

The Ontario Federation for Cerebral Palsy
Announces a
REVIEW OF INDIVIDUALIZED FUNDING
December, 1999.

The Ontario Federation of Cerebral Palsy (OFCP) is currently involved in several projects designed to shift thinking and practice related to supports for citizens with disabilities. One of these initiatives is a Review of Individualized Funding, currently being conducted by John Lord and his associates.

The goal of this Review is to develop understanding, awareness, and strategies for building the capacity of individuals, families, communities and government to implement individualized funding for people with disabilities in Ontario.

Ontario already has a highly successful Direct Funding Project for adults with physical disabilities who are able to hire and direct their own attendants. Similarly, the Special Services at Home Program enables families in Ontario to access funds for support in the home, respite, or community integration activities for their sons and daughters with disabilities. This Review will build on the lessons of these programs and other pilot projects on individualized funding throughout Ontario. The Review will also examine initiatives around the world that have shifted control for planning and funding to individuals and families.

The Ontario Individualized Funding Coalition, of which OFCP is a member, has developed a framework and building blocks for change. This Review will utilize the Coalition's framework as a way to understand how to provide support, planning and funding for individuals who may not be able to direct their own support. OFCP recognizes that there are many challenges in implementing such an approach, but it is expected that the Review will provide some insights into implementation strategies for change. OFCP will also work closely with the Individualized Funding Coalition, to ensure that this Review complements the work of the Coalition.

In the first phase of the Review, John Lord and his associates will review current projects and research on individualized funding and self-determination. In the second phase of the Review, the research team will consult with a variety of stakeholders in Ontario as part of a process of developing strategies and principles for implementing a more individualized support system in Ontario.

For information on the OFCP initiatives, contact;

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