

Developmental Disabilities Supports Division (DDSD)



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DECEMBER 2018

MI VIA SELF-DIRECTED WAIVER REVISED RULE

*Mi Via Self-Directed
 Waiver Revised
 Rule* 1

In the DDSD August newsletter, the Mi Via Revised Rule was anticipated to be published September 1, 2018. The rule is now set to publish November 1, 2018 and will be available on the HSD website at <http://www.hsd.state.nm.us/LookingForInformation/registers.aspx>.

*Waiver Rate Study
 Update* 2

Major Changes to the Mi Via Rule:

- Participants under the age of 18 may now receive transportation services. Transportation services for a participant under the age of 18 may not be provided by a Legally Responsible Individual (LRI).
- Employer of Record (EOR) requirements have been updated:
 - * A participant may be his or her own EOR unless he or she has a plenary or limited guardianship or conservatorship over financial matters in place.
 - * If EOR responsibilities are delegated by the participant through a Power of Attorney (POA), that individual must be designated as the EOR. A POA may not be used to assign EOR responsibilities to another individual or circumvent the requirements of the EOR.
- In-home living support agencies must assure appropriate staff for a 24-hour response capability to address scheduled or unpredictable needs related to health, safety, or security in order to meet the needs of the participant. In-home living support agencies are not fiscal intermediaries and cannot bill nor be paid for work that is the responsibility of the participant, EOR, or authorized signer.
- Grab bars are removed from Environmental Modifications services as these items are covered under the State Plan Services.
- Goods and services considered recreational or divisional in nature are non-covered by the Mi Via Waiver and are defined to include: tickets for movies, theatrical and musical performances, sporting events, zoos or museums.
- Criteria for approval of a rate of pay above the Mi Via Range of Rates has been added. Criteria includes additional need based on behavioral conditions, medical conditions, need for specialized supports, and geographic location.

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Contact the Mi Via program offices if you need additional information.



WAIVER RATE STUDY UPDATE

The New Mexico Department of Health, Developmental Disabilities Supports Division (DDSD), has contracted with Public Consulting Group, Inc. (PCG) to perform a study to recommend reimbursement rates for individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities receiving services through the Developmental Disabilities (DD), Mi Via (MV), and Medically Fragile (MF) waiver programs.

During the month of November, PCG completed three training webinars for providers on the data collection tools and timelines. A recorded version of the webinar will be available soon on the DDSD website.

For any questions or comments, PCG may be contacted at:

Email address: NMHCBSRatestudy@pcgus.com

Phone line: 1-844-225-3658

Please continue to visit the DDSD website for the latest information on the rate study (<https://nmhealth.org/about/ddsd/pgsv/ddw/>).

Contributor: Jennifer Rodriguez, DDSD Community Programs Bureau Chief

DIRECTOR'S CORNER

Wasn't Thanksgiving just last month? It is already the holiday season again. I am beginning to see Santa Claus and holiday merchandise in a lot of the stores. I understand this is basically financially driven. Some businesses survive holiday season to holiday season, just like some of us survive paycheck to paycheck (or direct deposit to direct deposit).

This started me to think about the pressure involved in the work that we do. What causes this pressure? Is it internal pressure that we put on ourselves? Is it external pressure that we can't control? How do we deal with the pressure? One of the best ways to work with the pressure is to remember that no one has to face it alone. The team at DDSD is always ready, willing and able to help.

It has been my experience, in my tenure here, that there is always someone willing to listen to any issue that comes up and help talk through it. Just as our participants and their families have a team to support them, we should be no less supported in our work. The organization of DDSD is quite capable of providing that support. It is not a big jump from any position in DDSD to my office. For the most part, DDSD is a relatively flat organization. Every position is assigned to a Bureau. Every Bureau is assigned to a Deputy Director. The Deputy Directors and I work as Senior Management for the Division.

As we get in to the holiday season, let's remember the team that is available to us. The external pressure of the holidays can be debilitating. The pressure we feel internally, to buy the perfect gift, to participate in all of the holiday events or just to survive the shopping malls and crowds can be really difficult. Let's be more focused on working together as a team to support one another just as we work together to support our families.

In the words of Kenneth Waltz, World War II and Korean War veteran, and renowned scholar:

"External pressure seems to produce internal unity."

I hope we all are able to survive the pressure of the holidays and our jobs. My bigger hope is that we face them together, as a team.

Contributor: Jim Copeland, DDSD Division Director

KNOW YOUR RIGHTS CAMPAIGN

Upcoming Advocate Rights and Responsibilities Town Halls

Goal: Learn about the waivers and the rules from the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) that strengthen the rights of those receiving waiver services.

How: Be a part of an interactive presentation about advocate rights and responsibilities including stories of success from advocates.

When: Friday December 7, 10:30 am-1:00 pm

Where:
Thomas Branigan Memorial Library, Roadrunner Room
200 E. Picacho Ave.
Las Cruces, NM 88001

For additional information, contact:
Southwest Regional Office
575- 528-5180

When: Thursday January 10, 5:30 pm-8:00 pm

Where:
The Hilton Gardens
1530 W. Maloney Ave.
Gallup, NM 87301

For additional information, contact:
Northwest Regional Office
505-863-9937



CLINICAL SERVICES UPDATE

Specialty Seating Clinic Staff and Statewide PT consultant, Mary Beth Schubauer, collaborated with APS Therapists to present the Fourth Seating and AT Conference for PT, OT and SLPs. Attendance this year was at an all-time high with over 140 therapists attending the 2-day conference from across the state. State and National DME dealers were in attendance. At this meeting, Fran Dorman, who retired from consulting for the Clinical Services Bureau in July of 2018, was honored for her many contributions to persons with IDD for the past 30 years. Lourie Pohl, who passed away in May of 2018, was also remembered at the Seating Conference for her contributions to the DD field. In a separate ceremony, Lourie was posthumously presented with the Honors Award by the New Mexico Speech Language and Hearing Association. This is the highest honor bestowed by the Association and was presented based on Lourie's many contributions to the field of Speech Language Pathology in New Mexico.

Based on input from Medically Fragile Waiver providers and family members, the DDSD Clinical Services Bureau and the Human Services Department are working on an amendment to the Medically Fragile Waiver to provide an increase in rates for specific services and to include access to environmental modifications. This process is anticipated to take at least 6-9 months. The rate increases will not be in effect until CMS gives final approval. MFW is also participating in the DDSD Rate Study.

The Family Advisory Board (FAB) for the Medically Fragile Waiver announced several upcoming family events. There will be a Family Meeting in Farmington on 11/28/18. The Festival of Trees will be held at the Albuquerque Convention Center on 12/1/18 and "Elf - the Musical" will be held in Albuquerque at the Musical Theater of the Southwest on 12/13/18. For information, please call Lori Steward, Family Liaison at 505-235-9463.

The Wellness Committee at Bank of the West is continuing its work by offering interactive sessions for DOH staff. This committee most recently sponsored a Thanksgiving gift drive for a local needy family. Food, clothing, household goods and a gift card were donated. A generous financial donation also provided for the purchase of living room furniture!

The Clinical Services Bureau is wrapping up 2018 with an Aspiration Risk Management (ARM) training in the Metro Region on December 7, 2018. The CSB 2019 Training calendar is posted on the CSB website at <https://nmhealth.org/about/ddsd/pgsv/clinical/>. All Participatory Approach and ARM trainings are listed at <https://trainnewmexico.com>.



Contributor: Elizabeth Finley, DDSD Clinical Services Bureau Chief

**November
2018**

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH/ DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES SUPPORTS DIVISION

SAFETY ALERT

Transportation Safety- Properly Securing a Wheelchair During Transport

Dangers

Even if you aren't involved in an accident, a non-secured wheelchair poses many risks.

- The rider can slide out of the wheelchair
- The wheelchair could roll in the cabin
- The wheelchair could tip over
- Injuries can occur:
 - Head injuries
 - Neck injuries
 - Broken bones
- Existing injuries could also be exacerbated.

For Additional Help: Call the Clinical Services Bureau or Regional Offices for assistance:

- CSB: 1-505-841-2848
- Metro: 1-505-841-5500
- SE: 1-575-624-6100
- SW: 1-575-528-5180
- NE: 1-575-758-5934
- NW: 1-505-863-9937



Resources:

<https://www.nmeda.com/4-point-tiedown-safety-tips/>

<http://www.aandjcommercial.com/video-demos>

DDSD and DHI jointly review data from the Incident Management Bureau (IMB) on a monthly basis and have identified an urgent health and safety issue related to properly securing wheelchairs during transport.

Important Information:

- There were 21 cases investigated by DHI-IMB in FY17 and FY18 of injuries caused by the failure of staff to properly secure a wheelchair before transporting an individual.
- Providers should have internal policies and procedures related to transportation safety and guidelines.
- Anyone who transports people in wheelchairs must be trained on proper wheelchair transport.

Safety Tips for Wheelchair Transport

1. Read and follow all manufacturers' instructions.
2. Always position the wheelchair and rider facing forward.
3. Do not attach tiedowns to adjustable, moving or removable parts of the wheelchair.
4. The program of training in the operation of a motor vehicle should include at a minimum:
 - Instruction on inspecting various wheelchair lifts, associated locking mechanisms and that other equipment are in safe working order for agency vehicles;
 - Instruction and hands on practice in the operation of wheelchair lock-downs/tie-downs and safety;
 - Identification of safe locations for boarding and disembarking passengers to enter or exit the vehicle;
 - Hands on practice in the operation of each type of vehicle provided by the agency under the direction of an instructor designated by the agency.

APPLICATION SUBMITTED FOR THE PRESCHOOL DEVELOPMENT GRANT (PDG B-5)

The Family Infant Toddler (FIT) Program collaborated with our Early Learning NM colleagues from the Public Education Department (PED) and the Children Youth and Families Department (CYFD) to submit an application for the Preschool Development Grant Birth to 5 (PDG B-5). The grant opportunity was released by the US Health and Human Services Department to help states build quality early learning systems to support the development of children birth to five and their families.

You can read about NM's PDG B-5 application as well download the full application from our website at: <https://www.earlylearningnm.org/pdg-b-5>.

Here's a brief summary of the activities proposed in NM's PDG B-5 application:

- 1) **A statewide Birth – 5 Needs Assessment** (including data, input from parents and stakeholders, as well as a review of national research and the experience other states.
- 2) **A Statewide Birth – 5 Strategic Plan** that creates a map for how NM can provide equitable access to quality early learning to each and every child birth to age 5.
- 3) **Maximizing Parents' Knowledge and Choice** through a statewide media campaign, expanding research and referral (including parent's ability to search for all early learning programs in their community, piloting a new family engagement tool and providing parent leadership training.
- 4) **Sharing Best Practices with Early Learning Providers** including a variety of workforce development and video exemplars to share and promote best practices.
- 5) **Improving Overall Quality of Early Learning Services** including coaching; consultation and support in the use of developmentally appropriate instructional materials and leadership development for community stakeholders.

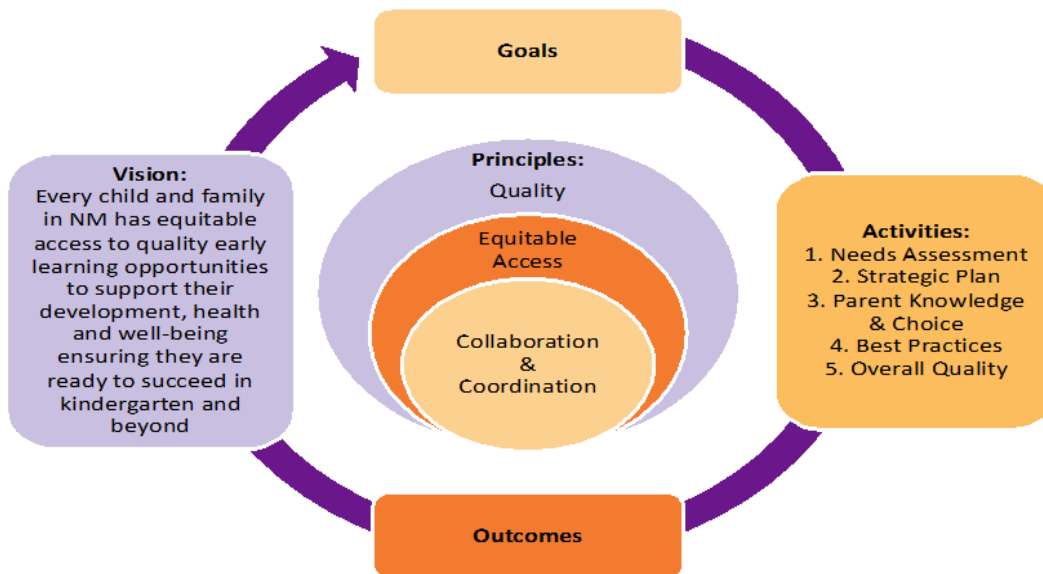
Under activity 4 the PDG B-5 budget includes funding for the FIT Program's professional development on evidence-based early intervention practices through implementation of 'Family Guided Routines-Based Intervention' (FGRBI). The roll-out of FGRBI will include 'practice-based coaching' to support personnel in implementing the practices, including the use of video for reflection.

The following is the theory of change for the PDG B-5, including the 4-year vision for New Mexico's early learning system (Note: the PDG B-5 grant has an option to apply for funding for years 2-4).



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APPLICATION SUBMITTED FOR THE PRESCHOOL DEVELOPMENT GRANT (PDG B-5) (CONT.)



We hope to hear in December whether New Mexico is awarded funding under the PDG B-5 grant, and whether we are awarded the full amount requested. If funded, this exciting work will begin in January!

Contributor: Andy Gomm, DDSD Child & Family Supports Bureau Chief

ATTORNEY GENERAL'S SUMMIT ON DISABILITIES

Approximately 300-400 persons attended a summit on disabilities issues sponsored by New Mexico Attorney General Hector Balderas on October 4, 2018 in Albuquerque for advocates and others who support the community of people with disabilities.

For many years, the Southwest Disabilities Conference served as a significant networking and organizing event for people who serve the disability community and for persons with disabilities. With the unfortunate cancellation of the annual Southwest Disabilities Conference, Attorney General Balderas was determined to rally service providers and persons with disabilities to a free networking summit. The Office of the Attorney General brought representatives of some 50 groups to the day-long event. The Attorney General provided for a roundtable discussion of service providers and also provided informational sessions on the Americans with Disabilities Act and on sexual assault of persons with disabilities.



Contributor: Amira Rasheed, State of NM, Office of the Attorney General

NEW HIRES, PROMOTIONS & RETIREMENTS

New Hires/Promotions:

Charlene Garnand, Business Operations Specialist, Dental Clinic, 9/8/18
 Isabel Casaus, SOC/COM SV COORD-O (Community Inclusion), Las Cruces, 10/6/18
 Linda Ramos, Policy & Research Analyst Staff Manager, Santa Fe, 10/20/18
 Steve Scarton, SOC/COM SV COORD-O (Community Inclusion), Taos, 10/20/18
 Roberta Trujillo, Healthcare Surveyor, Albuquerque, 11/3/18
 Ryan Trujillo, Behavioral Health Therapist, Albuquerque, 11/3/18
 Teresa Tomashot, Training Unit Staff Manager, Taos, 11/3/18
 Anna Marquez, SOC/COM SV COORD-O (PASRR), Albuquerque, 11/17/18
 Joseph Valdez, Provider Enrollment Information Clerk, Santa Fe, 12/1/18
 Kenneth Gallegos, SOC/COM SV COORD, Taos, 8/15/18

Retirements:

Steve Moyers is retiring last day is December 31, 2018
 Pauline Mares retired, last day is November 30, 2018
 Yvonne Guerin retired, last day is November 30, 2018

Contributor: Joe Anaya, DDSD Human Resources



Mission Statements:

The Mission of the New Mexico Department of Health is to promote health and wellness, improve health outcomes, and assure safety net services for all people in New Mexico.

The Mission of the Developmental Disabilities Supports Division is 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.

ABOUT US:

The New Mexico Developmental Disabilities Supports Division is located at 810 San Mateo PO Box 26110 Santa Fe, New Mexico 87502-6110. Our website: www.nmhealth.org
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If you would like to write an article for the next issue of the DDSD Newsletter, have suggestions or comments, please contact Lisa Storti, DDSD Newsletter Assistant Editor at 505-476-8972 or Lisa.Storti@state.nm.us.