

DD Waiver Topical Items for Early Information Sharing to DD Waiver Steering Committee (Items Do Not Have a Planned Focus Group)

Emergency Physical restraint (EPR), Restrictions and Human Rights Committees (HRC)

- DDSD is partnering with Advocates to create a more accessible Statement of Rights
- DDSD is partnering with People First for curriculum development for training HRCs

Targeted Rate Study-

- DDSD plans a mini/targeted rate study through a professional services contract with Public Consulting Group, Inc to include
 - More focused data from a greater number of Therapists and BSCs
 - Analysis of use of telemedicine as an appropriate and cost-effective modality
 - Comparison with other states and recommendations to the delivery of Crisis Services
 - Review and evaluation of the tiered rates to determine if the number of tiers, and amount of nursing, on call coverage expectations, nutritional counseling, and staffing ratios required for each tier are funded at appropriate levels.

Family Living and Substitute Care

- DDSD is researching unbundling Substitute Care from Family Living rate to better track use of Substitute Care and simplify mid-year transitions from one agency to another

Supplemental Dental

- DDSD Clinical Services Bureau is partnering with HSD- MAD and with the New Mexico Dental Association (NMDA) in accord with the “Oral Health Focus 2020 Initiative” to review and contribute to the proposed list of preventive and treatment services, and to address NMDA concerns with current Medicaid reimbursement rates. This would create the easiest pathway for billing and access to dental services.

Provider Accreditation

- DDSD is looking at the criteria for waivers of accreditation requirements. Current services with accreditation (CARF or CQL) requirements are Case Management, CCS, CIE and Living Supports.
- Historically if a provider agency receives two consecutive, three-year accreditation terms, the Division has allowed waiver from accreditation, which is good for the term of the current Provider Agreement moving forward
- Currently, many of our providers do not have a current accreditation as a result of this waiver process.
- Focused workgroups may evolve as research progresses

DSP Certification

- Direct Support Professional (DSP) hiring, retention and turnover is a national issue. For many years New Mexico has discussed the idea of identifying a certification process for DSP's. DDSD, in collaboration with the ACQ, would like to begin the research process to identify certification programs and obtain information about these programs. The ACQ Policy and Quality sub-committee has begun the initial phase of this research. The workgroup has considered the following questions and has begun researching:
 - Are there on-line certifications?
 - Are there in person certifications?
 - What is the average amount of time to complete a certification?
 - Which states have requirements for certification?

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- Are there service specific certifications?
- What is the average cost of the certifications?
- Is there a pay differential for certified DSPs?
- Are there different work expectations for certified DSPs? Example: becoming a DSP lead?
- What are the opinions of other states that have this requirement (positives and negatives)?
- In other states, who paid for the certification? The DSP or Provider agency?
- Does this certification follow the person if they leave the provider agency?
- Does ENMU already have a certification program?
- How often does the certification need to be renewed?
- Does this occur through a CEU type of format?

Use of the Outside Review Team

- There is no longer a requirement to have the Outside Review (OR) process continue as a third-party assessor, contributing to a two-tiered review process.
- DDSD is working on eliminating the two-level review system and eliminating clinical criteria. This may not be able to line up with waiver renewal.
- DDSD is looking at leveraging CORE team expertise for, implementing Personal Outcome Measures published by CQL.

Electronic Visit Verification

- Implementing EVV by January 1, 2020 is a federal requirement related to the 20th Century Cures Act
- A Good Faith Exemption (GFE) request is in development by HSD to extend effective implementation date for Personal Care Services to 1/1/2021
- An EVV Stakeholder Group convened including range of providers, self-advocates, a provider association, and DDSD and HSD staff
- EVV is also included in the Financial Services module for the HHS 2020/MMIS-R project.
- Respite and Customized In-Home Supports are the applicable DD Waiver services

Rising Cost of the Waivers

- Cost containment Report/Plan for Legislature required
- Looking at outlier budgets and services limits is part of the work