

# Conversation Guide



## HCBS REQUIREMENT #1: ACCESS TO THE COMMUNITY

“How a can of soup, a baseball bat, and Jackson Pollock help Lorenzo to find his place in the community?”

### Welcome!

We will be using Tri-Counties Regional Center’s HCBS Final Rule: The Animated Series videos, as conversation starters to look at real life situations through different perspectives. We will then have the opportunity to break into small groups to talk about how HCBS Final Rule Requirements affect people in their day-to-day lives.

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### Introductions: Why We’re Here (~10 minutes)

Share your name and what drew you here to this conversation.

### Conversation Agreements: How We’ll Engage (~5 minutes)

- **Be curious and listen to understand.** Conversation is as much about listening as it is about talking. You might enjoy exploring how others’ experiences have shaped their values and perspectives.
- **Show respect and suspend judgment.** Try to truly listen, without interruption or crosstalk
- **Notice where we agree as well as any differences.** Look for areas of agreement or shared values that may arise and be curious of beliefs and opinions of others.
- **Be authentic and welcome that from others.** Share what’s important to you. Speak from your experience. Be considerate of others who are doing the same.
- **Be purposeful and to the point.** Do your best to keep your comments brief. Be conscious of sharing airtime with other participants.
- **You are responsible for the quality of your participation.**

### Conversation Rounds: What We’ll Talk About (~5 minutes)

**HCBS Requirement #1: Being part of the community.** This means that the setting supports someone with a disability to have the same chances to be an active and included member of their neighborhood and community as someone without disabilities. A people have the opportunity for employment, activities, and services in their community just like someone without disabilities.

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## Round One: Getting to Know Each Other (~10 minutes)

Share your thoughts on **one** of the following questions.

- What does community mean to you?
- What does it mean to feel like you belong?
- Where in your community do you feel like you truly belong?

## Round Two: Exploring the Topic of the Day Part 1 (~15 minutes) HCBS Requirement #1 Access to the Community

Watch video:

[HCBS Requirement #1 Access to the Community for People Receiving Services](#)



### Person Receiving Services Point of View

#### Step into the role of Lorenzo:

Share your thoughts on **one** of the following questions.

- How do you think Lorenzo was feeling?
- What do you think was important to Lorenzo?
- What do you think Lorenzo was looking for in his community?

## Round Three: Exploring the Topic of the Day Part 2 (~15 minutes)

Watch video:

[HCBS Requirement #1 Access to the Community for Service Providers](#)



### Service Providers' Point of View

#### Step into the role of Venus:

Share your thoughts on **one** of the following questions.

- How do you think Venus felt?
- What do you think Venus' responsibility was in supporting Lorenzo?
- Where were there opportunities for Venus to partner with Lorenzo to discover what matters to him and explore possibilities?

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## Round Four: Possibilities (~10 minutes)

Share your thoughts on **one** of the following questions.

- What might be next for Venus and Lorenzo?
- Can you think of what more might be possible for Lorenzo with Venus' help and support?

## Round Five: What can I do? (~15 minutes)

Share your thoughts on **one** of the following questions.

- How can I intentionally support people to experience belonging in their communities and see new possibilities in the world?
- How can I advocate for myself to experience belonging in my community?
- How can I discover people's gifts, skills, talents and interests and how they might contribute to their community?

## Closing Round (~5 minutes)

What is one thing you appreciated about our conversation today?

If you would like more information about the HCBS Curious Conversations email [hello@helensandersonassociates.com](mailto:hello@helensandersonassociates.com)

This guide is based on Living Room Conversations. To learn more about Living Room Conversations go to [livingroomconversations.org/get-involved/](http://livingroomconversations.org/get-involved/)

# Top Tips for Hosts



## Interested in hosting a Curious Conversation? Here are some tips to get you started.

- Before you start, test the videos to make sure they are working.
- If you are hosting a group of 10 or less do introductions all together, if hosting a group larger than 10 do this in breakout rooms or tables with 4-5 people.
- Conversation agreements will set the tone of our conversation-read them aloud.
- Invite each group to choose a:
  - Facilitator to keep the conversation going.
  - Timekeeper to keep track of time and gently let people know when their time is up.
- Animated Videos will be shown to everyone together.
- Each Conversation Round will be done in small groups of 4-5 people in breakout rooms or at tables.
- During the Closing Round thank everyone for joining and ask everyone to share 1 thing they appreciated about the conversations they had.
- Remind people of when the next Curious Conversation will take place.

*“Whoever comes is the right people.  
Whatever happens is the only thing that could have.”*  
~Open Space Technology

If you would like more information about the HCBS Curious Conversations  
email [hello@helensandersonassociates.com](mailto:hello@helensandersonassociates.com)