

# Jump Starting Community Living and Participation:

## An Assessment and Priority Worksheet

In each of the ten 'domains' of community inclusion activities listed below, assess how much work has been done in your local community in the past and what priority you would attach to further initiatives.

### 1. Educate

Assess: Have there been opportunities to learn about community inclusion principles and practices for key stakeholder groups in your community?

**None      A Little      Some      A Lot**

Prioritize: What priority would you give to future efforts to provide key stakeholder groups in your community opportunities to learn about community inclusion principles and practices?

**Low   1   2   3   4   5   6   7   High**

Examples. Providing learning opportunities about community inclusion to:

1. The Board of Directors
2. Service Recipients
3. Agency Staff Leadership
4. Practitioners
5. Family Members
6. Community Organizations
7. Funders
8. Professional Groups

Your suggestions:

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### 2. Commit

Assess: How strong a commitment is there in your community to promoting community inclusion principles and practices for individuals with mental illnesses?

**None      A Little      Some      A Lot**

Prioritize: What priority would you give to future efforts to build commitment to promoting community inclusion in your community?

**Low   1   2   3   4   5   6   7   High**

Examples. Making formal commitments to:

1. Establish a Community Inclusion Advisory Committee
2. Review the Agency Mission Statement
3. Include Community Inclusion Goals in Agency Proposals
4. Start a Pilot Program
5. Explore Connections to Mainstream Organizations
6. Build a Welcoming Work Environment within Your Agency
7. Press Local Funders to Support Community Inclusion

Your suggestions:

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### 3. Assess

Assess: How much energy has gone into assessing the degree to which service recipients, staff, agencies, and community agencies are interested in pursuing community inclusion initiatives?

**None      A Little      Some      A Lot**

Prioritize: What priority would you give to assess service recipient current levels of community participation and the interests of staff, community groups, and others to support new goals?

**Low   1   2   3   4   5   6   7   High**

Examples. Developing funding by:

1. Shifting funds from in-house to community inclusion programs
2. Promoting community inclusion as a 'medical necessity'
3. Developing self-directed care initiatives
4. Seeking local philanthropic support
5. Starting a community inclusion scholarship fund
6. Drawing on the resources of peer support specialists

Your suggestions:

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### 4. Fund

Assess: How much funding is available to support service recipients and their support staff with regard to pursuing community inclusion opportunities?

**None      A Little      Some      A Lot**

Prioritize: What priority would you give to developing additional sources of funding to support service recipients and their support staff in their community inclusion initiatives?

**Low   1   2   3   4   5   6   7   High**

Examples. Assessing where you stand by:

1. Asking service recipients about their community inclusion activities
2. Determining staff support for community inclusion goals
3. Assessing community inclusion policies, programs, and practices
4. Taking the measure of your local community's support or resistance
5. Assessing the community inclusion needs of specific sub-populations

Your suggestions:

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## 5. Train

Assess: How much training and supervision on community inclusion principles, programs, and practices has there been for direct service staff and supervisors?

**None      A Little      Some      A Lot**

Prioritize: What priority would you give to providing knowledge and skill development training on community inclusion for direct service personnel and their supervisors?

**Low   1   2   3   4   5   6   7   High**

Examples. Develop training programs that include:

1. Assigning staff responsibility for community inclusion supports
2. Reviewing job descriptions for community inclusion workers
3. Developing supervision and support for community inclusion staff
4. Preparing supervisors for their new roles
5. Training staff to identify/manage the risks of community inclusion

Your suggestions:

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## 6. Program

Assess: How many programs are there in your community that promote community inclusion through the delivery of 'supported technologies' (e.g., supported employment, education, housing, etc.)?

**None      A Little      Some      A Lot**

Prioritize: What priority would you give to developing additional supported education, employment, housing, and other programs as a way to promote greater community inclusion?

**Low   1   2   3   4   5   6   7   High**

Examples. Develop focused programs that:

1. Promote competitive employment
2. Help people complete their educations in mainstream settings
3. Develop mainstream housing opportunities
4. Re-establish family relationships
5. Identify community based social opportunities
6. Pursue engagement in mainstream recreational programs
7. Connect to local religious and spiritual congregations
8. Acknowledge the interest in romance and intimacy
9. Identify civic and volunteer opportunities

Your suggestions:

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## 7. Innovate

Assess: To what degree to peer specialists focus their work on assisting the service recipients with whom they work on community inclusion goals?

**None      A Little      Some      A Lot**

Prioritize: What priority would you give to increasing the number and training of peer specialists prepared to focus their work on assisting those they serve to pursue community inclusion goals?

**Low   1   2   3   4   5   6   7   High**

## 8. Welcome

Assess: How much work has gone into helping mainstream organizations and local communities to understand and support community inclusion goals for individuals with mental illnesses?

**None      A Little      Some      A Lot**

Prioritize: What priority would you give to increasing initiatives to help mainstream organizations and local communities to understand and support community inclusion goals for this with mental illnesses?

**Low   1   2   3   4   5   6   7   High**

Examples. Build welcoming communities by:

1. Networking with community organizations
2. Hosting a community activity fair.
3. Reframing mental health education programs
4. Helping community groups assess whether they are welcoming
5. Seeking and supporting individual community connectors
6. Sponsoring a community education workshop
7. Making your Board members community inclusion ambassadors
8. Engaging service recipients in community education
9. Working to minimize the risks of community inclusion

Your suggestions:

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Examples. Focus the work of peer specialists on community inclusion by:

1. Assigning community inclusion roles to peer specialists
2. Developing peer specialist community inclusion job descriptions
3. Clarifying expectations for peer specialists
4. Providing support and training for peer specialists
5. Adding a community inclusion focus to the WRAP process
6. Seeking funding for community inclusion peer specialists
7. Supporting community inclusion within consumer-run services
8. Preparing family members for new roles for themselves

Your suggestions:

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## 9. Evaluate

Assess: How much time and effort has gone into being sure that local agencies can assess the degree to which service recipients are meeting their community inclusion goals?

**None      A Little      Some      A Lot**

Prioritize: What priority would you give to insuring that the progress of service recipients in connecting to community life can be regularly assessed?

**Low   1   2   3   4   5   6   7   High**

Examples. Build support for community inclusion by:

1. Highlighting community inclusion's champions in your community
2. Developing a traditional public education campaign
3. Utilizing social media
4. Using 'storytelling' techniques
5. Focusing attention on community inclusion champions on staff

Your suggestions:

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## 10. Celebrate

Assess: How much have local organizations highlighted the importance of community inclusion for mainstream organizations and local community members?

**None      A Little      Some      A Lot**

Prioritize: What priority would you give to building support for community inclusion through a variety of community education initiatives?

**Low   1   2   3   4   5   6   7   High**

Examples. Keep track of your progress by:

1. Tracking the progress of individual service recipients
2. Requesting that service recipients evaluate your services
3. Using qualitative measures to assess the agency's overall progress
4. Assessing community groups' experiences with inclusion

Your suggestions:

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