

## **Independent Facilitation**

An Independent Facilitator assists consumers with understanding and moving through the person-centered planning process. Consumers of developmental disability and mental health services have a right to person-centered planning, which includes the right to choose a trained helper called an Independent Facilitator. Independent Facilitation is not available to consumers receiving short-term outpatient, medication only, or substance use disorder services.

An Independent Facilitator is NOT an advocate. An Independent Facilitator is neutral. He or she walks the consumers through the process, but does not promote any particular viewpoint. Independent Facilitators receive special training so that they can help consumers understand their choices.

Contact NorthCare Network at 1-888-333-8030 if you are interested in finding out more about Independent Facilitators. NorthCare staff will help secure an Independent Facilitator that you agree to. You always have the right to ask for a different Independent Facilitator if you would like. Currently you can choose from any of the facilitators listed below. If you do not have a particular choice, NorthCare will assist you in finding the Independent Facilitator that works best for you.

Nicki Bush – available throughout the Upper Peninsula

Kristine Tollefson – available throughout the Upper Peninsula

Carol Schiltz – available throughout the Eastern and Central Upper Peninsula

Laurie Kass – available throughout the Upper Peninsula

Mary Ann Guzek-Kimbal – available throughout the Upper Peninsula

LeRoy Pieri – available throughout the Eastern Upper Peninsula

Jen Frazier – available throughout the Central Upper Peninsula

**This information can also be found on page 18 of the NorthCare Customer Handbook.**