Local Community Cadres (LCCs), first initiated in 2010, are regional community networks of families and professionals invested in serving individuals affected by autism spectrum disorder (ASD) and related developmental disabilities. LCCs are created in response to the need to help develop local capacity to support individuals with ASD on their path to independence and engagement in the life of their communities. LCCs have been shown to increase the level of awareness about ASD and access to resources.

**Mission**
Facilitation, bridging, and collaboration across systems to enable greater community systems of support as well as increased capacity to support individual’s success in the home, school, and community settings.

**Vision**
To bring together professionals, families, and individuals with ASD to jointly look for solutions that can and will work in each community to improve the quality of life of individuals with ASD.

**LCC Membership**
Currently, there are eight chapters operating across seven regions in Indiana. However, the number and locations of such chapters would depend on the local need.

To build effective supports for individuals with ASD and related disabilities in your community, your time and effort to participate in meeting, events, and other activities is greatly appreciated. Since each LCC is focused on the specific needs of the local community, involvement and roles taken by members may vary.

**LCC Core Four**
There are four core elements that are inherent to LCCs help distinguish them from other resources that may be available on the community or regional level.

1. **Collaboration and Networking**
   - Facilitate dialogue and openness to diverse ideas
   - Encourage collaboration across diverse providers, families and individuals with ASD and related developmental disabilities
   - Promote and disseminate reliable and comprehensive information
   - Engage in systemic approach to problem solving to create consistent practices
   - Create innovative interdisciplinary solutions

2. **Best Practices and Innovation**
   - Facilitate the development and sharing of knowledge and innovative solutions targeting local needs
   - Create opportunities to share knowledge and develop solutions

3. **Information and Resource Dissemination**
   - Disseminate resources and tools
   - Inform and promote upcoming training on a local, regional, state, and national levels
   - Ongoing evaluation and identification of needs to meet through information and resource dissemination

4. **Training and Development**
   - Develop local, regional, and statewide capacity through training and professional development

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