Advanced Home Care Aide Specialist (AHCAS) Pilot Program
Discussion Guide

1. **What AHCAS is:**
   a. AHCAS is a 70 hour advanced training initiative for Individual Providers (IPs) caring for people receiving personal care services who:
      i. Have a Health Action Plan (HAP)
      ii. Have a Behavior Point Score (BPS) of 12 or greater.

2. **Client Benefits:**
   a. Positive Behavior Support Plan of their design
   b. Enhanced Person Centered Practices
   c. Specialized IP training
   d. Support to make informed and empowered choices around their own health care
   e. Increased sense of being heard and being in control of their own personal care
   f. Enhanced relationship with the IP

3. **Provider Benefits:**
   a. Career development
   b. Additional skills training
   c. Paid seat time
   d. 25-cent differential in addition to current hourly wage

4. **When AHCAS begins:**
   a. Roll out is projected for late 2016 in select counties
   b. Statewide roll out will continue by county through early 2017

5. **Where AHCAS is offered:**
   a. Initial trainings are flagged for Pierce and Clark counties
   b. Further trainings flagged for Spokane, Snohomish, Benton, Whatcom, and King

6. **Why AHCAS was Piloted:**
   a. IPs are a viable resource to potentially further impact the people they support’s quality of life, health and wellbeing in a home environment
   b. Increasingly, there are more people served by IPs who fall into the high risk/ high medical cost category
   c. A targeted approach designed to build IP capacity when delivering personal care services may provide a powerful ingredient for improving health and maintaining/attaining a better quality of life in a home environment
   d. This strategy aligns with the DSHS goal of supporting individuals to attain the highest possible quality of life by receiving services in their own homes or community settings.
AHCAS Pilot Goal Statement

To improve health, reduce the frequency and intensity of challenging behaviors and empower people who receive personal care services to maintain and/or attain the highest quality of life as described by the person receiving support.