

# DAY SUPPORT SERVICES (DSS)

## Frequently Asked Questions



Below are common responses to questions Lifeworks receives about Day Support Services (DSS). Should you have any additional inquiries, please do not hesitate to contact us:

651-365-3773 | [referrals@lifeworks.org](mailto:referrals@lifeworks.org)

### **What are Day Support Services (DSS)?**

According to the Minnesota Department of Human Services, DSS is defined as “individualized, community-based training and support services that help a person develop and maintain essential and personally enriching life skills so they can access and participate in activities they prefer in their community.”

In 2021, the State of Minnesota began replacing Day Training & Habilitation (DT&H) with DSS. All individual service authorizations will transition to DSS by the end of this year. You can learn more about DSS on the Minnesota Department of Human Services’ website: <https://bit.ly/3CD0SBu>

### **How does Lifeworks deliver DSS?**

In 2020, Lifeworks began offering individual DSS virtually and in the community. We are now expanding options for DSS to include in-person and small group support. Individuals can choose how they want to participate in Lifeworks DSS offerings and we will continue to increase opportunities based on staff availability.

### **When will Lifeworks offer DSS in their facilities?**

We offer DSS at Lifeworks Apple Valley and Lifeworks Brooklyn Park; and will continue to provide individual DSS virtually and in communities across the metro as well as in Mankato and its surrounding areas. Lifeworks will evaluate weekly and offer services to more people as quickly as we can based on our staffing availability, transportation accessibility, and COVID health and safety guidelines.

### **What does in-person DSS look like at Lifeworks locations?**

At Lifeworks, we honor choice and pursue opportunities with community at the heart of our work. Activities will focus on an individual’s interests as well as access to communities where individuals live and/or work. Activities in the community vary based on region and may include volunteer opportunities, tours of area businesses, recreational outings, and more.

Our service delivery is also driven by increased health and safety measures due to COVID. Some of the changes include wearing masks, encouraging vaccination of staff, physical distancing, documenting an alternative plan of care, and other precautions.

### **Can I tour a Lifeworks location?**

In-person tours of our locations are not available at this time. Lifeworks has photo tours available that feature our locations that you can access by visiting: [lifeworks.org/day-services/](https://lifeworks.org/day-services/)

### **Does Lifeworks provide transportation to locations?**

Transportation is currently not provided by Lifeworks. Our transportation staff have been redeployed to assist individuals with using Metro Mobility, public transportation, and ridesharing services.

### **Do I have to wear a mask when using transportation?**

According to the [U.S. Department of Transportation](https://www.transportation.gov/), wearing a mask over your nose and mouth is required on planes, buses, trains, and other forms of public transportation traveling into, within, or out of the United States and in U.S. transportation hubs such as airports and stations.

In Minnesota, public transportation including bus and light rail, Metro Mobility, and routes supported by federal transportation funding like ridesharing services (i.e. Uber and Lyft) must follow these masking requirements. Some services may have additional requirements, which Lifeworks will share with riders.

### **What other services does Lifeworks offer?**

Lifeworks is here to support you. We have many services including navigation resources to help you investigate and decide if something you've not explored before works better for you right now. From career exploration to music therapy and self-directing services, we assist with building a plan that works for you. To learn more about service options, contact: [651-365-3773](tel:651-365-3773) | [referrals@lifeworks.org](mailto:referrals@lifeworks.org)