

Person-Centered Supports



CODE OF ETHICS

The NADSP Code of Ethics serves as a straightforward and relevant guide for direct support professionals (DSPs), helping them resolve the ethical dilemmas they face every day and encouraging them to achieve the highest ideals of the profession.

The **Person-Centered Supports tenet** of the Code of Ethics involves working in partnership with people receiving services, approaching their goals and aspirations with flexibility, curiosity, creativity, and commitment. This tenet aims to honor the rights, choices, and individuality of each person. With that, DSPs must remain flexible, responsive, and committed to helping people achieve their goals while balancing professional responsibilities and seeking guidance when necessary. Person-Centered Supports include encouraging self-advocacy, supporting informed decision-making, and addressing barriers that may limit a person's choices or opportunities. Above all, DSPs need to recognize each individual's right to direct their own life, maintain relationships of their choosing, and receive support that reflects dignity, respect, and inclusion.

TOP TENET TIPS

- Collaborate with people (and their teams) to understand what is important to and for them.
- Ensure that people are exercising their right to live as independently as possible and direct their own lives with appropriate support.
- Seek guidance from the people you support about their culture, preferences, social networks, and needs.
- Support each person's right to manage relationships as they choose.
- Assist people who are unable to rely on speech, and/or who are unable to see or hear, to engage using their preferred communication methods.
- Rather than deciding for the person, work with them to understand them.
- Listen. Just listen.



Scan to download
full Code of Ethics

