



Self Direction Supports Budget Framework Development Project Community Engagement

MA DDS-SDAB meeting

September 3, 2025

HSRI team



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Project director



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Project coordinator



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Policy consultant



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Review of support budget development tasks

- Community engagement throughout process
- Final report upon completion of tasks

Today's focus will be on our ideas for community engagement

1

Data collection and analysis

- SIS-A data collection
- Population data analysis
 - Through March 2026

2

Level framework development

- Support needs data analysis
- Preliminary level framework determination
- Verification process development
 - Through June 2026

3

Support budgets development

- Service use and spend data analysis
- Preliminary budgets determination
 - Through October 2026

Record review
In November 2026

4

HSRI's Commitment to Engagement

We believe our work...

must include the ideas of people with lived experience using the services and systems we seek to improve.

is best when we include the ideas of people with lived experience.



Inclusion

Include and center people in decisions that impact them



Transparency

Give people information about changes that will impact them



Understandability

Be clear about what is happening and what is going to change



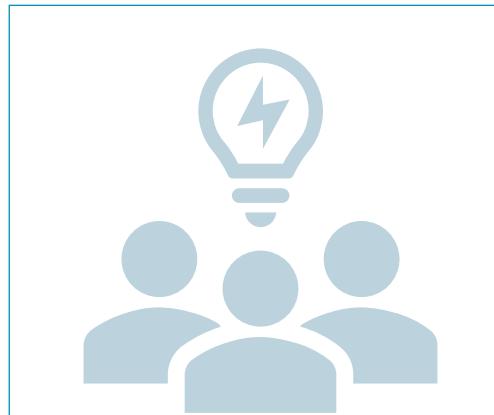
Honesty

Be clear about what we can promise, what we can influence, what is not possible, and what is unknown

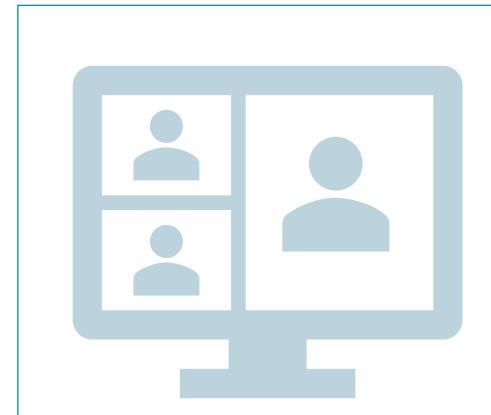
Proposed engagement activities



SDAB Supports
Budgets
Subcommittee



Feedback
Sessions



Benchmark
Presentations



Implementation
Work Group



SDAB Supports Budgets Subcommittee

Collaboration among HSRI, SDAB, & DDS
through ongoing communication

Who

- Current & future volunteers from the SDAB and outside of the SDAB as needed
- HSRI staff
- DDS staff

When

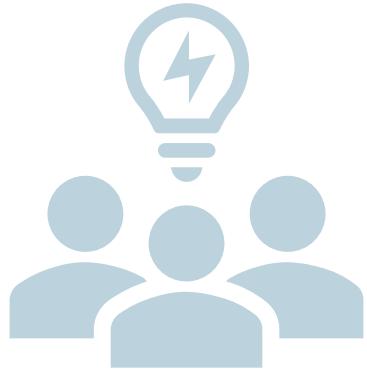
- Monthly meetings late 2025 through 2026

Purpose

- Share information on progress & decisions
- Get feedback to improve plans & ideas
- Improve understandability of communications

Activities

- Prepare & distribute materials (HSRI)
- Attend subcommittee meetings
- Engage in constructive conversation
- Review & provide feedback on materials



Feedback Sessions

Hear from people & their families on proposed changes and ways to improve them

- HSRI staff
- SDAB member (co-facilitator)
- People receiving self direction services across the state

When

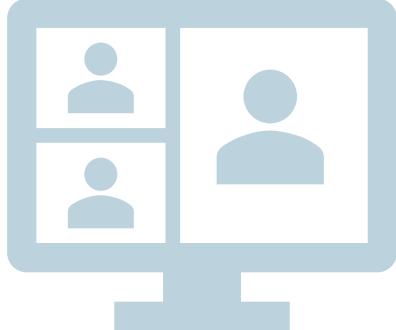
- Throughout 2026 at key points in project (e.g., after levels are developed)

Purpose

- Speak directly to people about what we have heard needs fixing about services
- Discuss where we are in the project
- Share ideas for proposed changes
- Collect ideas to use in decisions

Activities

- 12 to 16 sessions with people & their families (less than 10 people per session)
- Engage in conversation to learn & give feedback



Benchmark Presentations

Create an open forum for spreading information on the project and collecting feedback

- HSRI staff
- DDS staff
- Anyone interested in hearing about the project

When

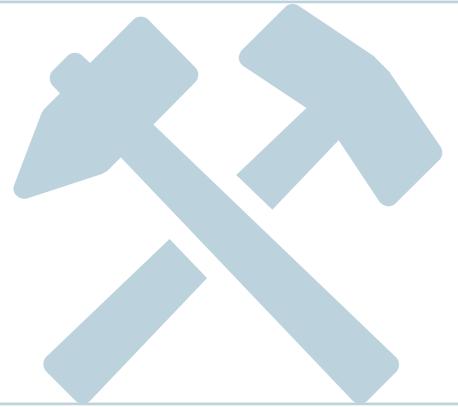
- Throughout 2026 at key points in project (e.g., after levels are developed)

Purpose

- Allow for people statewide to hear from HSRI & DDS what is going on with the project & what will change

Activities

- 4 to 6 recorded Zoom meetings
- Share information on the status of the project
- Collect questions and feedback
- Share contact information for follow up



Implementation Work Group

Work closely with people who will be implementing/responsible for knowing the self direction supports budget framework

Who	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• HSRI staff• DDS staff• Assessors• Area directors• Regional self direction managers <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Support brokers• AWC providers• IT staff• Communications staff
When	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Monthly meetings late 2025 through 2026
Purpose	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Share information on progress & decisions• Get feedback to improve plans & ideas• Improve feasibility & positive impact of changes
Activities	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Prepare & distribute materials (HSRI)• Attend meetings• Engage in constructive conversation• Review & provide feedback on materials

Who should we include across the engagement activities?

Hearing from people using self direction services and their family members is most important

People using self direction services and family members

Self Direction Advisory Board

State staff and area office staff responsible for understanding and implementing budgets

MASS

Agency with Choice providers

Support brokers

Considerations



Engagement must be complementary, not redundant, with work outside this project



Hearing from people who have not had an opportunity for their voice to be heard before



Challenges that come with a short timeline once data collection is complete



How to close the communication loop



Accessibility, including in-person versus virtual meetings



We want your feedback!

Are there any engagement activities that you think we should consider adding to our plan?

What groups of people are important to talk to that have not been mentioned yet?

What should we keep in mind as we are planning engagement activities?

