



## Asset Development

Asset Development is a series of strategies that provide long-term benefits and have the potential to help people with disabilities improve their economic status, expand opportunities for community participation, and positively impact their quality of life experience.

### What are assets?

Assets are defined as something of value that is owned by an individual. Examples of assets may include:

- Money you have in the bank (ex: emergency savings)
- Cash on hand
- Retirement accounts (ex: 401K, IRA, etc.) or other investments
- Property you own
- Owner equity in a home or business
- Furniture and appliances
- Miscellaneous items (jewelry, cars, etc.)
- Skills, education, and work experience

### Why is Asset Development Important to Persons with Disabilities?

Asset development helps create opportunities for greater independence and financial security. Access to assets allows greater choices in community participation and quality of life and supports inclusion and self-determination. Asset development can produce opportunities that directly impact an individual's quality of life, including their mental and physical health, self-concept, and level of community participation. Importantly, asset development and assets change expectations and status with other community stakeholders.

*To learn more about Asset Development for Persons with Disabilities, visit [www.realeconomicimpact.org](http://www.realeconomicimpact.org).*