



Innovative **LIFE** Options 

To Inspire ... To Innovate ... To Include

**OUR APPROACH
TO SUPPORTING
MANITOBANS**

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Through our innovative services, supports, and programs, Innovative LIFE Options creates a framework of self-empowerment, so that individuals with intellectual disability, their families, and their support networks can take control of their own lives, make their own choices, and self-manage a unique life plan.

We do this through 3 unique support options.



Our mission is to provide people with an intellectual disability the opportunity to direct their best life.

In the Company of Friends (ICOF) is a funding model offered to Manitobans with an intellectual disability who are interested in self-directing and managing their own services with help from family and friends.



ICOF offers a flexible, individualized, and self-directed framework where people hire their own staff, increase independence, and foster meaningful relationships.



WHY CHOOSE ICOF?

INDIVIDUALIZED

- Flexible person centered framework
- Hire staff directly
- Live in your home community anywhere in the province
- Manage services with the help of friends and family instead of receiving services from an agency

COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

- Opportunities for learning and growth
- Increased independence
- Active assisted decision making

RELATIONSHIPS

- Focused effort and continuous support network development
- Explore community connections

HOW DOES IT WORK?

FUNDING

- Direct funding in order to self-manage
- *Must be eligible for CLdS funding

SUPPORT NETWORK DEVELOPMENT

- Identify support network members
- Guiding focus on your interests and goals
- Create and build sustainability

CAPACITY BUILDING

- Assisted decision making
- Understand employer responsibilities
- Person-centered planning



Options for Services

Options for Services (OFS) provides customizable, creative, and flexible administrative support on a fee for service basis.

OFS develops the capacity of individuals, families, and support networks to manage their services confidently and sustainably.



WHAT WE OFFER

Customizable administrative support is available in the following areas:



HUMAN RESOURCES

- Assistance with the hiring cycle
- Developing staffing structures and schedules
- Understanding Employment Standards and Workers Compensation

PAYROLL

- Developing a payroll plan
- Understanding Canada Revenue Agency Requirements
- Assistance with running payroll

FINANCIAL ADMINISTRATION

- Understanding financial responsibilities to CLdS
- Assistance with setting up a payroll business number

PERSON CENTERED RESOURCES

- Exploring meaningful supports, activities, and community connections

The Community Navigator is a program that supports individuals with an intellectual disability to navigate existing services as well as identify and respond to gaps in service delivery.



The Community Navigator builds capacity of individuals, families, and communities through connection, networking, and the development of creative solutions.



WHAT IS COMMUNITY NAVIGATION?



INDIVIDUAL AND FAMILY CONNECTION AND CAPACITY BUILDING

- Assists families to discover opportunities and meet with peers through gatherings and workshops
- Provides information about existing services and support options
- Helps locate and access community resources
- Creative planning for those who feel like they are falling through the cracks
- Explores options for those who are not eligible for some government programs including CLdS
- Assists with support network development

COMMUNITY CAPACITY DEVELOPMENT

- Creates connections within Manitoban communities
- Enhances the individual and family's ability to interact and contribute to their local community
- Emphasizes, promotes, and coordinates the use of unpaid support to address the individual's needs in addition to paid services

Guiding Principles

We embrace these principles in our lives and are committed to help you do the same in yours.

- **We know relationships are the spirit of life.** We will nurture meaningful connections based on what is important to you.
- **We believe in choices.** We guide a process of informed choice through avenues of supported decision making. We do this by offering information, guidance and resources. We believe choices are individualized, unique and result in opportunities for growth and reflection.
- **We take the time to listen.** We listen by using more than our ears. We use our eyes, our hearts and our intuition. What's important to you matters to us and defines our role. We listen to what you want to communicate and we respect what you don't.
- **We are committed to learning and growing.** We maintain a strong contact with others around the world to share best practices. We learn from you, keep teaching us.
- **We are strong, determined and won't give up.** We are committed to exploring all possibilities and find what works for you. We are here to help.
- **We honor each person's uniqueness.** We believe your individuality guides the support we offer – you are safe to be who you are.
- **We never stop dreaming.** We hold a vision of greater possibilities.
- **We are creative and resourceful.** We are innovators. We think within and beyond the box by drawing on our collective gifts.

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