



DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES SUPPORTS DIVISION
Developmental Disabilities Medicaid Waiver (DDW)
News Alert APRIL 2017

MARK YOUR
CALENDAR!

DISCONTINUATION OF THE SIS: Beginning on *July 1, 2017*, DDS D will no longer use the Supports Intensity Scale (SIS).

TIERED RATES: Beginning *July 1, 2017*, DDS D will use additional clinical criteria to justify tiered rates for customized community supports group, community integrated employment group and supported living. The clinical criteria will replace the use of group assignments based on the SIS. DDS D received feedback from the full ACQ and the ACQ Quality and Policy Subcommittee on (3/9/2017 and 4/13/2017).

REVISED CLINICAL CRITERIA: On *July 1, 2017*, DDS D will implement revised clinical criteria and a new budget worksheet. The Community Programs Bureau will be hosting a preview of the clinical criteria and revised budget worksheet on *May 9, 2017*.

BETA TEST THE BUDGET WORKSHEET: Beta testing on the revised budget worksheet will begin on *May 9, 2017*. Stay tuned for more information from the Community Programs Bureau.

PROVIDER VALIDATION AND PARTICIPANT SURVEY'S: Provider validation and participant survey's required by the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) are underway.

CLINICAL CRITERIA AND BUDGET WORKSHEET TRAINING: In June, DDS D will conduct training to the Outside Review and the field on the new clinical criteria and budget worksheets.

WHAT'S NEW



NEW DDS D DIVISION DIRECTOR



Please join the DDS D Team in welcoming Jim Copeland as the new Director of the Developmental Disabilities Supports Division (DDS D). Mr. Copeland started with DDS D on March 27, 2017. He has spent more than forty years providing services to people with intellectual disabilities. Mr. Copeland joins DDS D from Alta Mira Specialized Services where he has served as Executive Director for the past 14 years.



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CMS FINAL RULE: (The CMS Final Rule applies to the DD, Mi Via and Medically Fragile Waiver Programs operated by DDS.)

1. NM Statewide Transition Plan: The CMS granted New Mexico an initial approval of the state's Home and Community-Based Waiver Statewide Transition Plan on January 13, 2017.
2. The Know Your Rights Steering Committee hosted 10 statewide Know Your Rights Campaign Town Hall Meetings for individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities, families and guardians this quarter. Over 500 people attended.
3. The Provider Validation and Participant Survey started the week of April 3rd. The division anticipates that the provider validation and participant survey process will be completed by September 2017. Findings will be sent to providers in September, after all the data is scored. If you have questions about the provider validation and participant survey process, please contact Kristina Blakney at the Center for Development and Disability (CDD) at (505) 272-6247.

PROGRAM UPDATE

1. The Human Services Department submitted the DDW renewal to CMS on March 1st.
2. DDS is in the process of revising the DDW service standards and will seek provider and stakeholder feedback in the coming months. Please note, that there will not be any changes to the current service models. The division is making changes that will include: restructuring the chapters and incorporating relevant policies and director's releases, removing duplication, adding requirements related to compliance with the CMS Final Rule, health care coordination, and quality assurance practices. DDS intends to use one set of service standards for all eligible DDW participants, including Jackson Class Members. Look for a preview of the new chapter structure that will be distributed by DDS on *May 1, 2017*.
3. DDS is conducting an analysis of Supported Living Individual Intensive Behavioral Support criteria and rate structure. Stay tuned for more information in the next couple of months.
4. ***Non-Ambulatory Stipend:*** Recommendations to expand the intent of the stipend is underway by DDS.



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5. ***Customized In-Home Supports:*** DDS D will be conducting an analysis of this service model to ensure that it is being utilized as an intermittent support as approved by CMS.
6. ***In-Home Customized Community Supports:*** DDS D will be conducting outreach to providers and issuing guidance to ensure the CMS requirements.

A NOTE FROM THE DIRECTOR

Thank you for the work you do each day. DDS D looks forward to our continued partnership to improve the lives and services for people with intellectual and developmental disabilities in New Mexico.

“Alone we can do so little, together
we can do so much” Helen Keller