

Supported Living

Supported living is about people having choice, a decent and secure home, personalized supports, and opportunities to develop relationships and participate in the broader community in which they live.

Social Inclusion facilitators have a number of important roles in helping people plan for and live in a home of their own through a supported living arrangement. These include helping people:

- Identify where and with whom they want to live and the supports that will be required to establish and maintain a supported living arrangement;
- Recruit and screen support providers (this may include live in roommates, neighbours, hourly paid support workers, etc.);
- Identify and secure other supports, including technologies and accommodations that allow people to live with more independence, or to have the ability to request support when it is required; and
- Identify opportunities for adequate and affordable housing, including facilitating access to government housing programs if necessary.

Social Inclusion facilitators also provide ongoing monitoring of supported living arrangements to help to ensure a person's safety and the adequacy of supports in the home. They also provide assistance should an emergency arise.

Information

The Social Inclusion Program is available in 4 areas: Fredericton, Moncton, Grand Falls/Edmundston and Bathurst.

For more information about NBACL's Social Inclusion Program in your area, contact:

NBACL

420 Wilsey Rd.
Fredericton, NB E3B 6E9

506-453-4400 (Direct)
506-453-4422 (Fax)
1-866-622-2548 (Toll Free)

Email: nbacl@nbnet.nb.ca

NBACL works with and on behalf of children and adults with an intellectual disability and their families. Established in 1957, NBACL has 15 local associations throughout New Brunswick.

NBACL would like to thank the Government of New Brunswick for its partnership in the Social Inclusion Program.

SOCIAL INCLUSION PROGRAM

Supporting people with an intellectual disability to live and participate in their community



What is the Social Inclusion Program?

Through the NBACL Social Inclusion Program that works primarily with adults and youth aged 17 and older who have an intellectual disability. The program aims to assist people to be included in their community by:

- Having a home of their own (with the support they require);
- Developing strong personal support Networks; and by
- Becoming involved in recreation, leisure and voluntary activities that match their interests and choices.

Social inclusion is about people having a sense of belonging in their communities and real opportunities to live where they choose, develop relationships, and participate in community life.

What is a Social Inclusion Facilitator?

A Social Inclusion facilitator is an employee of NBACL who assists people in the program to achieve their goals for living and participating in the community. The facilitator works to help people (and their families) to:

- Identify what they want to do;
- Plan for ways to make things happen; and
- Implement and monitor someone's plan.

A facilitator acts as a "bridge" to community life for people who become involved in the program. A facilitator, however, is not a "support worker" who is responsible for providing day to day personal assistance (support workers may also be involved, depending on the specific needs of the person).

Connections to Community

Social Inclusion facilitators can help with connections to community by identifying ways for young adults



(ages 17 and over) and adults with an intellectual disability to become involved. Whether it is through sports, clubs, faith groups, hobby groups, or volunteerism, Social Inclusion facilitators in your area can help to make those connections happen.

Social Inclusion facilitators do this by:

- Learning about interests and goals of a person with an intellectual disability;
- Introducing the person to an individual, group or organization that suits his or her interests; and
- Providing information and support to groups and organizations to ensure that the person feels welcome and encouraged to fully participate.

When the initial connection is made, the individual and the group should have the information they need to continue their connection together, without the involvement of the Social Inclusion facilitator.

Personal Support Networks

Personal support networks are an important aspect of planning for a safe and secure future for people with disabilities. A network is a group of people who care about a person to the extent that they will commit to being involved in the person's life on a regular basis.

Networks of support can play many different roles, including the following:

- Help the person and the family to make decisions and plans for the future;
- Make sure that the person's voice is heard;
- Provide companionship, enter into a relationship and have fun;
- Provide practical support;
- Help manage supports and money; and
- Advocate with service systems and address issues that may arise.

Social Inclusion facilitators help with establishing and maintaining a personal support network for individuals with an intellectual disability who are A) living with a senior parent and/or B) planning to move out of the family home.

Social Inclusion Facilitators do this by:

- Inviting prospective network members
- Running network meetings;
- Identifying roles for people in the network; and
- Keeping the network going well into the Future.