



# 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

- Opportunity to share your recommendations and feedback
- Review application timelines & public input process
- Explain the process for the development of the DD Waiver Renewal Application to Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS)
- Highlight the CMS Application -Waiver appendices
- Review Current DD Waiver Program
- Review DD Waiver topical items with time for your comments

# Waiver Administration- How it Works

## Administrative Agency



## Medical Assistance Division

Human Services Department (HSD)

## Operational Agency

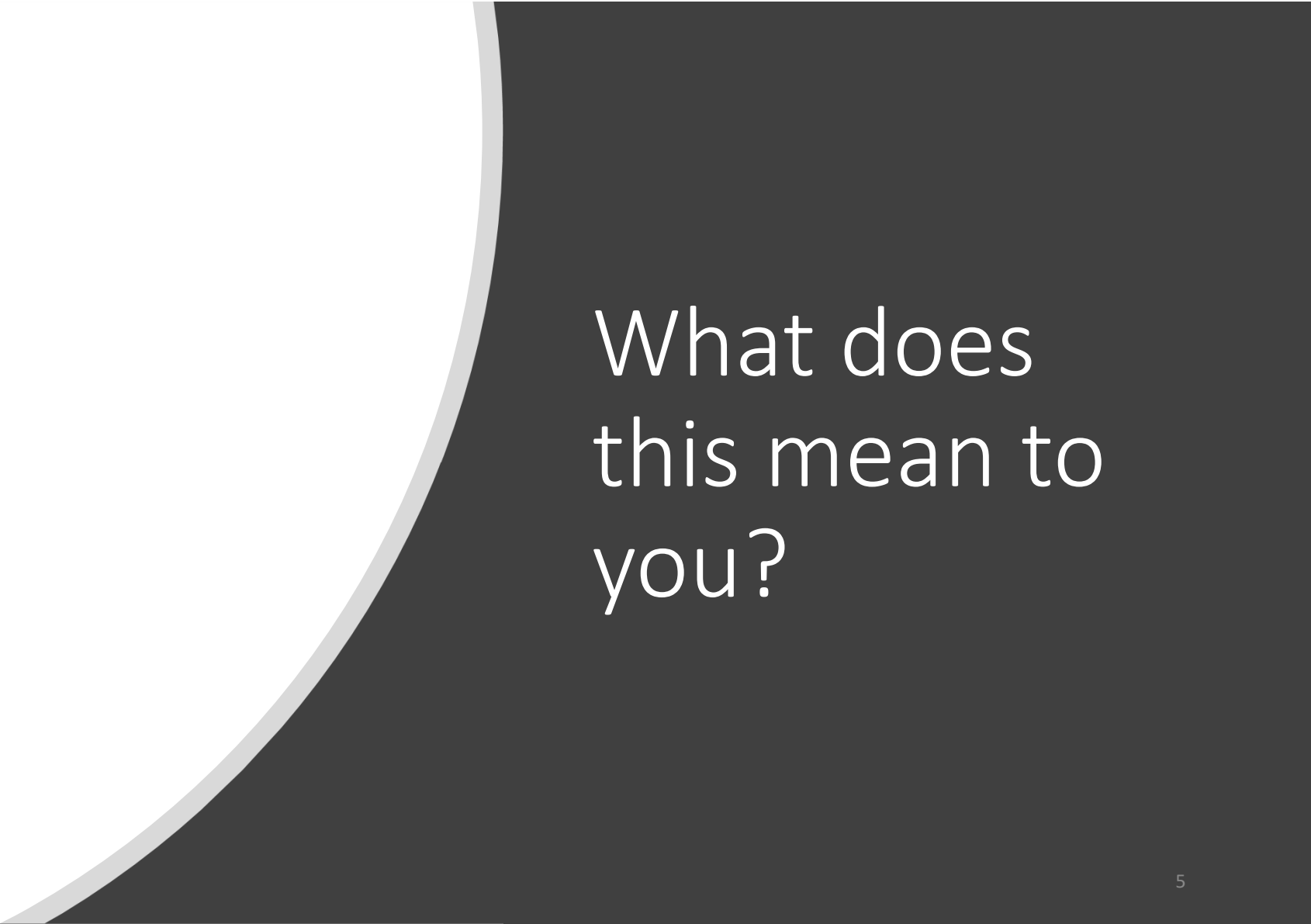


## Developmental Disabilities Supports Division (DDSD)

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.



What does  
this mean to  
you?

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



# How Do We Bring These Values to Life?

- Putting people first
- Listening to people we support- a number one theme stated at the Town Halls
- Support people on the waivers to be as independent as possible –another theme from the Town Halls
- Shifting attitudes
- Implementing a person-centered system
- Through the DD Waiver program and the DD Waiver Service Standards

This is why your input and recommendations are so important

# DD Waiver Renewal: Federal Approval

- The Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) is the federal agency that oversees the state's Medicaid program.
- CMS will review the NM's request for renewal of the DD Waiver program.
- HSD and DOH are working together to complete the federal application for the DD Waiver renewal.
- Waiver Approval terms for renewing waiver are 5 years.



# DD Waiver Should Enhance not Replace Other Resources

## **Other Supports which Are Part of the NM System**

- Generic and community resources
- State plan for medical and behavioral health (Centennial Care)
- Early Periodic, Screening, Diagnosis and Treatment (EPSDT) and school-based programs for children
- Department of Vocational Rehabilitation (DVR)

# DD Waiver Timeline 2019 - 2021

- **Summer 2019-** DDS Internal Workgroups identify topic areas for improvement and creation of the DD Waiver Steering Committee
- **Fall 2019** -Gathering of input and recommendations from all stakeholder groups – Remote Town Hall introducing Waiver Renewal Topical areas
- **Spring 2020-** Statewide Town Halls present draft waiver renewal recommendations
- **Fall 2020** NM plan to submit waiver application to CMS
- **July 2021-** The new DD Waiver begins

# 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

# Values for DD Waiver Steering Committee

- Person Centered
- Advocacy
- Transparency
- Respect
- Cost consciousness
- Independence for people with disabilities
- Full allocation of financial resources are needed
- Efficient and effective oversight

# DD Waiver Renewal: Input Gathering So Far

Using information learned from:

- Research of other states
- Know Your Rights and Responsibilities Campaign
- Gathering input from stakeholder groups
- People First Listening Sessions
- Advisory Council on Quality-DDW Renewal Steering Committee
- Advocacy Partners meetings

# Hear Our Voices

Written comment from the ABQ Town Hall on Feb. 1, 2017:

- Will they be able have partys sents they took away partys in the group homes and have real candles can they have snakes (snacks) if they want to if they don't need on a diet, can they eat what they want just because someon eles needs to does not mean they should have as well can they get rides to jobs that are not on 9-5 work days and get back home can they have an animal that is not for service they can have a ride for help with him or her can we live where their is no dugs and on a good runing bus rut and not have to be bugged for money?"

# 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

# The Application to CMS - Waiver Appendices

- **Appendix A: Waiver Administration and Operation**  
What entities are involved in the operation of the Waiver?
- **Appendix B: Participant Access and Eligibility**  
Who receives Waiver services?
- **Appendix C: Participant Services**  
What services does the Waiver offer?



# Waiver Appendices

- **Appendix D: Person Centered Planning & Service Delivery**  
How are the participants' needs identified and addressed during person-centered planning ? How does the state monitor delivery of waiver services?
- **Appendix E: Participant Direction of Services**  
opportunities to self direct services
- **Appendix F: Participant Rights**  
How are Participant rights protected ?

# Waiver Appendices

- **Appendix G: Participant Safeguards**

What safeguards has the state established to protect the participants from harm?

- **Appendix H: Systems Improvement**

Description of system for continuous quality improvement including discovery and remediation.

# Waiver Appendices

- **Appendix I: Financial Accountability**

How does the state assure financial accountability i.e. make payments for services, assure integrity of the payments, comply with federal requirements to receive a matching funds?

- **Appendix J : Cost Neutrality Demonstration**

Does the state meet statutory cost neutrality requirements ? i.e. the average per person cost for HCBS services must be less than the average per person cost for institutional care

# 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

# Services List

- Case Management
- Community Inclusion Services which include:
  - Community Integrated Employment
  - Customized Community Supports including Fiscal Management of Adult Education Opportunities
- Living Care Arrangements (LCAs) which include:
  - Customized In-Home Supports
  - Living Supports - Family Living,
  - Living Supports - Supported Living which includes nutritional counseling and nursing services, and
  - Living Supports – Intensive Medical Living Services (IMLS) which includes nutritional counseling and nursing services.

# Services List

- Professional and Clinical Services which include:
  - Adult Nursing Services (ANS) (not available to young adults, age 18 through 20 unless aspiration risk management supports are needed),
  - Behavior Support Consultation (BSC),
  - Nutritional Counseling,
  - Preliminary Risk Screening and Consultation Related to Sexually Inappropriate Behavior (PRSC), and
  - Therapy Services (not available to young adults, age 18 through 20 unless ARM supports are needed).

# Services List

- Other Services which include:
  - Assistive Technology (AT),
  - Crisis Supports,
  - Environmental Modification,
  - Independent Living Transition Service,
  - Non - Medical Transportation Service,
  - Supplemental Dental Care (not available to young adults, age 18 through 20),
  - Personal Support Technology (PST),
  - Respite, and
  - Socialization and Sexuality Education (SSE).

# Targeted Areas- Discussion for Improvement

- What do you think about these topic areas?
- How can we improve in these areas?
- Are you aware of unintended consequences?
- Not everything is listed in following slides – You open up other topics at the end of the presentation



# DD Waiver Topical Items for Improvement

## Big Topics

- Implementing Person Centered Planning and ensuring human rights
- The Individual Service Plan and Case Management
- Use of a standardized assessment
- Outside Review Activities

# DD Waiver Topical Items for Improvement

Making  
Services  
Work  
Better

- Employment Supports
- Community Inclusion addressing in-home needs during day

# DD Waiver Topical Items for Improvement

Making  
Services  
Work  
Better

- Living Care Arrangements- Supporting people needing intensive support for mobility and personal care

# DD Waiver Topical Items for Improvement

Making  
Services  
Work  
Better

- Non-Medical Transportation
- Technology
- <https://clicktime.symantec.com/3KUtf2yv81y7w7MZUwJwEqP7Vc?u=https%3A%2F%2Fm.youtube.com%2Fwatch%3Fv%3Do9HB6bC3IKU>

# DD Waiver Topical Items for Improvement

Making  
Services  
Work  
Better

- Nursing
- Therapies
- Behavior Support
- Supplemental Dental

# DD Waiver Topical Items for Improvement

## Other Topics

- Rates
- Cost Containment
- Electronic Visit Verification
- Training and Monitoring

# What's Next: How You Can Provide Feedback/Recommendations

- Targeted questions during this webinar
- Send your written comments to the DDSD mailbox
- Contact Wendy Corry and Christina Hill
- Participate in the face to face Town Halls in  
( approx. Winter - Spring 2020
- Participate in the Public Comment period  
( approx. Summer- Fall 2020)

# Contacts

- Christina Hill, DDSD Community Programs Bureau, Deputy at 505-476-8836 [Christina.hill@state.nm.us](mailto:Christina.hill@state.nm.us)
- Wendy Corry, DDSD Contractor, Steering Committee Facilitator  
505-238-0047 [wendy@corryconsulting.com](mailto:wendy@corryconsulting.com)
- Email Comments to: [dd.waiver@state.nm.us](mailto:dd.waiver@state.nm.us)



# Resources

- DDSD Website DD Waiver Steering Committee Page:  
<https://nmhealth.org/about/ddsd/coco/acq/ddwsc>

Thank You!

