Developmental Disabilities Waiver
July 2021

New Mexico’s 1915(c) Comprehensive Developmental Disabilities Waiver
NM Department of Health (DOH), Developmental Disabilities Supports Division (DDSD)
NM Human Services Department (HSD)
Medical Assistance Division (MAD)
Objectives

• Review Application Timelines & Public Input Process

• How We Arrived at the Recommendations

• Review and Highlight Topics for Programmatic Changes

• Provide Opportunities for Input
Waiver Administration - How it Works

**Administrative Agency**

Medical Assistance Division  
Human Services Department (HSD)

**Operational Agency**

Developmental Disabilities Supports Division (DDSD)  
Department of Health (DOH)
To effectively administer a system of person-centered community supports and services that promotes positive outcomes for all stakeholders with a primary focus on assisting individuals with developmental disabilities and their families to exercise their right to make choices, grow, and contribute to their community.
CMS Final Rule-Promoting rights and responsibilities for people receiving waiver services

1. Person-centeredness
2. Inclusion
3. Access
4. Integration
5. Informed choice
6. Satisfaction with services
7. Achieving desired outcomes
DD Waiver Renewal Timeline
2019 - 2021

- **September 2020**: Statewide Town Halls present draft waiver renewal recommendations
- **November 2020**: Tribal Notification
- **December 2020**: Public Comment
- **January 2021**: Public Hearings and Public Comment Ends
- **January 2021**: Review and respond to public comments.Waiver amendment finalized based on public comment
- **February 2021**: Submit Waiver Renewal to CMS.
- **July 1, 2021**: DD Waiver Renewal approved and changes begin.
DD Waiver Renewal: Input was gathered from

Using information learned from:

• Research of other states
• Know Your Rights and Responsibilities Campaign
• Survey of people and families on the waitlist and younger demographic on the waitlist
• Gathering input from stakeholder groups
• People First Listening Sessions
• Advisory Council on Quality-DDW Renewal Steering Committee
• Focus Groups on topical areas
• Advocacy Partners meetings
DD Waiver Steering Committee

• Purpose- to help the state improve the DD Waiver system by hearing all voices and bringing all viewpoints to the table

• Membership is 25 people

• 50% are provider agencies, 50 % are self advocates, advocate agencies, family members and guardians

• Monthly meetings conducted with recommendations made from Focus group
Hear Our Voices - Listening Sessions

• Decisions are sometimes made without the participant’s awareness or understanding
• Many participants do not see or understand their plans
• Figure out what is possible vs. why things cannot happen
• Finding and having friends is really important
• Many people want time alone (in their home, etc.)
• Staff can be really important in people’s lives
Current DDW Waiver Program

Renewals occur every 5 years since 1984. Continuing with long standing program elements:

• Opportunity for Fair Hearing

• Participant Safeguards like requirements for Abuse, Neglect and Exploitation reporting and provider surveys by Quality Management Bureau

• Quality Improvement Strategy - State reports to Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) on Performance Measures

• Provider Enrollment

• Service definitions and rate determination to meet CMS requirements
Making Changes Work

Application to CMS

Align New Mexico Administrative Code (NMAC)

Align and detail Service Standards

Adjust forms and processes at DDSD

Adjust provider applications and survey tools
Person Centered Planning and Human Rights

**Remain**

- Human Rights Committee (HRC) for any use of restraints, restrictions
- Basic elements of Individual Service Plan (ISP) template and requirement for a pre-ISP meeting

**Changes**

- HRC “Super Committee”
- Improvements in ISP and planning process through standards
Case Management (CM)

Remain

- Follow DDSD training guidelines for CM’s
- General scope of service

Changes

- Annual training updates required (14 hours)
- Allowance for provision of CM services on other waivers
Customized Community Supports (CCS)

Remain

- CCS- Individual
- CCS- Group (Cat 1 and Cat 2)
- CCS Small Group
- CCS-Aide

Changes

- Discontinue CCS – IIBS (Individual Intensive Behavioral Support)
- Flexibility with in-home needs during day in Service Standards
Community Integrated Employment (CIE)

Remain

- CIE-Individual and Group
- CIE -Self Employment
- CIE Intensive
- Job Aide

Changes

- Break out monthly unit of billing to Job Development, Job Coaching, Long-Term Job Maintenance
- Increase training requirements for job developers and job coaches
Living Care Arrangement (LCA)

**Remain**

- Supported Living (SL)
- Family Living (FL) Substitute care hours will remain the same
- Customized In-Home Supports (CIHS)
- Intensive Medical Living Supports (IMLS)

**Changes**

Considerations for increased in home flexibility through service standards
Nursing

Remain

Nursing Services

Changes

Allowance for expansion of Telehealth
Therapies And Behavior Support Consultation

Remain

- Physical Therapy
- Occupational Therapy
- Speech Language Therapy
- Behavioral Supports

Changes

- Extend use of Telehealth
Other Services

Remain

- Non-Medical Transportation
- Assistive Technology
- Personal Support Technology
- Supplemental Dental?
- Environmental Modification
- Independent Living Transition
- Crisis Supports
- Socialization and Sexuality Education
- Respite

Changes

- Non-Medical Transportation Service limits will be raised
- Assistive Technology limits will be raised
- Personal Support Technology new name: Remote Personal Support Technology
- Remote Personal Support Technology allow for direct tech vendors.
- Discontinue Supplemental Dental
Other

**Remain**
- Rates for some services will remain the same
- Service providers core training requirements
- Clinical justification of services
- Children’s category of services

**Changes**
- Electronic Verification Visit (EVV): Verification for Respite and CIHS - intended to start per federal requirements by Jan 2021
- New trainings modules and more on online options
- Move children from Annual Resource Allotment (ARA) to Outside Review process for efficiency and consistency
DDSD On Going Work

- Family Living-Nursing
- Person Centered Planning and Individual Service Plan (ISP)
- Provider Accreditation: Ensuring all providers are nationally accredited
- Direct Support Personnel (DSP) Certification
- Innovations for supporting persons with high mobility support needs
- Unbundling Substitute Care
- Implementing Targeted Rate Study (2020 Recommendations) for Therapies and BSC as budget requests and legislative appropriations allow in FY 2023
Questions or Comments

• Send your written questions or comments to Marie Velasco, DDW Program Manager at marie.velasco@state.nm.us
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Resources

• DDSD Website DD Waiver Steering Committee Page: https://www.nmhealth.org/about/ddsdcoco/acq/ddwsc/

• Rate Study: https://www.nmhealth.org/publication/view/report/5025/Cost%20Containment

• Director’s memo regarding Rate Study Increase: https://www.nmhealth.org/publication/view/report/6268/
Thank You!