



The Learning Community
for person centered practices

Person Centered Thinking

For people being supported by services, it is not person centered planning that matters as much as the pervasive presence of person centered thinking. If people who use services are to have positive control over their lives, if they are to have self-directed lives within their own communities then those who are around the person, especially those who do the day to day work need to have person centered thinking skills. Only a small percentage of people need to know how to write good person centered plans, but everyone involved needs to have good skills in person centered thinking, in the value based skills that underlie the planning.

There are a number of reasons for this. Teaching and supporting the use of person centered thinking skills will mean that:

- It is more likely that plans will be used and acted on, that the lives of people who use services will improve.
- You will have a number of ways to get plans started.
- Updating the plans will occur “naturally”, needing less effort and time.