



# DDRS Advisory Council

Wednesday, April 17, 2024

In Person in IGCS Conference Room A and Livestream

**INvision**  
One Division, One Vision



ALL people are empowered to live, love, work, learn, play and pursue their dreams.



| Agenda Item   | Time            | Discussion Leader               |
|---|-----------------|---------------------------------|
| <b>Welcome</b>  | 10:00am-10:10am | Kelly Mitchell<br>Noah Upchurch |
| <b>Medicaid Forecast and Waiver Amendment Updates</b> | 10:10-10:35am   | Kelly Mitchell<br>Holly Wimsatt |
| <b>BRS Update</b>                                     | 10:35-10:55am   | Theresa Koleszar                |
| <b>DDRS Advisory Council By Laws</b>                  | 10:55am-11:15am | Kelly Mitchell                  |
| <b>Employment Transformation Grants Update</b>        | 11:15-11:40am   | Kyle Ingram                     |
| <b>IPP Updates</b>                                    | 11:40-11:55am   |                                 |
| <b>Conclusion</b>                                     | 11:55-12:00pm   | Kelly Mitchell                  |



# Video



<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Gv1aDEF1Xq8>



# Medicaid Forecast and Waiver Amendment Updates

DDRS Advisory Council  
April 17, 2024



# Stakeholder Engagement

- Service Plan Workgroup
- Bi-weekly Care Manager Webinars



# Staff Acknowledgments

- Lisa Davis
- Lori Fine
- Heather Dane
- Shelly Thomas



# BDS Communication Team

John VanWicklin is leading this effort!



# BDS New Staff Introduction

Amy Rapp, BDS Eligibility and Level of Care Manager

Amy Fenn, BDS Provider Services

Matt Naikelis, BDS Waiver Review Specialist



# Bureau of Rehabilitation Services Update

Theresa Koleszar, Director, BRS



# BRS Update

The division shall provide the council with a quarterly report containing the following information relating to vocational rehabilitation services:

1. A status report of the division's effort to fill vocational counselor vacancies.

As of April 10, 2024:

- 200 VR Counselor positions
  - 10 vacant positions (5% of VRC positions); proceeding to fill all 10
  - 16 staff in Trainee VRC status (8% of VRC positions)



# BRS Update

2. A status report of the order of selection.

As of April 10, 2024:

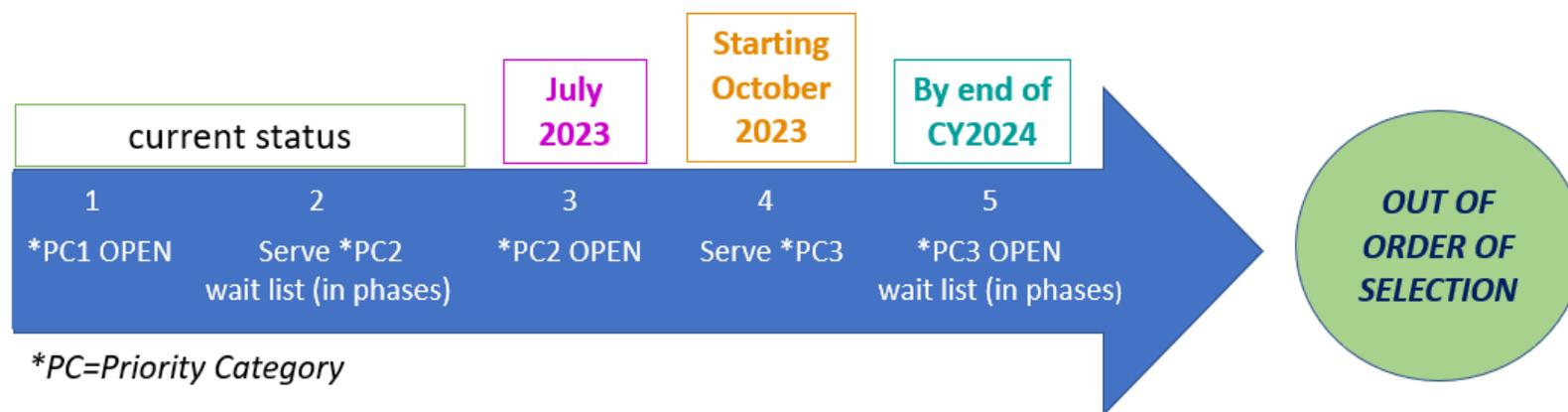
- Categories 1 & 2 OPEN; Category 3 CLOSED
- 98% of eligible individuals met criteria for priority category 1/MSD or 2/SD during current SFY
- 13 releases to date, with 3967 moving off waitlist
  - 26% served or in services
    - \*21% of those served/in services exited with employment
  - 4% in process of contacting
  - 21% declined services
  - 36% unable to be located/didn't respond to outreach attempts
  - 13% closed for other reasons



# BRS Update

## 2. A status report of the order of selection, cont.

- Priority category 2 opened July 2023 – no waiting period
- Priority category 3 releases began October 2023
- Priority category 3 targeted to ‘open’ by end of CY 2024 which will end OOS



# BRS Update



3. The number of individuals who submitted applications for vocational rehabilitation services.

- 4201 new VR applicants SFY24 through 3/31/24 (*halfway through year – projecting 12-15% increase from prior SFY*)
- 5208 new VR applicants in SFY23 (10% increase)
- 4740 new VR applicants in SFY22
  
- 3302 new Pre-ets applicants SFY24 through 3/31/24
- 3830 new Pre-ets applicants in SFY23 (1.3% increase)
- 3769 new Pre-ets applicants in SFY22

# BRS Update



4. The number of individuals who are currently on a wait list to obtain vocational rehabilitation services.

- As of April 10, 2024, 407 on wait list
  - all in priority category 3
  - 81 of these individuals new to wait list since 7/1/23



# BRS Update

5. The number of individuals who are currently receiving vocational rehabilitation services (*have an IPE*).

- April 10, 2024 'snapshot' – 10,068 (9,457 previous update – 6.5% increase)
  - Number currently receiving services fluctuates daily.
  - Snapshot captures individuals served as of a single point in time, rather than over the course of a year or other time period.
- Total served SFY23 – 12,660 (SFY22 – 12,150)
  - 4% increase from SFY22 to SFY23



# VR Draft Rules

Reminder: Draft VR Rules posted for public comment through April 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2024

## [Draft VR Rules](#)

- To align with WIOA requirements – pre-ets, youth extended services
- To address practices implemented following previous federal monitoring and state audits – vendor registration/vendor rule
- To improve clarity and organization



# DDRS Advisory Council By Laws

Kelly Mitchell  
DDRS Director



# DDRS Employment Transformation

Kyle Ingram, Director of Policy and Strategic Initiatives, DDRS



# Transformation Grant Update

- Reviewed and Approved
  - 22 Proposals
- In Review
  - 6 Proposals
- Draft, Pending Submission
  - 4 Proposals



# Trends and Outcome Updates

- DESOS Report: Primary Environment Trends
- Setting Data Update
- Indiana 14(c) Certificate Trends



# Provider Capacity Updates

- End of Employment Transformation Collaboratives
- Transformation Grant Update
- Case Manager Employment eLearning Course



# Service and Policy Updates

- Seamless Transition Pilots – What We're Learning
- Charting the LifeCourse – Shared Division Language



# Innovation Pilot Project Grant Updates

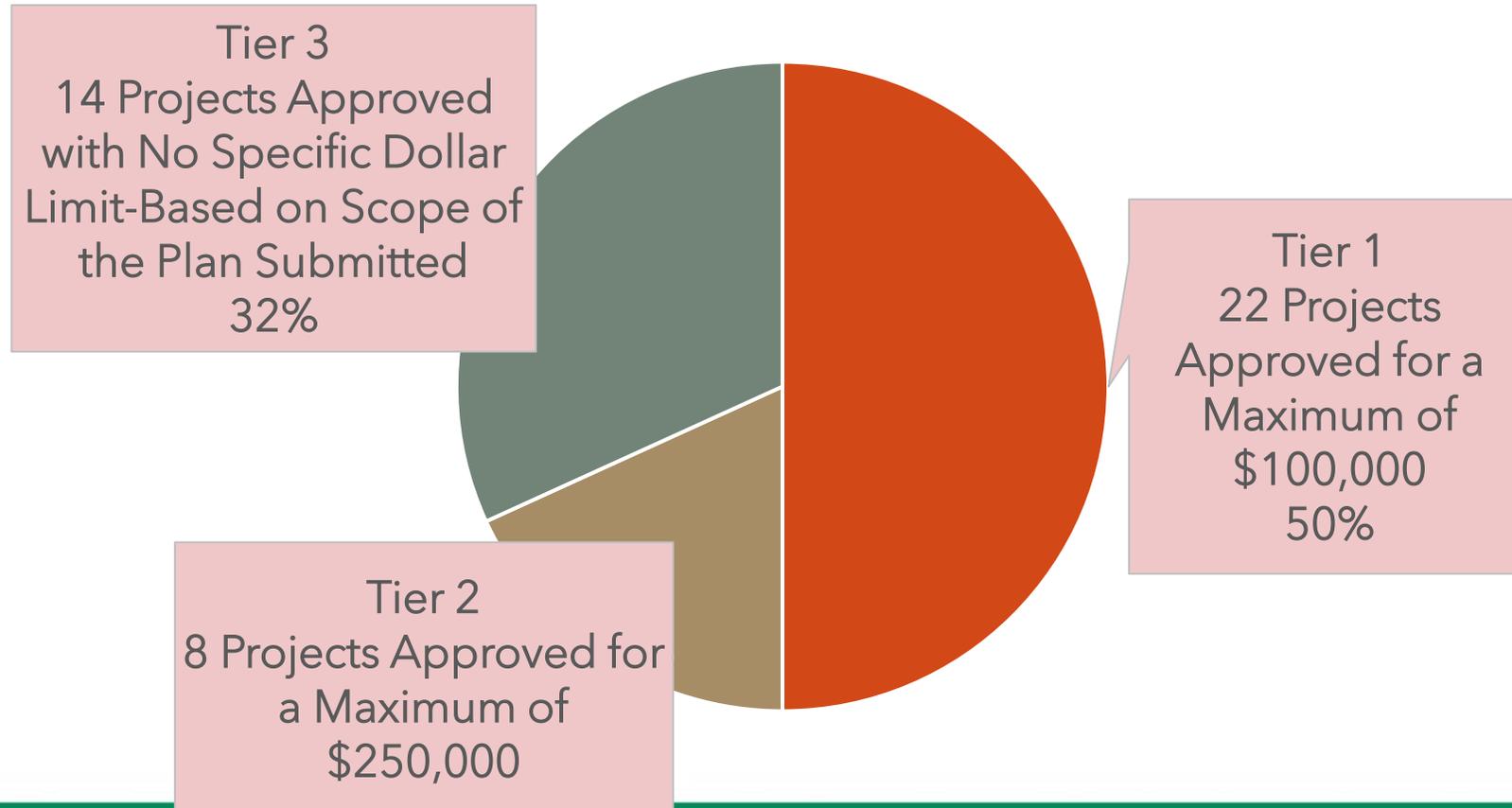
Kelly Mitchell  
DDRS Director



44 Projects were divided into three funding tiers to allow the maximum number of IPPs to be funded.

These funding levels were determined by BDS based on the scope of the project and estimated funding necessary.

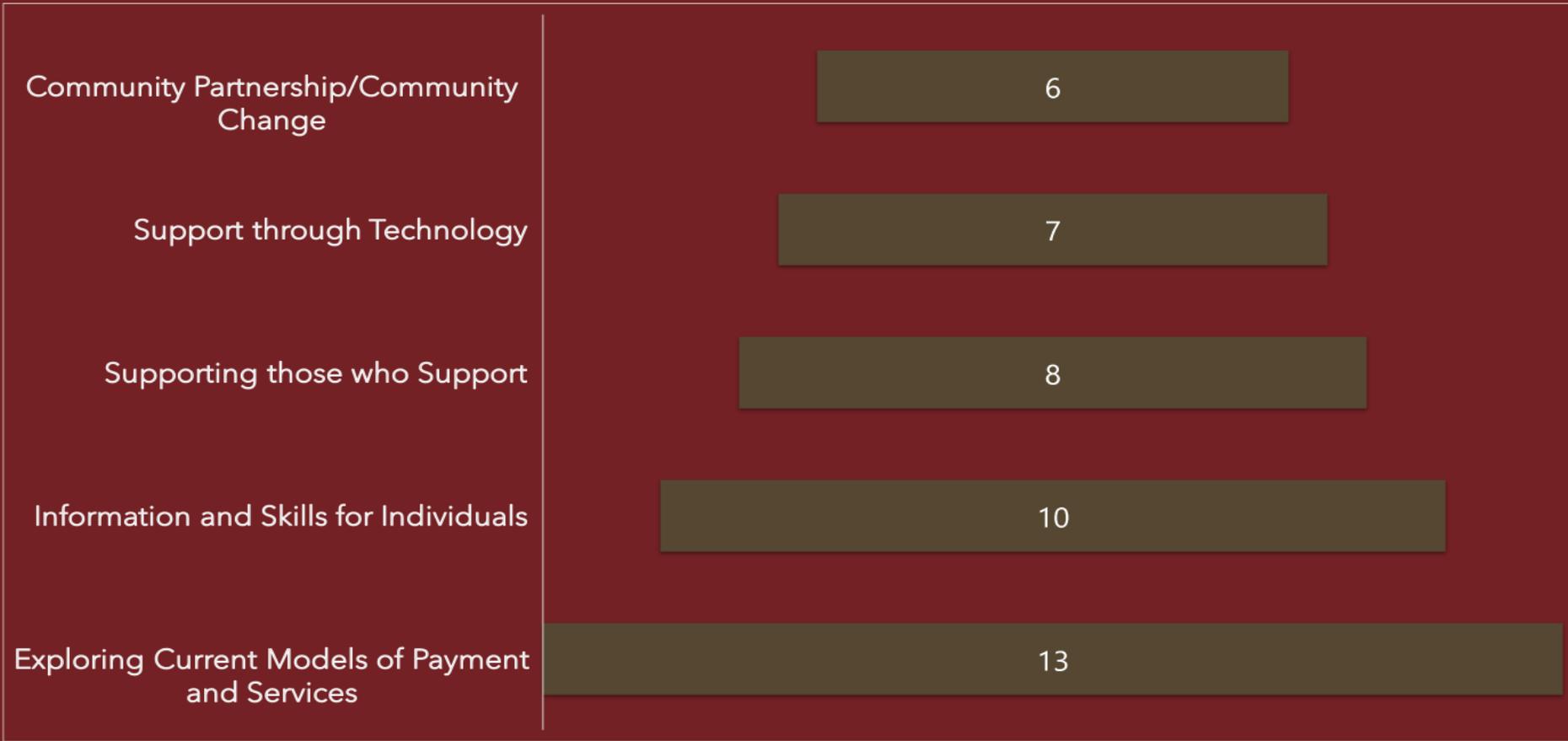
# IPP Funding Tiers





# WE CREATED 5 IPP FOCUS AREAS FOR IPPS

Total of 44 Projects





# IPP grantees utilized person-centered Lifecourse nexus tools and submitted easy reference one pagers



## LIFECOURSE NEXUS | STRATEGIC THINKING TOOL

### Who We Are

*Title of Project, Name of Lead Entity, Partner, Counties in Indiana we are impacting.*

#### Adult Changing Stations

Tangram, Inc. is a Medicaid Waiver Provider that supports individuals with disabilities by designing services to meet their specific needs and desires. Started in 1983 in Hancock County, Tangram, Inc. has grown to serve clients in Marion and surrounding counties and offers an array of services including Residential and Community Services, Behavior and Employment Support, and ABA.

Tangram, Inc. is partnering with the Indianapolis Public Library for this grant. The Indianapolis Public Library has a vision to be a center of knowledge, community life, and innovation for Indianapolis and has a commitment to provide services that are inclusive for all residents.

This grant will focus on the Indianapolis Public Library District and will begin by focusing attention on three libraries, with a goal of expansion to other libraries in the district.

### What We Will Do

*Specific actions your agency will take to carry out pilot project.*

This IPP grant will allow for Tangram, Inc. and the Indianapolis Public Library to create space at three libraries for safe and dignified changing stations for anyone that requires changing. The grant funding will assist with completing assessments, installation planning, an awareness campaign, signage, and training for library staff.

Tangram Inc. and the Indianapolis Public Library will actively work to identify other partners and funding for the cost of the physical changing tables and other equipment that may be required.

### How We Will Do It

*Plan and implementation*

Tangram, Inc and the Indianapolis Libraries will:  
\*Analyze public restrooms to ensure that specifications are met for installation of adult changing stations. Modifications will be made as needed.  
\*Staff at the identified branches will receive training about use and sanitation of adult changing stations.  
\* Installation of Adult Changing Stations.  
\*Signage will be installed.  
\* An awareness campaign will be developed to inform library patrons of the adult changing stations.  
\* Tangram, Inc. and the Indianapolis Public Library will evaluate the effectiveness and success and determine where to expand services.  
\*Tangram, Inc will identify other spaces for installation of Adult Changing Stations.

### What Will Result

*Long-term goals to transform services and/or better support individuals.*

Providing these consistent, free, and easily accessible spaces where an individual with their family or staff can go to be changed will allow for individuals with I/DD or mobility issues to remain in the community for longer periods of time by providing the opportunity to be changed in a manner that provides them with respect and dignity.

The long-term goal is to create these changing stations in all Indianapolis Public Libraries and encourage Libraries and other business entities across the State of Indiana to do the same.

### What We Expect if We Achieve our Vision

*Expected short-term and long-term outcomes; and positive impacts on individuals if your project successfully carries out these actions.*

#### Short-term Outcomes

\* Three Public Library Branches will be equipped with adult changing stations, therefore providing more equitable access to library patrons.  
\* Library patrons with and without I/DD will view the library as more inclusive.

#### Long-term outcomes

\* Individuals with I/DD will increase their quality of life  
\* Individuals with I/DD will maintain their dignity and safety  
\* Caregivers will have increased peace of mind and capacity knowing that they can access sanitary and safe public restroom spaces for the individuals they care for.  
\* Individuals with I/DD will have greater access to amenities in public spaces and will therefore be able to engage in the community.  
\*Tangram plans to communicate with organizations in states that have passed legislation related to access to adult changing stations in public spaces to learn about their experiences and best practices.

### What We Want to Avoid

*Outcomes that may take away from the vision and will serve as "red flags" to consider course correction.*

One potential obstacle is the need for additional funding. IPP Grant funds are limited and cannot include the cost of the actual changing tables or installation. Additional funding is being explored at this time.

# IPP grantees participated in a webinar to introduce themselves and project plans



## IPP Webinars



**IPP Webinar: NOSS, Keys to Success, Resounding Joy (May 1, 2023)**



**IPP Webinar: Abby Key, Hillcroft, Dungarvin, New Star (May 3, 2023)**



**IPP Webinar: Stone Belt, Tendercare, Arc of Boone County, GXO (May 8, 2023)**



**IPP Webinar: Tangram, Morning Light, LEL, Easterseals Arc NE (May 10, 2023)**



**IPP Webinar: EGTI, New Horizons, Safe in Home, Wabash (May 16, 2023)**



**IPP Webinar Insights, Kestrel, StationMD, Optimal Access (May 19, 2023)**



**IPP Webinar: Connections, Sycamore (June 1, 2023)**



**IPP Webinar: DSI, Advocacy Links, Crossroads, Arc of Evansville (June 5, 2023)**



**IPP Webinar: Communicare, Hands in Autism, Balanced Cents, Abundat Quality Care (June 6, 2023)**



**IPP Webinar: Booth and Co, IPMG, REACH, SIRS 1 (May 23, 2023)**



**IPP Webinar: Pure Abilities, Logan, VOA, INF2F 1 (May 24, 2023)**

MISSIONS

# BUILDING CAPACITY BEYOND IPP GRANTS



- Charting the LifeCourse Framework Ambassador Series offered to all grantees.
- Hosting CtLC Person-Centered Roundtables
  - Facilitated conversations for Grantees to further explore key components of PC organization.
  - What is explored during each session: Understand the elements and indicators of person-centeredness in this key area; discuss practical strategies for building person-centered practices in day-to-day work; hear highlights and best practices from other provider organizations for inspiration and information; and interact with one another to celebrate successes, share ideas, and address challenges.
  - Examples of key area topics included: Involvement of People and Families in Organizational Strategy; Establishing Partnership, Teamwork, Facilitation and Coordination; and Communication.

# HIGHLIGHTS

“This funding and these projects are incredible, what a great source of inspiration for our entire community.”



**MONTHLY MUSIC NIGHTS  
ALL ARE WELCOME!**

Tuesday, February 13 - Lawrenceburg  
Monday, March 4 - Batesville  
Tuesday, April 9 - Lawrenceburg  
Monday, May 13 - Batesville

Time: 5:00-7:00pm

Sing, play instruments, share a song you created.  
Play music games, dance and have fun with friends.  
This FREE, music-focused event can be whatever you want it to be!

**VENUES**  
Lawrenceburg Community Center, 423 Walnut St, Lawrenceburg, IN  
Batesville Keys for Success, 1358 State Road 46E, Batesville, IN

**KEYS FOR Success**  
This program is offered free of charge thanks to an Innovation Pilot Project grant from the Indiana Bureau of Disabilities Services

To RSVP:  
Click or  
Scan



# BRIDGING THE GAP

In 12 weeks, learn key social skills to establish and maintain meaningful relationships.

HOSTED BY  
 PURE ABILITIES

TAUGHT BY  
Certified PEERs Instructors

**SIGN UP TODAY**



# Next Steps

- Continuing virtual and in person site visits.
- Each IPP grantee is creating a short video to share their project and successes so far.
- Planning next in person IPP Summit.
- Evaluation
  - Each Grantee is required to conduct their own evaluation. However, DDRS will conduct post-project evaluation activities on all funded IPPs to determine whether the project achieved the intended outcomes and the feasibility of including similar supports or services within future systems changes or future HCBS.



# FOR UPDATES!

- Visit our IPP Webpage for additional information! [IPP Webpage](#)
- Follow BDS on Facebook! [BDS Facebook](#)
- Subscribe here for DDRS Updates! [DDRS Updates](#)
- Email [bds.help@fssa.in.gov](mailto:bds.help@fssa.in.gov) if you have any questions or thoughts!

# 2024 DDRS Advisory Council Schedule



|                    |           |                        |      |
|--------------------|-----------|------------------------|------|
| January 17, 2024   | Virtual   |                        | BDS  |
| February 21, 2024  | Virtual   |                        | BCDS |
| April 17, 2024     | In Person | IGCS Conference Room A | BRS  |
| May 15, 2024       | Virtual   |                        | BDS  |
| June 19, 2024      | In Person | IGCS Conference Room B | BCDS |
| August 21, 2024    | Virtual   |                        | BRS  |
| September 18, 2024 | In Person | IGCS Conference Room A | BDS  |
| October 16, 2024   | In Person | IGCS Conference Room A | BCDS |
| November 20, 2024  | Virtual   |                        | BRS  |

**Reminder:  
May meeting  
is Virtual!**

