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 got to the recommendations

• Review proposed changes

• Provide feedback on recommendations
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)
DDSD Mission

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

- **August/September 2020**: Statewide Town Halls present draft waiver renewal recommendations
- **October 2020**: Tribal Notification
- **November 2020**: Public Comment
- **December 2020**: 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 0223 Renewal to CMS.
- **July 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 wait list 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
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 CMS on Performance Measures
• Provider Enrollment
• Service definitions and rate determination to meet CMS requirements
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
Considerations Made: Unable to Fulfill
WHY was DDSD unable to Fulfill?

• Family Living-Nursing: Should nursing be required in the Family Living Model?

• Person Centered Planning and Individual Service Plan (ISP): Consider ISP Quality Assurance (QA) audit by the Outside Review Committee.

• Provider Accreditation: Ensuring all providers are nationally accredited

• DSP Certification: Identify a certification process for DSP’s

• Aide code: Aide across all settings (work, community, & home)

• Outside Review Activities: Removal of the OR.
Making Changes Work

- Application to CMS
- Align NMAC
  - Align and detail Service Standards
  - Adjust forms and processes at DDSD
  - Adjust provider applications and survey tools
Person Centered Planning and Human Rights

- Same
  - Human Rights Committee for any use of restraints, restrictions
  - Basic elements of ISP template and requirement for a pre-ISP meeting

- New
  - Statewide and State-run Human Rights Committee.
  - Improvements in ISP and planning process through standards

Draft
Person Centered Planning and Case Management

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

- New
  - Annual training updates required (14 hours)
  - Allowance for provision of CM services on other waivers
Big Topics - Updates

**Same**
- Outside Review to determine clinical justification of services.
- Children’s category of services

**New**
- Move children from ARA to Outside Review process for efficiency and consistency.
Customized Community Supports

Same

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

New

- Discharge CCS – IIBS
- Flexibility with in-home needs during day in Service Standards

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Community Integrated Employment

**Same**
- CIE-Individual and Group
- CIE –Self Employment
- CIE Intensive
- Job Aide

**New**
- Break out monthly unit of billing to Job Development, Job Coaching, Long-Term Job Maintenance
- Increase training requirements for job developers and job coaches

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Living Care Arrangement (LCA)

**Same**
- Supported Living
- Family Living Substitute care hours will remain the same
- Customized In-Home Supports
- Intensive Medical Living Supports

**New**
- Targeted Rate Study results pending
- Considerations for increased in home flexibility through service standards
- Substitute care will be unbundled from Family Living Daily Rate.

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Nursing

Same

Nursing Services

New

Telehealth

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Therapies And Behavior Support Consultation

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

New
- Extend use of Telehealth
- Targeted rate study results pending

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Other Services

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

**New**
- Non-Medical Transportation Service limits will be raised
- Assistive Technology limits will be raised
- Supplemental Dental: Working with HSD for possible expansion of services under State General Plan
- Personal Support Technology new name: Remote Personal Support Technology.
Other

Same
- Rates for some services will remain the same
- Service providers have core training requirements

New
- Targeted rate study
- Electronic Visit Verification
- New trainings modules and more on online options
What’s Next: Questions or Comments

• Targeted questions during this webinar
• Send your written questions or comments to the DDSD mailbox
• Contact Marie Velasco and Christina Hill
Contacts

- Christina Hill, DDSD Community Programs Bureau, Deputy Bureau Chief at 505-476-8836 Christina.hill@state.nm.us

- Marie Velasco, DDSD Community Program Bureau, DDW Program Manager at (505) 476-8970 marie.Velasco@state.nm.us

- Email Comments to: dd.waiver@state.nm.us
Resources

• DDSD Website DD Waiver Steering Committee Page:

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

• Director’s memo regarding Rate Study Increase:
Thank You!