**Hallmarks of a Person Centered Approach\***

***1. The person’s activities, services and supports are based upon his or her dreams, interests, preferences, strengths and capacities.***

Indicators:

--The person’s dreams, interests, preferences, strengths, and capacities are explicitly acknowledged and drive activities, services and supports.

-- Services and supports are individualized and do not rely solely on preexisting models.

-- Supports and services have outcomes selected by the person, which are meaningful and functional.

-- The person achieves personal goals.

***2. The person and people important to him or her are included in lifestyle planning, and have the opportunity to exercise control and make informed decisions.***

Indicators:

-- The person and advocates participate in planning and discussions where decisions are made.

-- A diverse group of people, invited by the person, assist in planning and decision making.

***3. The person has meaningful choices, with decisions based on his or her experiences.***

Indicators:

-- The person has opportunities to experience alternatives before making choices.

-- The person makes life-defining choices related to home, work and relationships.

-- Opportunities for decision-making are part of the person’s everyday routine.

-- The person decides how to use his or her free time.

***4. The person uses, when possible, natural and community supports.***

Indicators:

-- With the person’s consent, the support of family members, neighbors and co-workers is encouraged.

-- The person makes use of typical community and generic resources whenever possible.

***5. Activities, supports, and services foster skills to achieve personal relationships, community inclusion, dignity and respect.***

Indicators:

--The person has a presence in a variety of typical community places.

-- Segregated services and locations are minimized.

-- The person has friends, and the opportunity to form other natural community relationships.

-- The person can access community-based housing and work if desired.

-- The person has the opportunity to be a contributing member of the community.

***6. The person’s opportunities and experiences are maximized, and flexibility is enhanced within existing regulatory and funding constraints.***

Indicators:

-- Funding of supports and services is responsible to personal needs and desires, not the reverse.

-- When funding constraints require supports to be prioritized or limited, the person or advocates make the decisions.

--The person has appropriate control over available economic resources.

***7. Planning is collaborative, recurring, and involves an ongoing commitment to the person.***

Indicators:

-- Planning activities occur periodically and routinely. Lifestyle decisions are revisited.

-- A group of people who know, value, and are committed to serving the person remain involved.

***8. The person is satisfied with his or her activities, supports, and services.***

Indicators:

-- The person expresses satisfaction with his or her relationships, home, and daily routines.

-- Areas of dissatisfaction result in tangible changes in the person’s life situation.

Developed by Allen Schwartz, Steve Holburn and John Jacobson, 2000