



Project Information Letter

The Individualized Funding Library Project:

Resources to Help People with Developmental Disabilities Use Their Individualized Funds Effectively¹

- Are you a professional working in developmental services involved in any way with providing individually funded services and supports?
- Are you an adult with developmental disabilities who receives Passport or any other individualized funding (IF)?
- Are you caring for an adult with developmental disabilities who gets Passport or other IF?

About this Project

Many adults with developmental disabilities in Ontario receive Individualized Funds. These funds might come from the Passport Program, from agencies or other sources. Using these funds effectively, however, can be a challenge. People have trouble:

- Understanding what the funds are for and how best to use them
- Finding or developing individualized supports
- Managing individualized budgets
- Hiring and maintaining staff

Through experience many organizations and families have developed resources to help with these kinds of things.

The purpose of this project is to bring together these resources and make them available online. The IF Library is intended to be useful to adults with DD, their families/support networks, and agencies.

At the moment we are gathering information about resources we could share in the IF Library. If you are a professional service provider or someone who supports a family member or friend who receives individualized funds we'd love to hear from you.

If you think you can help please complete this short on-line survey <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/YG26NY7>

It will take less than 10 minutes of your time. If you are a family member or friend supporting someone who uses IF we encourage you to include this person in this process! We will ask about your experiences of applying for funding, the resources you use for managing your individualized budget, and what services and supports you obtain with your funding. As a thank you for participating in this survey, we would like to offer you a chance to enter a draw to win 1 of 10 gift cards of your choice from Starbucks, Tim Hortons, Home Depot, or Shoppers Drug Mart valued at \$50.00 each.

We would also love to talk to you so there is a place to provide us your contact information in the survey, but only if you'd like. Any information is helpful so it's fine to just do the survey and not talk to us after.

If you would prefer just to talk to someone about the resources you use or know of/about please call Amelia McIntyre at toll free 1-866-583-1081 or email amelia.mcintyre@surreyplace.on.ca Amelia can also help you if you have any questions or would like to hear more about the project.

If you have any questions about the research ethics related to this project please contact, Maire Percy, Vice-Chair Research Ethics Board, Surrey Place Centre mair.pearcy@utoronto.ca

¹ A partnership between Surrey Place Centre, Community Living Toronto, DSO-TR, and Family Service Toronto