



Participant feedback

I think IRIS and Self-Directed Supports are really great and I want to see these programs reach critical mass in our county and be successful. After the first IRIS meeting in our home I had tears in my eyes that night associated with the realization that my daughter's dreams and our dreams for our daughter's future in the community had high probability of being realized.



I just wanted to let you know that the IRIS program thus far has been a Godsend for us. Our Independent Consultant is very nice and helpful. Along with everyone else involved with IRIS - all have been great! So far; he has purchased adaptations to his large 4 wheeler that he can ride in with his brother and 2 other people he chooses on our 50 acre property. They got stuck in the creek here one night; and he got mud splashed all over him, but that was his favorite part. This summer we've taken him on short road trips and spent nights in motels - another favorite of his. He loves stopping at roadsides, and sitting outside. In the motels the whirlpools, breakfasts in the motels, and the fact that (even though he is a creature of habit by nature) he gets to stay overnight. When he was little we as a family took trips. Unfortunately his dad died 10 years ago and it's been very hard on him to say the least. But he sure is enjoying himself now!!! We've even been able to lower his behavior meds.



I'm delighted with IRIS. We have been in other programs over the years and have begun to realize what opportunity we have in IRIS. Being out from under the control of case managers is no small feat! We are now able to make decisions as a family on what works best for our son without first having to get everything approved by a case manager. Our IRIS Independent Consultant has been superb. We know what works best for our son; it is so nice to be recognized as a respected source of opinion of what makes sense for him.



Now that she is in IRIS, our daughter is very excited to finally be allowed to make decisions for her life, decisions that affect her every day. It is truly the best thing that could have happened to her. It relieves much of the stress and frustration that comes with never having your opinions count, having others steer the course of your life, and having someone else tell you what is best for you.