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## **FOREWORD & ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS**

The Department of Developmental Services has adopted a value-based vision for the future of our system. These values embody an approach centered on the person and family. Our values also embrace cultural and individual differences, and support the role of families in the lives of their children with developmental disabilities. The values are intended to provide the underpinnings of a system that respects the choices made by individuals and families and assures a cost-effective use of public resources.

This manual is the product of extensive input from individuals with developmental disabilities, families and organizations who represent important components of the service delivery system. Due to popular demand and to new statutes, which revised the IPP process, the Department of Developmental Services is updating the manual, with thanks to the contributors providing updated information for this revision.

The Department also extends special thanks to the artists who graciously consented to the inclusion of their photographs and drawings in this manual.