



UNIVERSITY of NEW HAMPSHIRE

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**PERSON-CENTERED PLANNING PROCESS IS THE FOCUS OF A NEW  
HANDS-ON MANUAL BY UNH'S INSTITUTE ON DISABILITY**

DURHAM – A new interactive manual detailing tools and approaches for person-centered planning is available through the Institute on Disability at the University of New Hampshire.

The manual, *Elements of Design: Frameworks for Facilitating Person-Centered Planning*, was created by leadership and family support coordinator Patty Cotton from the Institute for people interested in offering facilitation services to guide individuals, families, and teams through person-centered planning.

With more than 30 process tools and step-by-step examples, the manual provides instructional, hands-on support for those seeking comprehensive information about person-centered planning.

Cotton has more than 15 years of experience supporting individuals and teams to create meaningful opportunities and supports through person-centered planning. *Elements of Design* was written to expand the collection of tools and strategies that are available for person-centered planning, and to encourage facilitators to truly customize the planning process to address unique learning needs individuals and teams.

This manual provides a fresh perspective on person-centered planning by examining its underlying structure as an interactive process, and emphasizing effective facilitation practices to promote informed decision-making, team-building, and strategic visioning. It incorporates tools and methodologies from a variety of disciplines, including experiential education, counseling, and management, and translates them to the context of person-centered planning.

Readers have described *Elements of Design* as:

“...a monumental work. and VERY good. VERY useful.” Jack Pearpoint, *Inclusion Press International*, Toronto, Canada

“This book was very well done and well organized...” Graduate student in Social Work, *University of New Hampshire*

*Elements of Design* is available for \$25 plus shipping and handling by calling the Institute's Publication Department at (603) 862-4117 or by ordering online at [www.iod.unh.edu](http://www.iod.unh.edu).

The Institute on Disability's mission is to promote the inclusion of people with disabilities into their schools and communities and to advance knowledge about disability and best practices. The Institute works with students and faculty, conducts statewide training, participates in grant-funded model demonstration projects, conducts research and engages in collaborative partnerships with other statewide organizations that are committed to improving the lives of persons with disabilities and their families.

The Institute on Disability, together with the Division of Genetics and Child Development Children's Hospital at Dartmouth, and the Department of Pediatrics at Dartmouth Medical School; the Institute for Health, Law, and Ethics at Pierce Law Center; and the Center on Community Economic Development and Disability at Southern New Hampshire University comprise New Hampshire's University Center for Excellence on Disability (UCED).

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*The Institute on Disability at the University of New Hampshire, is a University Center for Excellence on Disability, established in 1987 with a mission to promote the full inclusion of people with disabilities into their communities.*