and specialist services](#)
  - Rachel Freeman shared Duprees project and the June 11<sup>th</sup> Positive Supports Get Together. This is free to attend, but in person registration is limited to the first 100 people. 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Great Minnesota Positive Supports Get Together: [2026 Positive Support Conference - Positive Supports Minnesota](#)
- Update on story collection

- o Conner is done with his internship. If he interviewed you for a story and you haven't returned your release of information yet, please send that to Cortney instead.
- TOET workgroup update and feedback
  - o The TOET (Tiered Onsite Evaluation Tool) Lived Experience supplement is nearly draft-ready and follows an ICI implementation-science checklist and a three-level (0-2) scoring approach. Draft features include collecting feedback from people with disabilities, staff, network members, and leadership; involving people with disabilities in leadership and data review; training/co-leading opportunities; and accessibility/accommodation processes. Plain-language survey items to measure "important to" versus "important for" were emphasized.
  - o We will review the draft at our next meeting, but network members are also invited to do review session with Cortney and offer one-on-one feedback on the supplement draft (this would be stipend eligible for those with lived experience).