



Innovative **LIFE** Options 

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

OUR APPROACH
TO SUPPORTING
MANITOBAN

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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 present people with an intellectual disability the opportunity to direct their best lives.



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, self-directed and person-centered 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 provides customizable, creative and flexible administrative support on a fee for service basis.



We help develop the capacity of individuals, families and support networks to manage their services confidently and sustainably.



Customizable administrative support is available in the following areas:

BUDGET SUPPORT

- Budget development based on supports budget level

FINANCIAL RESPONSIBILITIES

- Invoicing
- Statement of account and reconciliation

PAYROLL

- Setting up a payroll business number
- Payroll company set up
- Staffing structure and schedules
- Employment Standards
- CRA requirements
- Worker's Compensation

HIRING

- Advertising
- Applicant Screening
- Interviews
- Reference Checks
- Orientation

PERSON CENTERED RESOURCES

- Information about self-managing and developing individualized supports

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.



EXPLORE

Navigation

We work with individuals and families to understand and better navigate systems they utilize.

Information and Resource Sharing

We provide information on existing services, civic organizations and social interest groups.

Peer Support and Guidance

We bring families together to share experiences and learn from each other.

DEVELOP

Building a Support Network

We work with you to establish trusting relationships and support you to invite these relationships on to a committed support network.

Building Community

We work with individuals and families to develop connections within their communities and identify opportunities.

Networking

We work with communities to find out what's available and what's possible. If it doesn't exist...we'll work at building it.

PLAN

Planning and Capacity

We bring interested parties together to think about the future. We assist in developing a vision, determining what is needed to achieve that vision and resourcing individual members as well as the group to develop capacity and confidence.

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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