



What is North Carolina's Olmstead Plan?

Olmstead is the most **important U.S. Supreme Court case for people with disabilities**. *Olmstead* was based on the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). *Olmstead* says people with disabilities have **the right** to live in the community. It says that people do not have to live or receive services in an institution, nursing home or any other setting separated from others without disabilities to get the services they need. Those services should also be provided in the community.

The Supreme Court said each state can have an Olmstead Plan. An Olmstead Plan shows how the state will change the way it serves people with disabilities. The plan shows how the state will move away from using institutions, nursing homes, day programs and sheltered workshops. The plan explains how the state will support people with disabilities to live in their own homes, work and be part of activities of their choice. An Olmstead Plan has clear steps and timelines to meet its goals.

North Carolina's Olmstead Plan shows the path for people with disabilities who want to live in the community. The plan will help the state do work in 11 areas. The 11 areas are about:

- Making it easier to get services and supports in the community.
- Hiring, training and keeping employed the direct support professionals who assist people to live, work and do well in their own homes and communities.
- Helping people make the change to living in their own home and supporting people to keep them from having to go to an institution.
- Creating more chances for youth and adults with disabilities to go to school and earn a living.
- Increasing opportunities for inclusive community living.
- Bridging gaps in services.
- Exploring other ways, besides guardianship, to help people make decisions.
- Making access to services fair to everyone.
- Increasing the participation of people with lived experience and families in public policymaking.
- Finding ways to help people with the problem of limited transportation.
- Using data to make improvements in services and to see whether North Carolina is meeting the Olmstead Plan's goals.

You can find out about North Carolina's Olmstead Plan at the [North Carolina Olmstead website](#).