

2022-
2023

Indiana Interagency Autism Coordinating Council (IIACC) Annual Report



The 2022-2023 Indiana Interagency Autism Coordinating Council (IIACC) Annual Report is prepared on behalf of the HANDS in Autism® Interdisciplinary Training and Resource Center, Department of Psychiatry at Indiana University School of Medicine (IUSM) and Riley Hospital for Children at Indiana University Health (IUH). On behalf of the Family and Social Services Administration (FSSA), Bureau of Disability Services (BDS), HANDS in Autism® has served as the selected IIACC facilitator since 2014 and sole source IIACC facilitator since 2020. With much commitment to this role and opportunity to reflect key activities and progress on behalf of the IIACC and IIACC stakeholder organizations, the HANDS team welcomes the chance annually to prepare and share the IIACC Annual Report.

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Acknowledgements

The HANDS leadership team and IIACC co-facilitators, Drs. Naomi Swiezy and Tiffany Neal, are grateful for FSSA and BDS leadership teams as servant leaders who work to be responsive to and involved with IIACC oversight. Most importantly, our thanks go to the many individuals and caregivers with lived experience that inform our work and that of the stakeholder organizations who contribute to collective work, data, as well as IIACC and Local Community Cadre (LCC) participation.

Executive Summary

It is with utmost regard that we prepare an annual report to inform the status of autism efforts statewide through awareness of the state council, its stakeholder organization participants, areas of expressed need and simultaneously areas of innovation, progress and celebration!

With this in mind, key IIACC hallmarks include being or having:

- **An established, reputable council.** The Indiana Interagency Autism Coordinating Council (IIACC) was established by legislative action in 2005 and, since 2014, has been facilitated by HANDS In Autism®. The IIACC's annual and ongoing efforts are guided by a systematic evaluation of statewide and regional needs. This evaluation is informed by formal gap analyses, including surveys, individual interviews, and focus groups. The IIACC also collaborates with workgroups and considers local community input, as well as state and national-level data. Collective inputs inform the gaps and needs of local communities and the state.
- **An agile, responsive community-engaged network.** The IIACC plays a central role in the Autism Engagement Network (AEN; see *Figure 5* and further description on p 5), a collaborative platform that promotes partnership, collaboration, and a unified voice across various systems, organizations, communities, and individual stakeholders statewide. The AEN's structure fosters networking, engagement, and information sharing to ensure that autism services at both the state and community levels are informed by stakeholders. This ultimately impacts individuals and families throughout Indiana.
- **An ongoing, data-driven, decision-making champion.** The IIACC provides comprehensive annual reports to the Family and Social Services Administration (FSSA) at the end of each reporting and calendar year, aligning with the state legislative session to inform policymaking; however, regional data snapshots and data requests are available upon request to best serve local and regional needs and decision-making.
- **An annually responsive, community-informed agenda.** During the current reporting period, the IIACC's focus has centered on (1) accessible participation (see p 9), (2) diverse engagement (see p 11), (3) representative participation of individuals with lived experience across the AEN (see p 13), (4) goal implementation (see p 15), and (5) celebrations of progress (see p 17). Each of these community-informed areas of priority further the ability of the IIACC to serve as an established, trusted source of evidence-based information and credible information tailored to the specific needs of individuals and families in the State of Indiana.

Should you or your organization have interest in learning more about participation in the IIACC, related work on the *Comprehensive Plan*, relevant activities within your community, information presented within this report, and/or have interest in sharing and discussion, please feel free to be in touch directly at hands@iupui.edu or 317-274-2675.

With much appreciation and gratitude,



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Implementation Factors

Use of a systematic evidence-based and community-informed approach is central to the work of the HANDS in Autism® team. This approach ensures the HANDS team facilitates or supports at a level suitable to the roles, levels of preparation and readiness, and particular project or funder's context and vision. Such support is collaborative in nature while also supporting and ensuring activities are carried out with fidelity and integrity to ensure positive and reliable outcomes to meet the expressed needs and goals (Odom, Collet-Klingenberg, Friedman, & Wallace, 2005).

Implementation Science Foundations

Instrumental to the success and sustainability of a program or practice is the match between the needs of the group and the fit of the partnering team's existing work and context. Use of The Hexagon Tool (Metz & Louison (2018); see *Figure 1*) to assess these areas and the ongoing work towards improved innovation and sustainability for the IIACC and *Indiana Comprehensive Plan for Individuals with ASD* (IIACC, 2005, 2015, 2020, 2022) ensures ongoing alignment of the HANDS in Autism® team in its role as the IIACC facilitator with key factors as follows:

- **Need** – Increasing ASD prevalence; Unique and diverse state, community and individual needs; Public council facilitation and implementation gaps
- **Evidence** – Census data; Research and state findings of needs and outcomes; Cultural and socioeconomic diversity; Established demonstration of needs thru multiple community measures and findings
- **Fit** – Interdisciplinary resource center; Influential, backbone organization with accessible resources and history of implementation facilitation across multiple stakeholder groups, settings or audiences
- **Usability** – Evidence-based model of facilitation; Implementation science timelines and foundation; Customization potential based on individual and community needs; Iterated and responsive platforms for engagement, resource sharing and reach
- **Capacity** – Community and stakeholder readiness; Statewide and global engagement network; Resources and supports needed and available for data-driven decision-making and implementation
- **Supports** – Expert assistance; Systemic approach; Resources for ongoing innovation, data monitoring and sharing and efforts toward community-informed voices speaking to innovation and sustainability

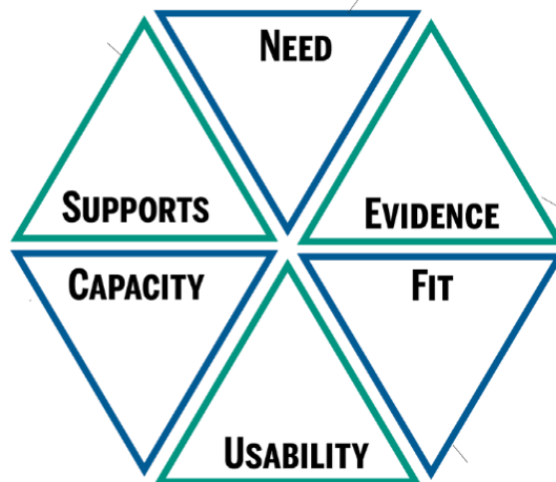


Figure 1. The Hexagon Tool

Ongoing this tool is used to align areas of community-informed focus by year with activities and data-driven decision-making.

Evidence-Based Facilitation

Use of the collective impact model (Kania & Kramer, 2011, 2013; see *Figure 2*) fosters community and field stakeholders coming together to collaborate in a structured way. HANDS in Autism® employs this model to ensure there is a firm foundation and infrastructure to the IIACC and broader Autism Engagement Network (see *Figure 2*). The Model also fosters clear understanding of ongoing means for building communication, trust, engagement and use of common metrics to evaluate progress, keeping all informed and aligned to best assist in support and transformation efforts.

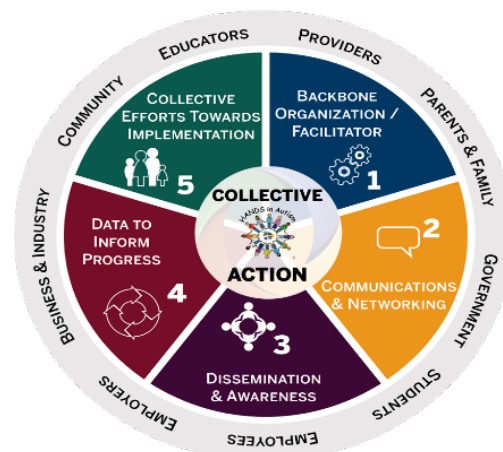


Figure 2. Collective Impact Model

Systematic Process

Traditional stages of implementation (Fixsen, Naoom, Blasé, Friedman & Wallace, 2005; see *Figure 3*) illustrates the systematic, progressive process HANDS uses to account for unique organization, community, and individual needs and approaches.

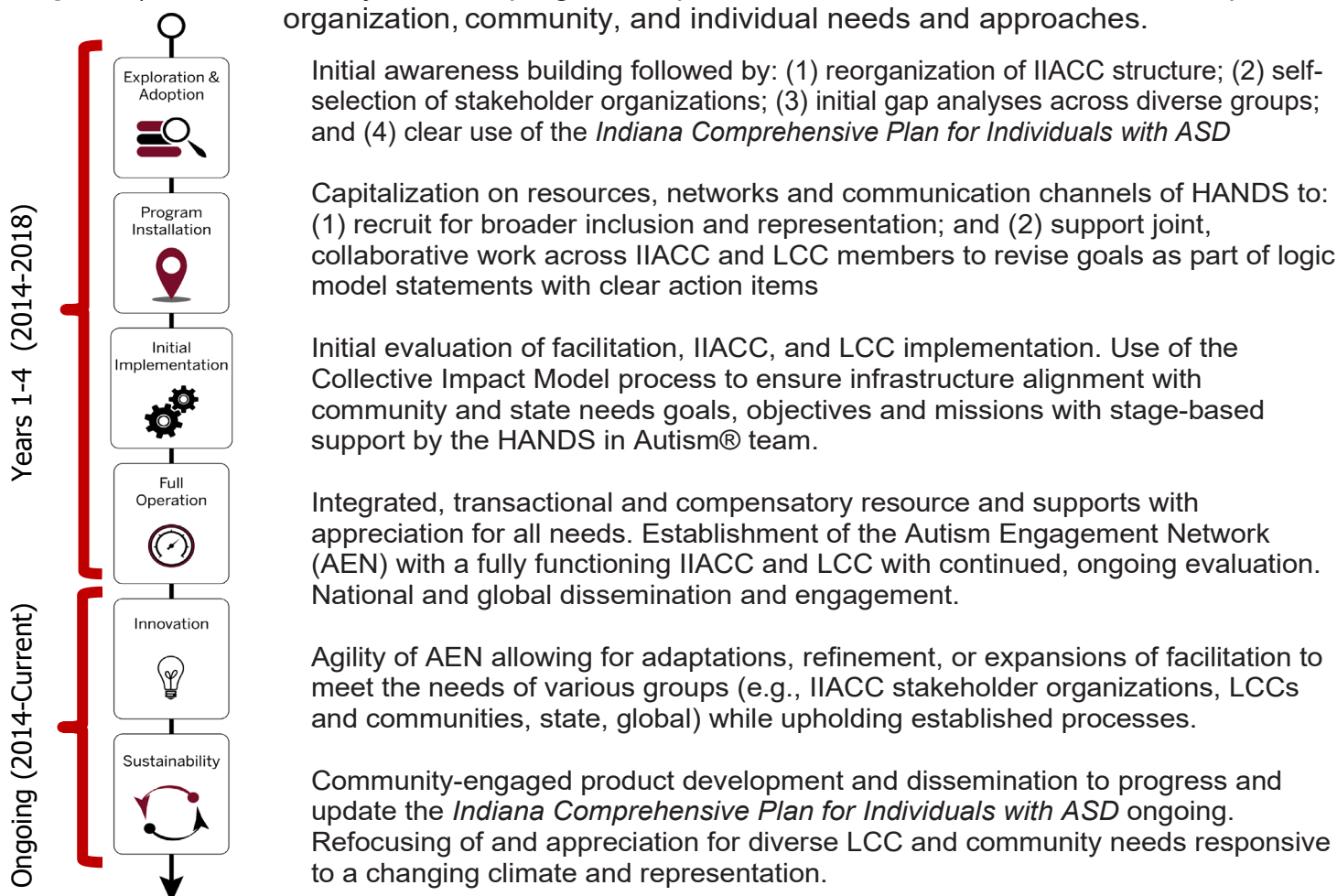


Figure 3. Phases

Autism Engagement Network

The Autism Engagement Network (AEN; see *Figure 4*), initiated and guided by HANDS in Autism®, represents a collaborative network that has evolved in conjunction with the Indiana Interagency Autism Coordinating Council (IIACC), Local Community Cadres (LCCs), and aligned resources and initiatives. This collaborative effort contributes to the coordination and advancement of endeavors aimed at enhancing services and support for individuals with Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD) and their families. Every component and tier within the AEN is pivotal to the ongoing process of reviewing data, ensuring collective input, scrutinizing information, and disseminating insights.

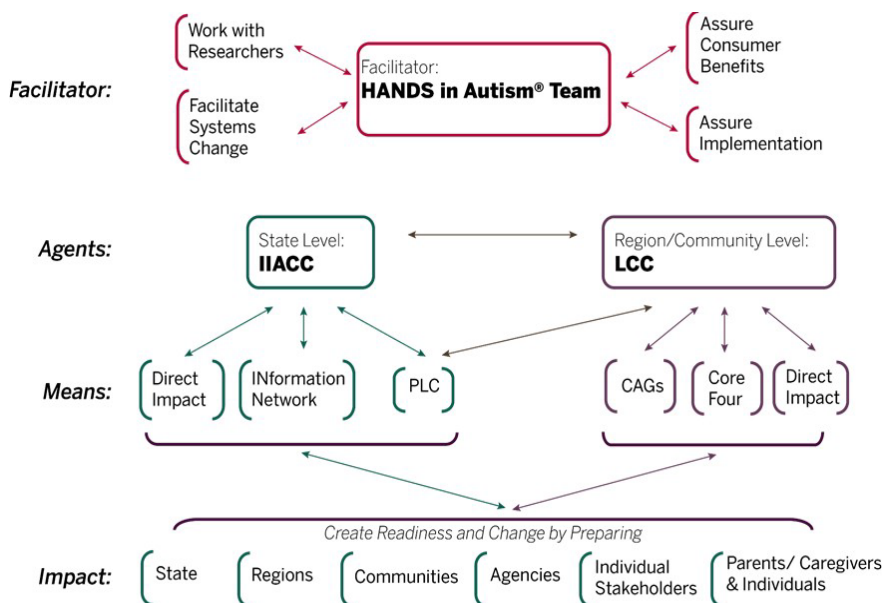


Figure 4. Autism Engagement Network

The impact involves not only the IIACC membership but also a broader range of state, regional, and community stakeholders. The overarching objective across all AEN levels is to exert influence across systems and bring about positive impacts, ultimately working to improve the lives of individuals and families. The end goal is acceptance and integration within neurodiverse communities throughout the state of Indiana.

Facilitation and oversight



SCHOOL OF MEDICINE
DEPARTMENT OF PSYCHIATRY

HANDS in Autism® Interdisciplinary Training & Resource Center facilitates the work of the IIACC to support bridging systems, growing local capacity, and collaborating across sectors of the community.

The Bureau of Disability Services (BDS) leadership supports ongoing operations and feedback to HANDS facilitators to ensure alignment with state needs, priorities, and efforts.



The Family and Social Services Administration (FSSA) leadership provides overall oversight and support to BDS and HANDS in Autism® in facilitating this effort.

Indiana Interagency Autism Coordinating Council

The Indiana Interagency Autism Coordinating Council (IIACC) functions as a collaborative stakeholder work group, with its primary mission being to "facilitate the efficient and effective exchange of information regarding autism-related activities among member agencies, and to pool resources and experiences to address common issues and fill identified gaps" (INformation Network, 2020).

Established in 2005, the Council is comprised of representatives from a diverse array of state-level organizations that have a substantial impact on individuals with autism and their families (see sample roles from a 2023 mid-year, quarterly meeting in *Figure 5*). It serves as a platform for enhancing the implementation

of programs, activities, policies, and priorities related to autism services by improving public awareness and advising the state in this regard. The Council plays a crucial role in bringing forward matters

of immediate and enduring interest, enabling shared knowledge, access, networking, and discussions regarding resources and activities throughout the state.



Figure 5. Primary Roles

The Council's primary objectives and initiatives are outlined within the *Indiana Comprehensive State Plan for Individuals with Autism Spectrum Disorder* (referred to as the Comprehensive Plan). These priorities form the foundation for ongoing, stakeholder-informed endeavors. At the conclusion of each calendar year, the results of these efforts are submitted to the Family and Social Services Administration (FSSA), state-level decision-makers, and made available to the public as a reputable source of collective input to inform the decisions and priorities of communities statewide.

IIACC Stakeholder Organizations

For more information about the IIACC stakeholder organizations, take a look online at <https://indiananetwork.org/about/the-indiana-interagency-autism-coordinating-council/>



Local Community Cadres

Local Community Cadres (LCCs) are regional community networks composed of individuals, families, professionals, and other community members who are deeply committed to providing support for those affected by Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD) and related developmental disabilities. Their engagement occurs at various levels and is driven by the central objective to identify local needs and implement targeted changes to create positive impact or change around ASD and related disabilities within their respective communities through four key areas (see *Figure 6*).

LCCs fulfill the role of Community Advisory Groups (CAGs), offering insights from a community perspective to inform the work of the Indiana Interagency Autism Coordinating Council (IIACC). Representatives from LCCs actively participate in IIACC meetings and events, fostering a collaborative relationship. Likewise, IIACC members engage in the review process and provide feedback on materials developed by regional LCC groups, ensuring a two-way exchange of valuable insights and information.

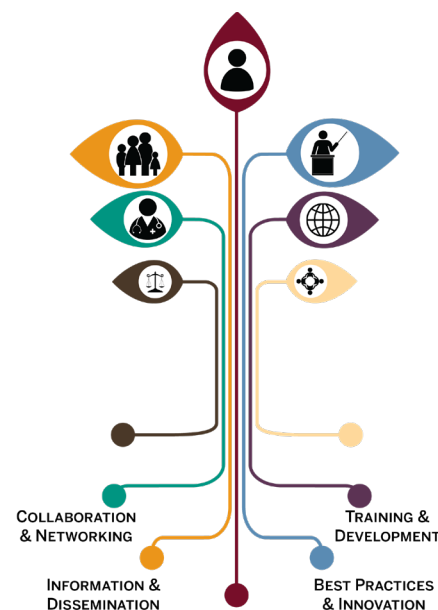


Figure 6. LCC Pillars

Local Community Cadre Efforts

To learn more about or connect as part of your LCC or those you represent, take a look online at <https://handsinautism.iupui.edu/collaborations/lcc/>.



INformation Network

The INformation Network Website (www.indiananetwork.org) is an invaluable resource for individuals, caregivers, providers and community members seeking comprehensive information related to autism spectrum disorder (ASD). Developed to facilitate patient navigation and resource sharing among stakeholder organizations, the platform continues to demonstrate exponential growth annually.



Among more than 100 pages and 7,000 unique visitors annually (373-986 monthly), the top pages in 2022-2023 included:

- Educational Support Services
- Residential Options
- Indiana Comprehensive Plan
- IIACC Action
- DISI Award
- RSVP to the next Quarterly IIACC Meeting!

2022-2023 Focus and Growth

With a community-centered focus, planning forward for each new year is informed thru a combination of (1) the *Indiana Comprehensive Plan for Individuals with ASD* goals, (2) community-based needs assessment findings (i.e., combination of surveys, interviews, focus groups), (3) state, national and global needs, and (4) IIACC stakeholder organization input. This ongoing agility and responsiveness to collective input (see *Figure 7*) helps assure implementation and consumer benefits from top to bottom and bottom to top. The reciprocal or integrated appreciation of both decision makers and persons with lived experiences and all roles between these groups are integral to full implementation, innovation and sustainability.

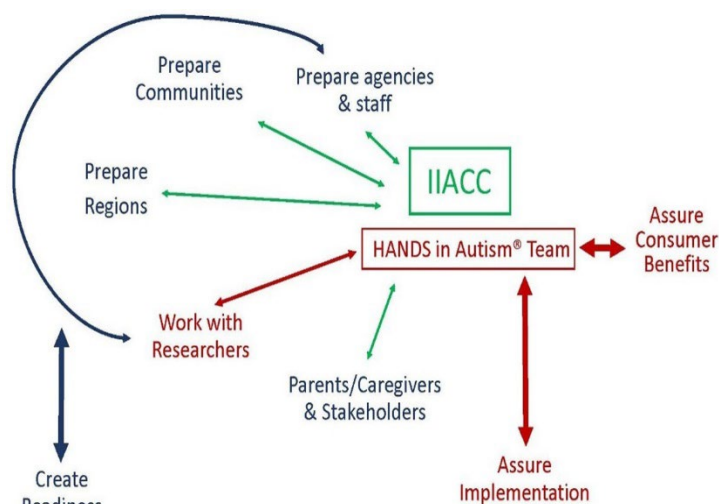


Figure 7. Integration for Implementation

Based on this process, the 2022-2023 planning began in the December 2022 meeting. Stakeholders had opportunity to share key input on ways the IIACC could best deliver on the overall mission and vision of the state and the many we serve.

Areas of improvement or opportunity for growth were shared by IIACC stakeholder organizations as follows:

- **Accessible, just-in-time means for participation** – ways to engage between meetings, balance between in person and virtual meeting options
- **Diverse community sharing and engagement** – representation and engagement of increased stakeholder groups (e.g., medical, business, policy or government, first responders and others) contributing to or informing goal areas in the field
- **Invitations to the table before setting the table** – representation of and support for individuals and caregivers with lived experience to participate in meetings and activities as best fit to each individual's preferences for levels of engagement
- **Agile, research-informed goal implementation** – consideration and sharing of diverse research representative of the neurodiversity and co-occurring conditions associated with ASD
- **Celebrations of progress in times of everchanging need** – interest in further showcases of innovation in implementation, a chance to “work to understand them [autistic and neurodiverse individuals, unrepresented groups at the table] and change what we do”

Through representative input and established processes, the HANDS facilitators focused upon these areas in 2022-2023 quarterly meetings.

Accessible, Just-in-Time Participation

Diverse ways to engage between meetings with a balance between in person and virtual meeting options

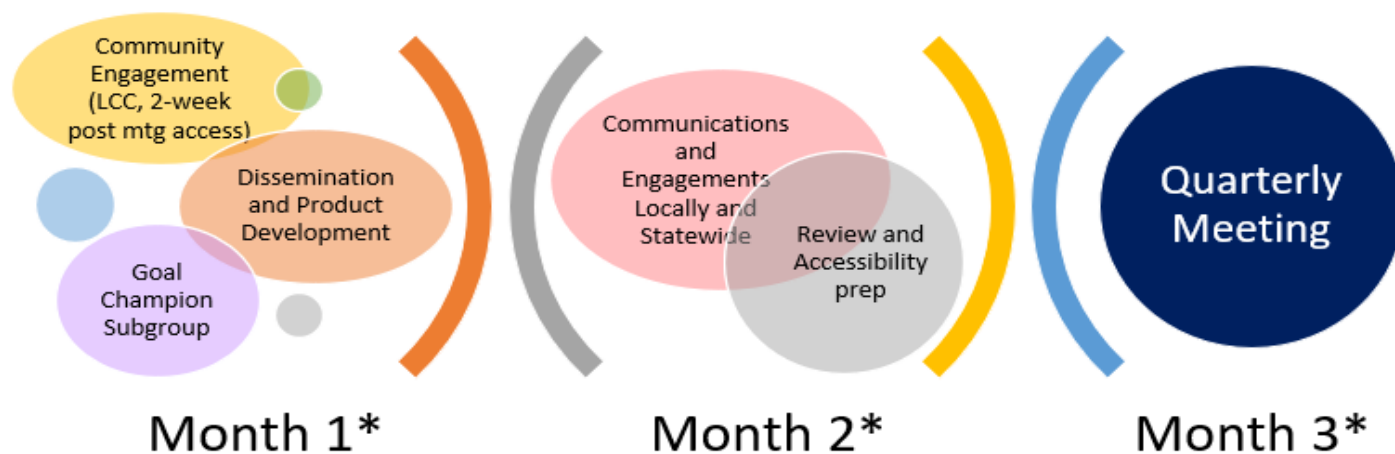
Offering a range of ways for IIACC stakeholder organizations to engage has long been central to HANDS' facilitation efforts; however, ongoing feedback on the use of various platforms and activities to ensure they are most accessible and useful to all groups and roles has been paramount to the agility and continued work of HANDS to meet IIACC and LCC needs.

Highlighted as central to IIACC engagement (see *Figure 8*), there are diverse ways stakeholders can interact, share, contribute or gather information within and between quarterly IIACC meetings:



Figure 8. IIACC Engagement

These areas of IIACC engagement span the whole year with a snapshot of sample activities by month (see *Figure 9*) included for one quarter as follows:



*Monthly newsletters are distributed for both the IIACC and LCCs to highlight various engagements (e.g., social media, blogs, resources)

Figure 9. Quarterly IIACC and Autism Engagement Network Activities

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100%

Facilitation Process

88%

Large Group Discussion*

*Increase across past 5 years

Satisfaction data from IIACC participants is reviewed ongoing to ensure engagement areas are meeting the needs of and responsive to stakeholders, communities and the State.

82%

Work Group and Breakout Activities

88%

Overall Session Flow

To ensure engagement of all potential stakeholders, the HANDS team uses a range of accessible software or platforms within meetings (e.g., Padlet; Google Suite - Jamboards, Docs, Sheets; see *Figures 10 & 11* for samples). With this in mind, both attending participants and persons who were unable to attend or who sent a delegate on their behalf from across stakeholder organizations can continue to access these materials for further contributions up to 2 weeks post-meeting. A follow-up email is distributed to ensure all links are available.

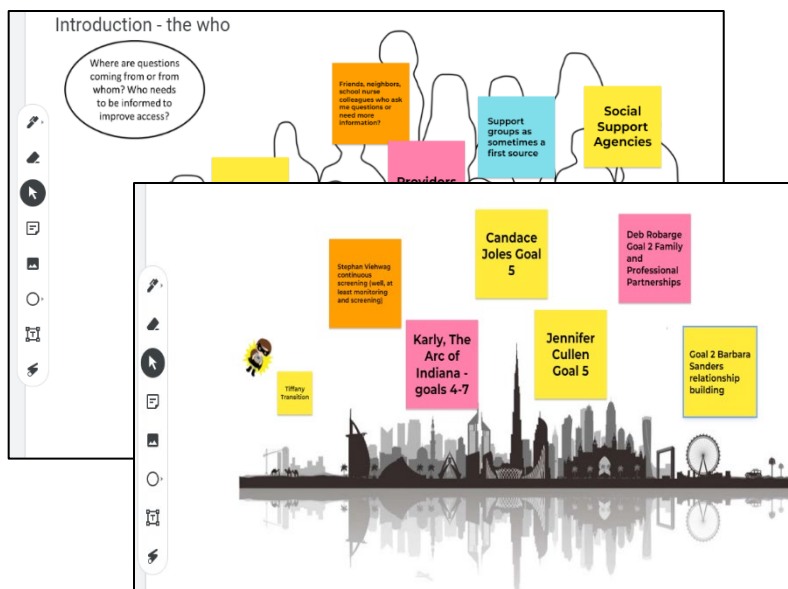


Figure 11. Jamboard Example: June 2023 Group Activities

Figure 10. Padlet Example: Sept 2023 Stakeholder Highlights

With increased interest for in-person opportunities, HANDS offered both in-person and virtual meeting options for the September 2023 meeting but had substantial, continued interest in virtual attendance. Thus, implementation of in-person meetings was delayed until 2024 and will be announced in advance for the mid-year June and September 2024 meetings

Based on feedback, added effort will also be allocated to networking and community engagement offerings thru a range of local and regional LCC opportunities and inter-session work with options for in-person and virtual attendance as applicable.

"I wish our meetings were back in person. Zoom is great, but it is easier to work together if we were in the same building."

-IIACC veteran

Diverse Sharing and Engagement

Representation and engagement of increased stakeholder groups (e.g., medical, business, policy or government, first responders and others) contributing to or informing goal areas in the field

As a focus for the HANDS team, efforts are ongoing to engage returning, veteran stakeholders as well as attract new, unrepresented members thru diverse engagement opportunities. A focus on diversity of representation and voices is both in response to IIACC stakeholder interest and to ensure equitable, integrated approaches are informing further updates and stages in *Comprehensive Plan* goal areas.

70

Total 2022-2023 stakeholder organizations

27%

New 2022-2023 stakeholder organizations

Across stakeholder organizations, representation by primary role and locale (as well as representation of new stakeholder organizations; see *Figure 12*) is self-reported as follows:

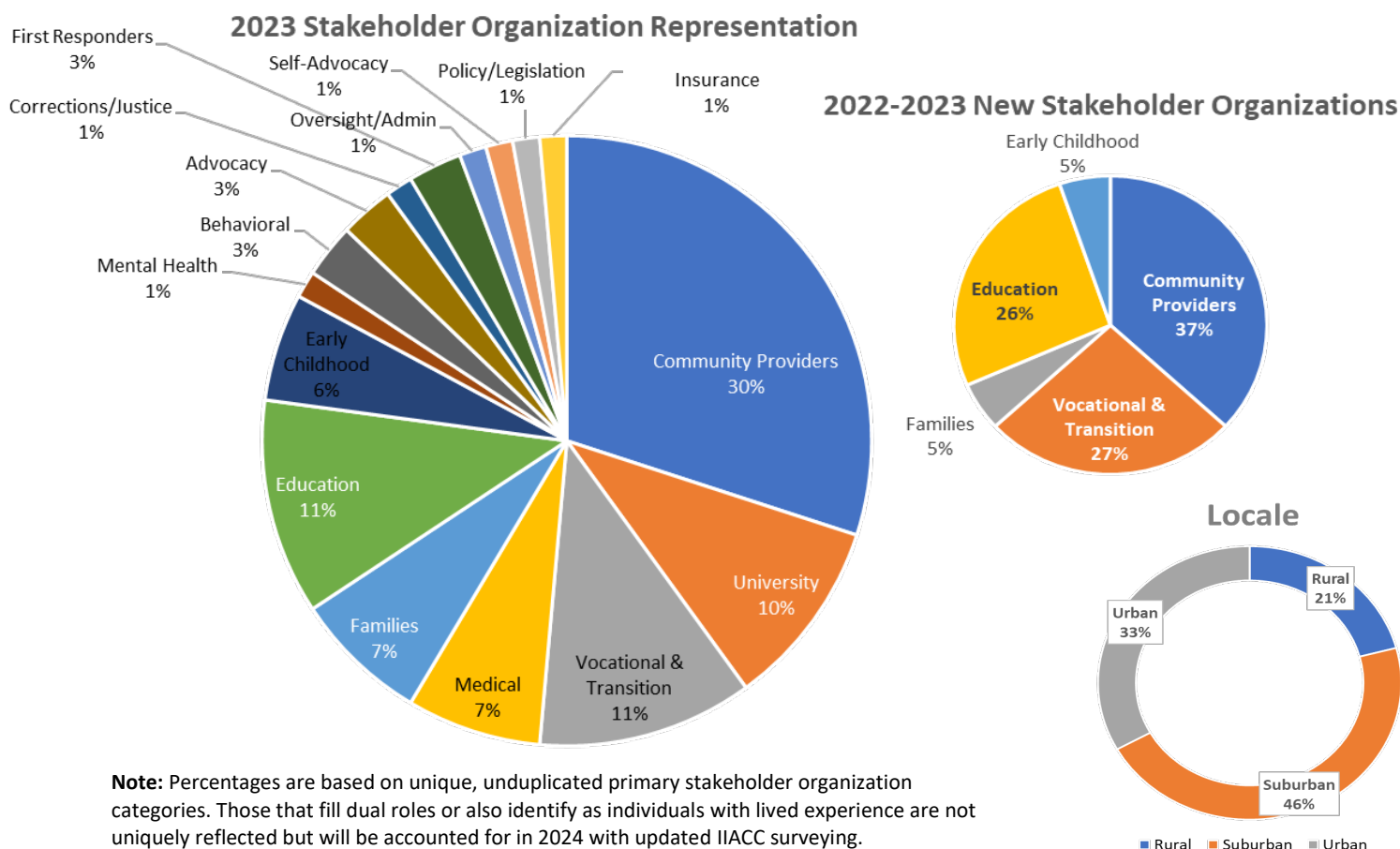


Figure 12. IIACC Participation

In addition to seeking diverse representation, meetings were shaped across the year to progressively cover *Comprehensive Plan* goal areas with unique speakers and resource sharing. Speakers were selected and invited by the HANDS team complementary to *Comprehensive Plan* goal trajectories. Subsequent to speaker presentations, discussion and crowdsourcing around the particular *Comprehensive Plan* goal was facilitated in seeking to move ahead in goals.

"For me, I love the idea of discussing real cases and hearing from professionals working in this field what the options these families have with the current system."
-IIACC veteran

Examples of the increased emphases on diversity in sharing include participation by the speakers on topics aligned with the respective Charting the LifeCourse (CtLC) trajectories (Gotto, Reynolds, Palmer, & Chiang, 2019) and *Comprehensive Plan* goal areas:

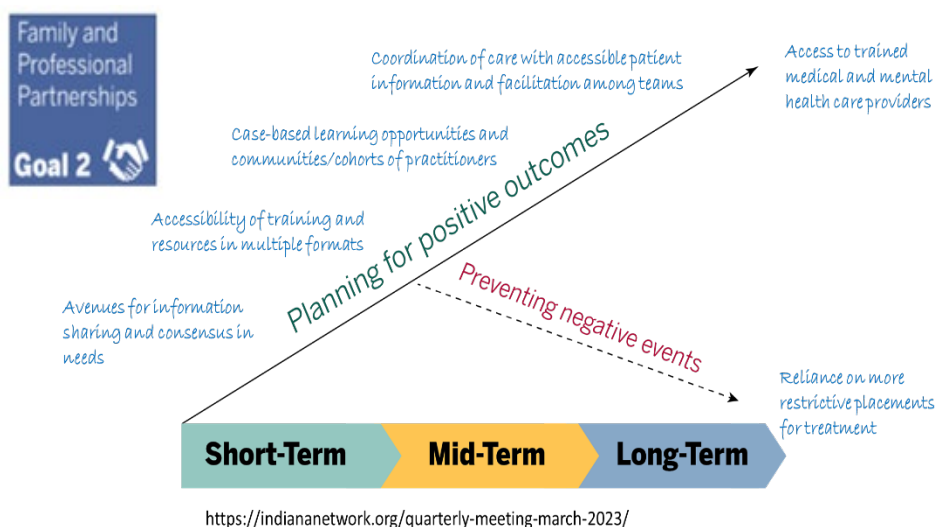
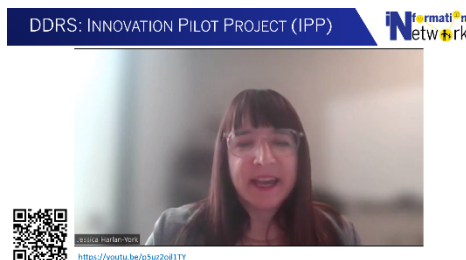


Figure 13. Goal 2 Trajectory



Jessica Harlan-York, JD, Chief Operations Officer, Division of Disability and Rehabilitative Services, presented on the topic of the Innovative Pilot Projects (IPPs) with funded projects spanning multiple areas of the Goal 2 trajectory (i.e., accessibility, coordination, and access).

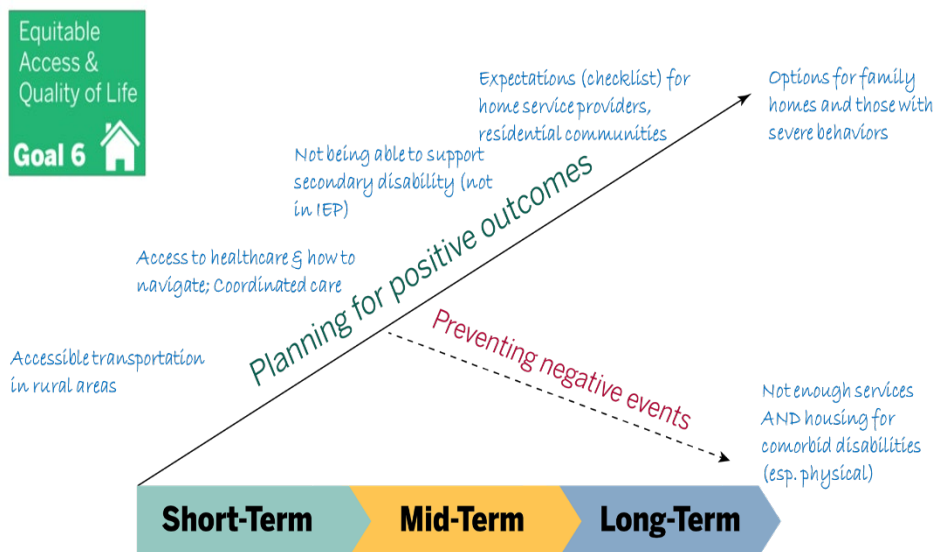
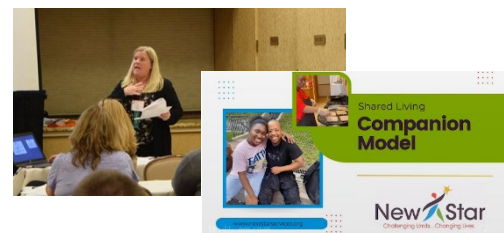


Figure 14. Goal 5 Trajectory



Kara Pierce, Director of Indiana Services, New Star, shared about their organizations Shared Living Companion Model. This effort was very closely aligned with accessibility, expectations, and options for housing among individuals with disabilities or added support needs.

With added emphases on diverse sharing in 2022-2023, satisfaction in topics covered and facilitation continued to increase among stakeholder organizations. Crowdsourcing efforts to support added navigation among topics via the INformation Network resulted in an added 10-25 resources/meeting.

Invitations to and Support on the Council

Representation of and support for individuals and caregivers with lived experience to participate in meetings and activities as best fit to each individual's preferences for levels of engagement

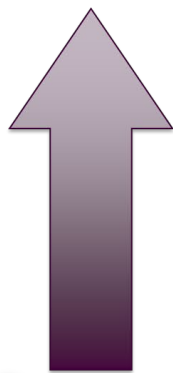
With the prevalence of ASD and developmental disabilities (DD) continuing to rise, the need to engage persons with lived experience and lived expertise in setting the table or course (e.g., engagement opportunities, activities, interaction opportunities, platforms) before getting to the table or moving ahead is a needed step that has been in motion ongoing but with increased emphases and effort in 2022-2023.

In stepping back before moving forward, a spotlight on the presenting global health crisis that exists surrounding (dis)abilities and neurodiversity is essential. Globally, DD affects approximately 17% of the population (ranging between 8-30%). ASD affects approximately 3% of our population (i.e., 1:36; CDC, 2023; Global report on children with developmental disabilities..., 2023; WHO, 2018). Using national prevalence and Census data (i.e., Indiana population of 6,785,528; U.S. Census Bureau, 2023), this suggests approximately 203,500 individuals within Indiana have ASD and approximately 1.15 million have a developmental disability across age ranges.

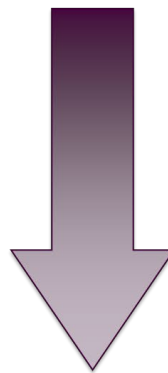


Globally, it is recognized that every individual has the right to enjoy and attain the highest standards of health, well-being, and quality of life. With interest in ensuring equitable opportunities for participation, exploration of a range of engagement opportunities is needed (UN Convention on Rights of the Child, 1989; UN Convention on Rights of Persons with Disabilities, 2006).

Without needed inter-sector/multi-sector infrastructure as fostered thru the IIACC and Autism Engagement Network (AEN), individuals experience:



- Adverse experiences
- Stigmatization
- Violence
- Poverty
- School dropout
- Parental mental illness
- Unmet healthcare needs
- Prejudice
- Institutionalization
- Barriers to participation
- Exclusion



- Physical health
- Opportunities to thrive
- Nurturing
- Interactions within the home, school and community
- Resources



Cumulative effects: the more intersecting adversities and layers of marginalization that is faced, the greater their risk of poor health and well-being

UN Convention on Rights of the Child (1989); UN Convention on Rights of Persons with Disabilities (2006)

Figure 15. Disability Experiences

Diverse opportunities to engage across the AEN were offered to best learn from and ensure representative voices were present from among those with lived experience. Areas or offerings with greatest participation among speakers, panelists, and participants with lived experience (see *Figure 16* for AEN perspective) included:

- IIACC, Professional Learning Communities
 - HANDS Autism Healthcare ECHO
 - HANDS Developmental Disabilities and Autism ECHO
- IIACC, Information Network
 - Community Blog
- LCC, Community Advisory Groups
 - Community Connections

Given that primary roles among stakeholder organizations are self-reported, added options for indication of primary and secondary roles will be expanded to best reflect those with dual roles as professionals or caregivers and individuals can be reflected upon the individual's choosing.

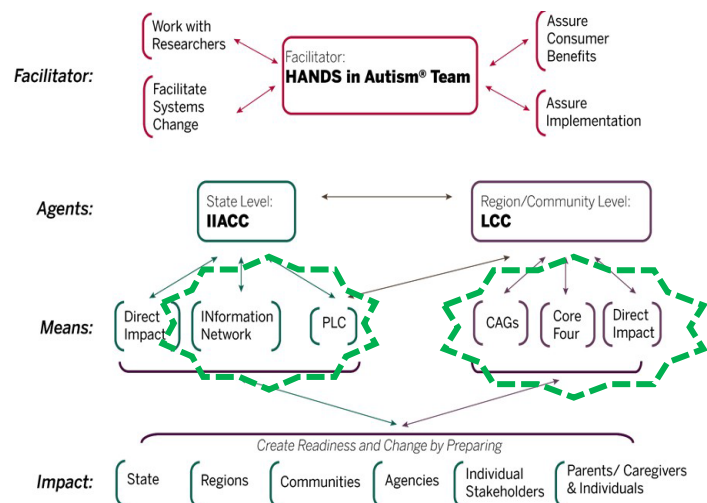
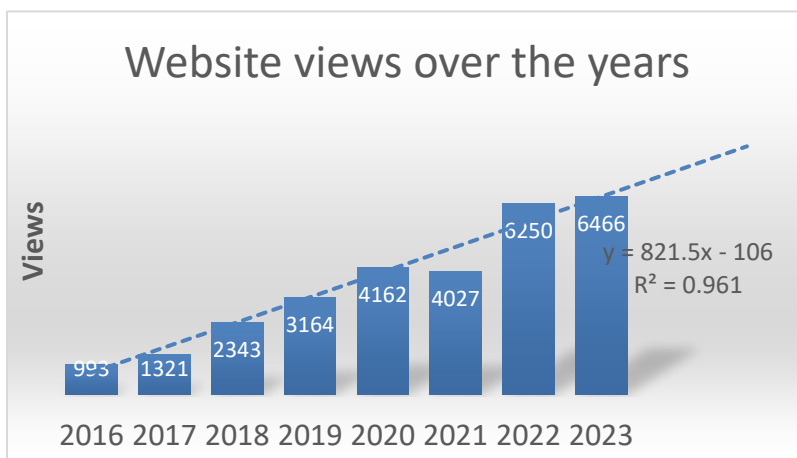


Figure 16. AEN Individuals Engagement

In seeing primary engagement within virtual platforms among those with lived experience, a look to the INformation Network is illustrative of steady and significant increase across 2022-2023 and years of availability (see *Figure 16*).



Website Visits- Countries

- United States
- Philippines
- India
- Canada
- United Kingdom
- China

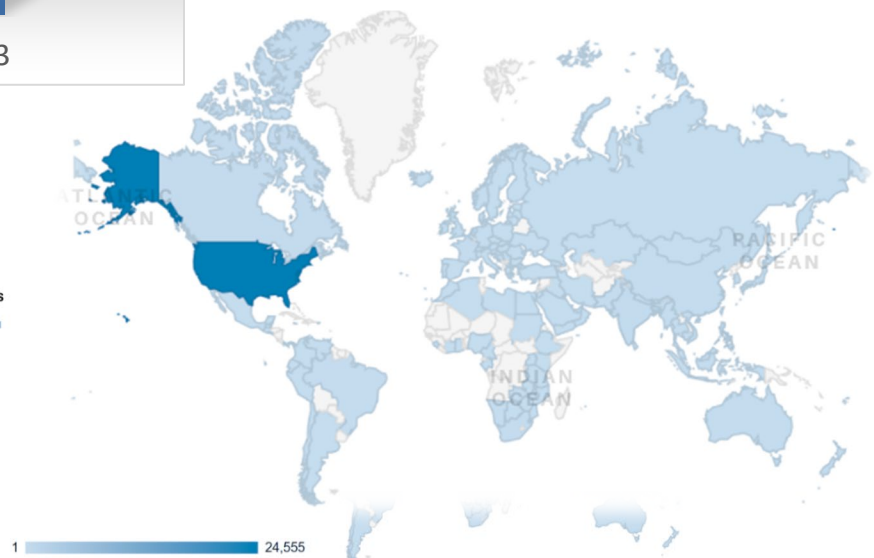


Figure 17. INformation Network Reach

Goal Implementation

Consideration and sharing of diverse research representative of the neurodiversity and co-occurring conditions associated with ASD

The *Indiana Comprehensive State Plan for Individuals with Autism Spectrum Disorder* (IIACC, 2005, 2015, 2020, 2022), often referred to as the

Comprehensive Plan, serves as the roadmap directing the exploration, evolution, and implementation of solutions by stakeholder organizations as part of the Autism Engagement Network (AEN). All of those engaged are committed to further goal areas and enhancing the well-being and experiences of individuals with autism spectrum disorder (ASD) and related disabilities in the state of Indiana as evidenced by its long history and more recent accessibility and community-informed implementation.

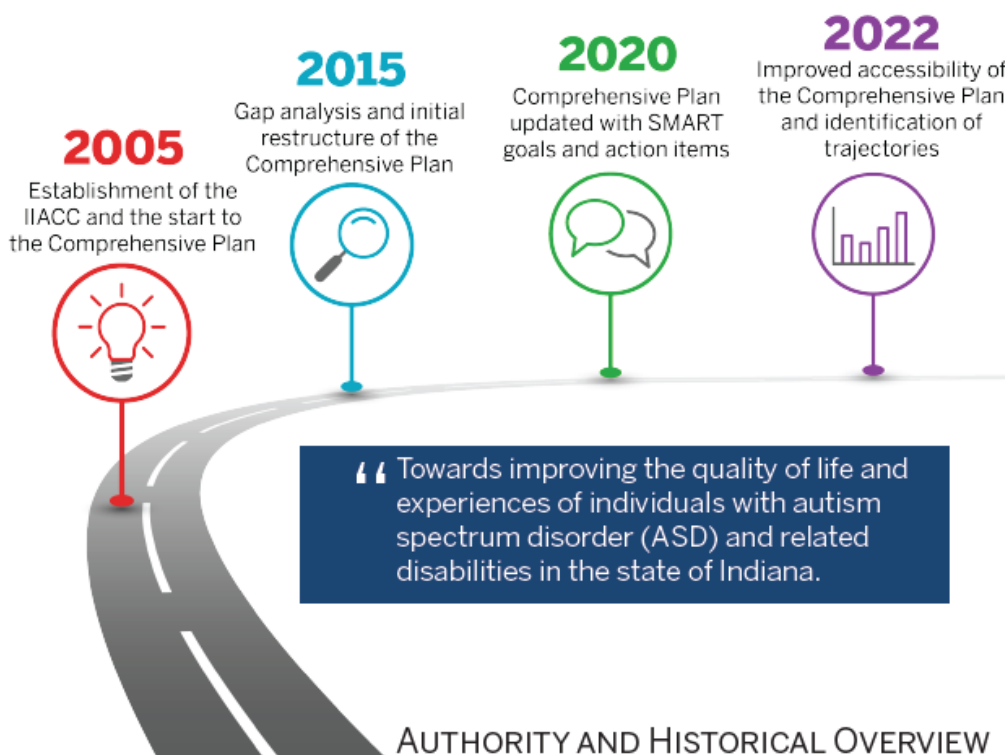


Figure 18. Comprehensive Plan Path



Figure 19. Comprehensive Plan Goals

The *Comprehensive Plan* includes eight goals or priorities (see *Figure 19*) with corresponding action plans used to guide the direction of the AEN. These goals and their corresponding trajectories, informed by IIACC stakeholder organizations, are objective and provide a means and general framework for exploration, installation, and implementation of solutions related to the State of the State of autism services in Indiana.

Check out the *Comprehensive Plan*, related research and statistics!



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With a forward-facing perspective and positive momentum, steps implemented in 2022 for the *Comprehensive Plan* included use of the Charting the LifeCourse (CtLC) Framework ((Gotto, Reynolds, Palmer, & Chiang, 2019). Statewide adoption and implementation efforts surrounding the CtLC framework (<https://www.lifecoursetools.com/>) complemented necessary readiness and person-centered efforts in motion with the IIACC and AEN. Tools, such as the trajectory, helped guide operationalization of objectives or milestones within each goal area and served to spotlight key topics relevant to communities across Indiana. While goals are showcased on the INformation Network (<https://indiananetwork.org/about/what-is-indiana-comprehensive-plan/>) with diverse research for those seeking that information, community-informed trajectories guided speaker and work group activities across 2022-2023. Trajectories are reflected per goal (see *Figure 20*; see Goals 2 and 6 above under Diverse Sharing and Engagement, *Figures 13 & 14*, p 12) as follows:

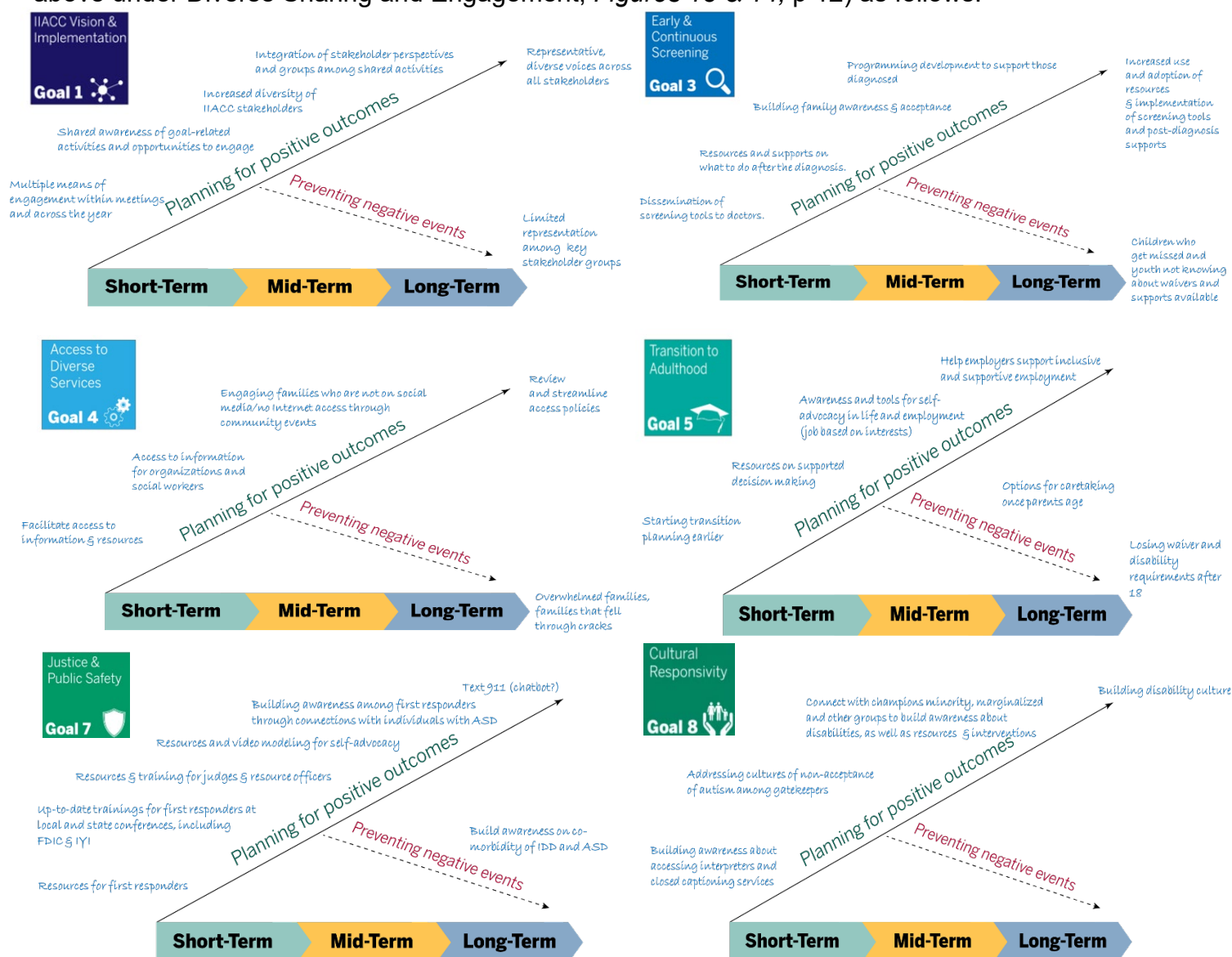


Figure 20. Goal Trajectories

Updated biannually, the *Comprehensive Plan* is a living document, capable of adapting to changing circumstances. It undergoes ongoing scrutiny and data-driven decision-making within IIACC work group meetings and various forums. The plan offers a structured framework for community engagement, active dialogue, collaboration, progressive action and progress monitoring.

Celebrations of Progress: DISI Award

Interest in further showcases of innovation in implementation, a chance to “work to understand them [autistic and neurodiverse individuals, unrepresented groups at the table] and change what we do”

The *Driver of Innovative Service and Implementation (DISI)* is awarded to an agency, organization, or initiative that drives the implementation of innovative programs and services in the field of ASD and related (dis)abilities that relate to at least one goal of the *Indiana Comprehensive State Plan for Individuals with Autism Spectrum Disorders* (IIACC, 2005, 2015, 2020, 2022).

The *DISI* award recognizes the efforts of those who are pushing boundaries and striving to improve the quality of life for individuals with ASD and developmental disabilities. By recognizing the impact of these initiatives, the *DISI* award aims to inspire others to pursue similar efforts and continue to drive progress in the field of ASD and developmental disabilities.



Learn more, nominate and join us in celebrating 2022-2023 and prior winners!



September 2023 Award Winner

Kelsey Schapker developed Cam's Sensory Equipment (CAMSE) Kit as a tangible manifestation of her commitment to addressing the unique needs of individuals with autism spectrum disorder (ASD). She serves her community and beyond by providing a valuable resource for law enforcement, firefighters, airports, and other organizations. In moments of crisis, emergency, or stress, these kits offer comfort and support, fostering a more inclusive environment for individuals with ASD during challenging situations.

Kelsey's tireless advocacy and creation of the CAMSE kits exemplify efforts in Goals 2 and 7. By collaborating with families, law enforcement, firefighters, and airports, Kelsey has facilitated a positive shift in how her community engages with and supports individuals on the autism spectrum.



2024 Outlook



2024

Looking ahead to 2024, the HANDS team alongside IIACC stakeholder organizations and the broader Autism Engagement Network (AEN) finds renewed opportunity to connect, engage and move forward with emphases on neurodiversity and inclusion. With this mindset, efforts will focus on looking at ongoing data and local, regional, State, national and global work that complements key milestones within the *Comprehensive Plan* goal trajectories (see above under Diverse Sharing and Engagement, and Goal Implementation).

To kick this off, the first meetings of 2023-2024 begin in December 2023 and will use the community-engaged, evidence-based approach that is hallmark to HANDS facilitation to ensure IIACC stakeholder organizations inform a common, representative plan forward for 2024. Quarterly meetings are held the first Thursday of the month from 9:00-11:30am EST. Indication of virtual and in person options have been accounted for in 2024 with continued interest by IIACC and AEN stakeholder organizations to return to some balance of in-person and virtual meetings.

Take a moment to check your calendars and save the dates:

- December 7th, 2023 (virtual only)
- March 7th, 2024 (virtual only)
- June 6th, 2024 (in person option & virtual)
- September 5th, 2024 (in person option & virtual)
- December 5th, 2024 (virtual only)



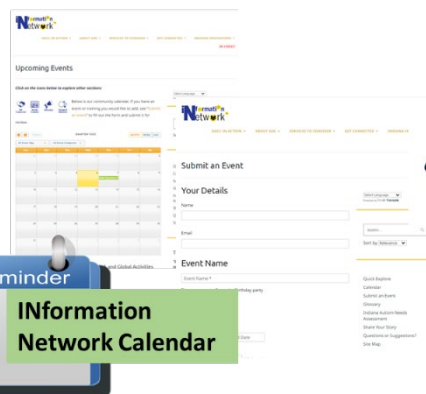
To stay connected year-round, consider following, posting, tagging, submitting and watching for IIACC and AEN updates and announcements via:



@IndianaIACC



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