

DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES SUPPORTS DIVISION NEWSLETTER

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PROVIDER ENROLLMENT CORNER New Provider Application & Forms

Submitted by:
Tammy Barth, Provider Enrollment Unit

DDSD has diligently been working on the Qualified Provider Project which consists of revising the Developmentally Disabled (DD) and Medically Fragile (MF) Waiver Provider Application.

The application has been revised to increase the level of quality providers in our system; compel providers to think about and explain more thoroughly on the front end as to how they will comply with program rules and standards; incorporate federal requirements (e.g., CMS Final Rule); reflect decisions made during the DD Waiver Standards revisions Dec. 2018; align the review process across the regions for consistency and provide standardized criteria for all reviewers.

Changes include a new definition for developmental disabilities; conflict of interest; the DDSD Required Application Forms; Statement of Assurances Form; financial information requirements updated; and additional Policy/Procedure/Agency Documents with scoring criteria added.

The application was released on August 1, 2019. The providers whose Provider Agreements expired on September 2019, were the first group to respond with the revised application. Currently, additional modifications are being made to the revised application, which is why, if you are a provider whose Provider Agreement expires on December 31, 2019, you have not received it yet. The Provider Enrollment Unit will be emailing them out as soon as changes have been completed.

REMINDERS

Please ensure your current insurance policies have been sent in and that your licensees are current. If you add or delete a licensee, please be sure PEU is aware of the changes. You can submit your insurance and/or licensees by fax to (505) 476-8894 or via email at **Tammy.Barth@state.nm.us**.
Submitted by: Tammy Barth, Provider Enrollment Unit

KNOW YOUR RIGHTS Silver City

Submitted by:
Jennifer Rodriguez, Chief, Community Programs Bureau



The Developmental Disabilities Planning Council, in partnership with New Mexico Allies for Advocacy and the Developmental Disabilities Supports Division, completed a Silver City Know Your Rights Town Hall meeting in November. Thank you to Direct Therapy Services, who hosted presenters, a panel of advocates, state staff and providers at their Silver City office. This event promoted the CMS Final Rule, person-centered thinking, planning and practice, and rights for people with intellectual and developmental disabilities, while fostering robust and meaningful dialogue and collaborations. Great input was received and a few examples of what we heard include:

“People should be in charge of their own lives.”

“Team members think they know better than the person.”

“Not having 24-hour support.”

“I tell people: ‘Talk to ME, don’t talk to my case manager’.”

“Teach me to do things myself, not doing it for me.”

“Observe the individual, ask the right questions, and ask the right people.”

Guardian:

“I try to adhere to the person’s belief/value system and not have my values interfere with what they want.”

Guardian:

“Sometimes being an advocate is saying no. What someone wants is not always in their best interests (for ex. if it’s something the staff has talked them into). In this situation I talk to the individual about it and explain my reasoning.”



Upcoming KYRC Dates:

January 10

Clovis 10am-noon
Clovis Community College with ENMRSH and Absolutely You

February 21

Gallup 10-noon with TAOS

March 6 or 27

Taos

April

DDPC Advocate Summit in ABQ

April

Parents Reaching Out Family Leadership Conference in ABQ

May

ARC of NM Conference in ABQ

June

Roswell Self-Advocacy Summit with Roswell People First

TRANSITION FAIR AND WORKSHOPS

DDSD Community Inclusion Staff Participate in NE Transition Fair and Transition Workshops in Roswell and Gallup

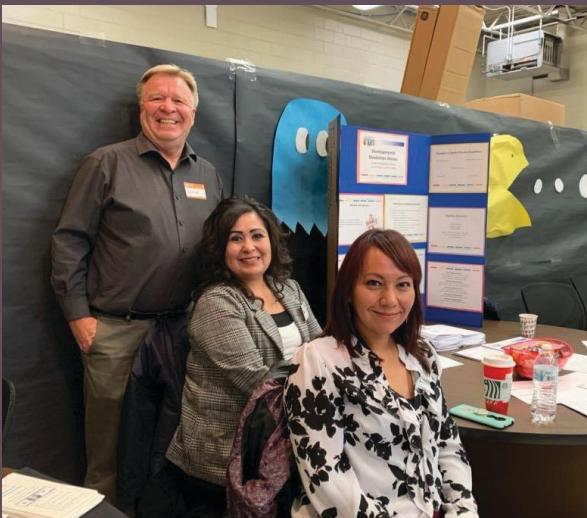
Contributors:
Christina Hill, DDSD and Wendy Corry, Corry Consulting

The Developmental Disabilities Supports Division (DDSD) recently created the Statewide Transition Lead position to facilitate increased supported employment and community inclusion outcomes for youth who are eligible for DDSD services. The Statewide Transition Lead is setting priorities and a strategic vision for school to work transition activities based on national best practice, creating partnerships and collaborating with key stakeholders.

Statewide Transition Lead Steve Scarton and Supported Employment Lead Casilda Gallegos represented DDSD at the 17th Annual Northeast transition Fair held on October 2nd, 2019 at the New Mexico Highlands University (NMHU) campus in Las Vegas. The Transition Fair has been coordinated over the last 17 years through a partnership between Luna Community College, New Mexico Highlands University, the Division of Vocational Rehabilitation, Workforce Solutions, SER (Service, Employment and Redevelopment) Jobs for Progress, East and West Las Vegas schools. Over 120 students attended

this year's event with participation from five school districts. The Transition Fair provided opportunities for students to learn more about Post-Secondary Education programs available through NMHU, Luna Community College and Northern New Mexico College, information about state and local employers as well as services and resources available to students. Luna Community College Culinary Arts, Cosmetology, Automotive, Construction Trades and CDL Certificate programs were also available for students to visit and observe demonstrations from the respective program

Statewide Transition Lead Steve Scarton joined with DDSD Regional Community Inclusion Staff to attend the Parents Reaching Out, Forward@14 workshops in Roswell on October 17th, 2019 and in Gallup on November 7th, 2019. The workshops are designed to introduce and explore important issues in transitioning beyond high school. Community Inclusion staff provided a presentation on the DD waiver Intake and Eligibility process and Supported Employment Supports offered by DDSD.



Cheryle Anderson, NWRO Intake and Eligibility Specialist, Orlanda Charleston, NWRO Community Inclusion Coordinator and Steve Scarton Statewide, Transition Lead For attend Forward@14 Gallup event, providing an exhibit table for the people attending.



Ralph Baca- DVR, Steve Scarton- DDSD, Casilda Gallegos- DDSD

ADVISORY COUNCIL ON QUALITY (ACQ)

DDSD Contracts for Administrative Support Services for the Advisory Council on Quality (ACQ)

Submitted by:
Marc Kolman, Deputy Director

The ACQ has contracted with Zia Therapy Center, Inc. in Alamogordo to provide administrative support services to the ACQ. This contract will support the administration and professionalization of the ACQ, DDSD's primary advisory group. This will include maintaining meeting records such as meeting minutes, arranging space, organizing member applications and the ACQ's nominating process, and providing fiscal management services for reimbursement of ACQ members' travel. Suzanne Pope, who currently provides similar support to the Family Infant Toddler Program's Interagency Coordinating Council, will be providing these services.

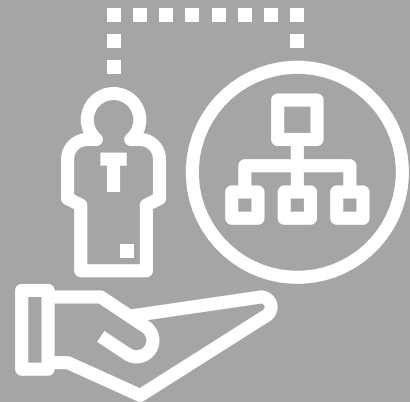
The ACQ meets every other month in Albuquerque and its meetings are open to the public. For more information, see

<https://nmhealth.org/about/ddsd/coco/acq/>.

TARGETED RATE STUDY

Submitted by:
Jennifer Rodriguez, Chief, Community Programs Bureau

As you know, in FY 19 DDSD conducted a comprehensive rate study for all DDW and selected Mi Via and Medically Fragile (MF) waiver rates. The contract went to the Public Consulting Group (PCG) through a competitive RFP process. This fiscal year (FY 20) DDSD will work with PCG to obtain more focused rate data from a greater number of DDW Behavior Support Consultation and Therapy providers and will research and provide recommendations for proposed new services in the MF Waiver. Additionally, PCG will investigate the use of telemedicine as a cost-effective service "extender" for BSC, therapies and nursing, will review and evaluate DDW tiered rates, and review and offer program recommendations on the use of remote technology to increase participants' independence. The targeted rate study is expected to conclude at the end of the current fiscal year (June 30, 2020).



The Advisory Council on Quality (ACQ) is Recruiting Members

The ACQ is DDSD's primary advisory group. The ACQ advises DDSD and the Department of Health on the systems guiding the provision of services and supports that assist people with Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities (IDD) of all ages and their families to be fully included in New Mexico communities. Its membership includes individuals with disabilities, family members, caregivers, providers, and advocacy groups. The ACQ meets every other month in Albuquerque and its meetings are open to the public.

The ACQ is recruiting new members. Specifically, the ACQ seeks applicants for membership from individuals with developmental disabilities and their family members.

For more information about the ACQ or to download application forms, please see <https://nmhealth.org/about/ddsd/coco/acq/>

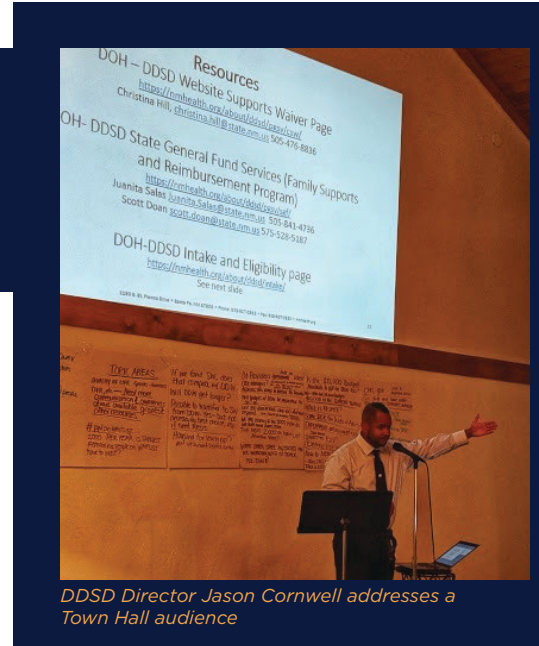
If you need assistance, please contact Kathy Baker in the Developmental Disabilities Supports Division by email at kathy.baker@state.nm.us or by phone at 505-841-5524.

Submitted by:
Marc Kolman, Deputy Director

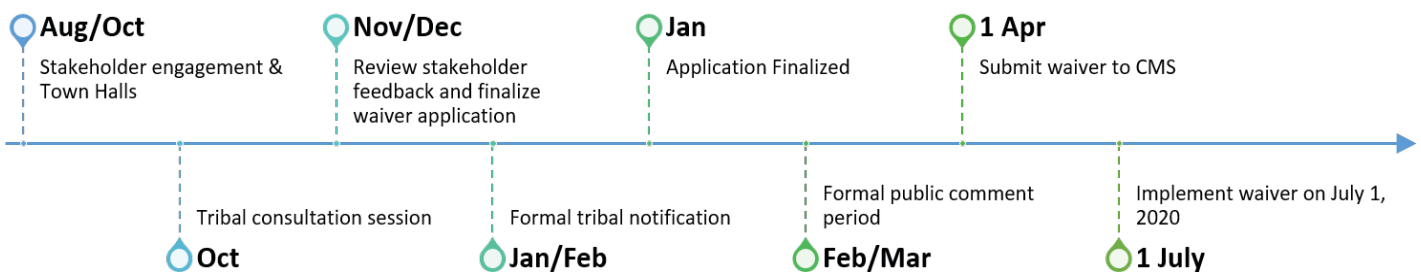
SUPPORTS WAIVER DEVELOPMENT

Submitted by:
Christina Hill

New Mexico continues to make headway on the development of the Supports Waiver. The Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) is the federal agency that oversees the state's Medicaid program. CMS will review the state's application for the Supports Waiver. The New Mexico Human Services Department and the Department of Health are working together to develop and submit the federal application for the Supports Waiver by April 2020 with a start date to begin waiver operations by July 2020. (See Timeline graph).



DDSD Director Jason Cornwell addresses a Town Hall audience



Considerations for the Supports Waiver is using information learned from:

- Research of other states
- Know Your Rights and Responsibilities Campaign
- Survey of people and families on the wait list
- Younger demographic on the waitlist
- Gathering input from stakeholder groups
- Advisory Council on Quality
- Advocacy Partners meetings
- Statewide Town Halls and Tribal Consultation conducted in October 2020

DDSD presented key elements of the plan for the Supports Waiver in Town Halls during October. Invitations were sent to individuals on the waitlist and distributed via web posting, social media and eblasts. Twelve town halls were conducted, with a total of 349 participants from across the state who signed in.

The Supports Waiver is planned with a \$10,000 per person budget available to choose service options to support the waiver recipient in his/her home and community. Service options being planned include:

- Non-Medical Transportation
- Employment Supports
- Respite
- Behavior Support Consultation
- Environmental Modifications
- Vehicle Modifications
- Personal Care Services/ Homemaker and Chore Services
- Assistive Technology
- Customized Community Supports-Group
- Customized Community Supports-Individual Consumer Direct Support

The Supports Waiver will offer an agency based and self-directed track with a Community Supports Coordinator assisting with assessment, person centered planning and monitoring like the case manager role in the DD waiver or the Consultant Role in the Mi Via self-directed waiver. The Supports Waiver will be offered to up to 2000 new people from the waitlist per year based on their registration date. The development of the Supports Waiver is part of a three-phase approach to address the waitlist. Phase 1 is funded and underway. Phase 1 includes - Family Supports & Reimbursement Program (FY 20), waitlist analysis, and Centennial Care Outreach and Education Plan. Phase 2 is the development and operation of the Supports Waiver. Phase 3 includes Reform of waiver system and goal of eliminating the waitlist entirely over six years. Phase 2 and 3 require legislative appropriation to fully fund.

Resources for more information include:

DOH-DDSD Website Supports Waiver Page
<https://nmhealth.org/about/ddsd/pgsv/csw/>
Christina Hill, christina.hill@state.nm.us 505-476-8836

DOH-DDSD State General Fund Services (Family Supports and Reimbursement Program)
<https://nmhealth.org/about/ddsd/pgsv/sgf/>
Juanita Salas Juanita.Salas@state.nm.us 505-841-4736
Scott Doan scott.doan@state.nm.us 575-528-5187

DOH-DDSD Intake and Eligibility page
<https://nmhealth.org/about/ddsd/intake/> 505-841-5552

DD WAIVER RENEWAL UPDATE

Contributors:
Christina Hill, DDS and Wendy Corry, Corry Consulting

DDSD envisions a state where people with I-DD are a part of the fabric of their communities and live the lives of their choice. Creating an authentic, consistent, person-centered waiver system that supports people to live the lives of their choice is a goal that can only be reached by all stakeholders working together. As discussed in last quarter's DDSD newsletter, the process to renew the DD Waiver is currently being conducted. The upcoming timeline for the NM DD Waiver renewal is as follows:

- Fall 2019 - Gathering of input and recommendations from all stakeholder groups
- Spring 2020 - Statewide in-person Town Halls to present draft waiver renewal recommendations
- Spring 2020 - Formal Tribal and Public Notification
- Fall 2020 - Submit the waiver application to CMS
- July 2021 - The new DD Waiver begins

Gathering input and feedback from all stakeholders involved in the DD Waiver Renewal is a priority for DDSD and HSD. The following venues have been used to date to learn what is working in the current DD Waiver and what could be improved:

- A survey of people and families on the wait list and younger demographic on the waitlist
- Meetings with various stakeholder groups such as case managers, supported employment agencies, nurses, therapists, etc.
- The Know Your Rights Campaign around the state which includes a panel of self-advocates and providers on implementing the CMS Final Rule
- People First Listening Sessions in Roswell and Albuquerque with self-advocates, family members and guardians
- The Advisory Council on Quality - DD Waiver Steering Committee
- Virtual Town Hall meetings
- Advocacy Partners meetings
- Research of other states
- Two full days of Focus Groups on topical areas which include 50% provider agencies and 50% self-advocates, advocate agencies, family members and guardians

A first round of Town Hall Meetings was conducted October 30, 2019 through two sessions on a virtual platform. Registered attendance included 119 provider agency representatives and 73 individuals in services, advocacy agencies, family members or guardians. State staff were also present. While the virtual platform is not the same as a face to face meeting, we did receive positive feedback about the town hall and will plan to include the virtual platform as one option along with face to face town halls for a second round in the new year.

The DD Waiver Steering Committee continues to meet and will make recommendations on the DD Waiver Renewal application to DDSD and HSD, utilizing the feedback gathered from all the various forums. Visit the Steering Committee webpage to get the latest information on their work:
<https://nmhealth.org/about/ddsd/coco/acq/ddwsc>

We look forward to continued dialogue and conversation through the upcoming Town Halls. We also welcome your engagement in this process. Feel free to contact Christina Hill (505) 476-8836 or Wendy Corry (505) 238-0047 with your thoughts and recommendations for improving the DD Waiver. You may also check for more opportunities for public input at :
<https://nmhealth.org/about/ddsd/pgsv/ddw/>.

NM SUPPORTS AND REIMBURSEMENT PROGRAM

Submitted by:
Juanita Salas, State General Fund Manager

The New Mexico Department of Health – Developmental Disabilities Supports Division (DDSD) is excited to announce the New Mexico Family Supports and Reimbursement Program, which is geared up to start at the beginning of 2020. The purpose of this program is to provide access to funding for a variety of services, supports, and goods for individuals and/or their families who are on the DDW waitlist and who are not eligible for Medicaid services. There is a Program Overview and Information sheet which is located on our DDSD website under State General Funded Services which provides more detailed information about what the program can offer. Updates will be coming when the application will be available.

EMPLOYMENT SUCCESS STORY

Christine Hurd

Submitted by:
Casey Stone-Romero, DDSD Statewide Employment Lead

Christine Hurd is a 47-Year-old African American Female who lives in Hobbs, New Mexico. Christine indicated she is someone who has come a long way. "I'm someone who can achieve anything if I put my mind to it. I've accomplished a lot by keeping my job at Hampton Inn & Suites and by representing Leaders when I'm out in public. I was recently informed by my employer that I have been working at my job for 15 years. I work on Tuesdays and Wednesdays from 6:30am - 11:30am."

"My day at work typically begins by me clocking in. I then clean the lobby area, restrooms, and the elevators. Some of my job duties are sweeping, mopping, and vacuuming. I then take some time to enjoy me a Hot Tea during my work shift. I sometimes help out with breakfast by making smoothies for guests, setting out breakfast items, and helping put away food products when the food delivery truck comes. At times I will help answer phones at the Front Desk.

Her Independent Living Staff Rose wanted to let people know that "Christine is always willing to help out and will never say "No" when she is asked to take on extra shifts at work or when called upon".

Christine says when I have to help out with breakfast, I will come in earlier around 6am and stay later until around 1pm. When asked about what job skills are required for her job she indicated, that she has to arrive ready to work. It takes having good communication and organizational skills. "I greet my hotel guests and co-workers so that they will feel welcome", she says. "It takes a lot physically to be able to do my job. It was hard at one time due to being a diabetic and having Neuropathy but I overcame this because I had a job to do."

Christine stated that her favorite part about her job is being able to meet new and different people. She also mentioned that she really loves her co-workers. Her biggest reward and accomplishment is how long she has worked for Hampton Inn. She mentioned that she has accomplished a lot and is proud of being able to do her job without assistance. She stated, "It's a rewarding feeling to me." I have a wonderful team at work and also at Leaders in which they stand behind me. When asked about what part of her job would surprise people who never worked in hospitality or hotels, she said "it's not an easy job with having to deal with so many different guest personalities". It takes being able to have good communication when talking to new people. It's not for everybody as some people think its easy but then they don't show up for work. Christine has made lasting relationships with her co-workers and has a friend named "Margarita" in the Laundry Department who has worked there the same amount of years as she has.

Christine says she has worked many different positions at Hampton which consist of answering phones at the front desk, worked in the laundry room, worked in the lobby, and says she is basically a "Floater" who knows how



everything works. Christine says that sometimes it is challenging at work when its busy. She said that its usually busy for spring break, when schools out, or when there's sports teams staying at the hotel because them sports teams "eat a lot of food".

When asked about what challenges she has faced while working and what has motivated her to overcome her challenges she stated, "showing people I can do the job and having confidence in myself and showing people I can do something when given the chance". When asked about what working independently on the job means to her she said, "just being able to do what I enjoy doing and not having someone there to tell me what to do". She then says, "I'm very outspoken and if I have a problem I will talk to my boss. I will not let people take advantage of me". She says that she had a job coach during her 1st year being employed and has been independent ever since. Christine doesn't have any paid employment supports by Leaders and is proud of the fact she is able to work alone.

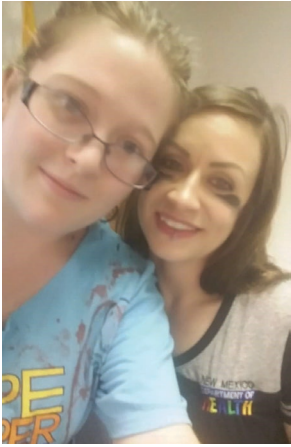
Christine says she has received many acknowledgments by her co-workers in which they always tell her everyday she works that they are happy that she still works here. Christine said she received a Certificate for her 10 Years of Services which was accompanied by a \$250 Gift Card. She wanted to let people know that you can accomplish anything you put your mind to and giving the effort to prove your abilities. She said her mom used to tell her this saying, "You can't judge a book by its cover, because every page is different. You can't judge a person by a look or their appearance, as that person can be smarter than people think they are when given the chance".

Christine was asked to tell people something about herself that people may not know about her in which she responded, "How much I've changed from when I was a younger person to who I am now as I'm a much better person now than before". Christine is proud that she is her own Guardian and likes to give recognition and thanks to those who have supported her and says she is very grateful for them to be in her life.

DOH/DDSD EMPLOYEE OF THE QUARTER

Chris Faggion

Submitted by:
Marc Kolman, DDSD Deputy Director



Chris is an extremely dedicated employee that goes above and beyond in all that she does. Chris is a team player who is always willing to help out when there is a need. Chris is passionate about the work that she does and supports individuals to be independent and to advocate for themselves and others. She works tirelessly in promoting disability awareness and the importance of listening to self-advocates and using their voices to direct our services. Over the years, Chris has encouraged and promoted individuals in the SE Region to join

the People First Organization. Chris has done a tremendous job in building capacity with People First as well as the Self Advocacy Conferences so the Self Advocates are actively involved in coordinating and running the events. Chris' passion for self advocacy is evident as reflected in the growth of the People First Organization growing to over 300 members!!!

From Matt Heady, People First Advocate: "What can I say that already hasn't been said - she's kind, sweet, caring and very strong and a pleasure to work with. The work she has done in the advocacy field has been groundbreaking and I am proud to have her as a partner and friend. She is a fine example of what a state employee should be."

Chris was awarded Employee of the Quarter in the Developmental Disabilities Supports Division in September by DOH Secretary Kathyleen Kunkel.

ABOUT US

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Santa Fe, New Mexico 87502-6110.
Our website: www.nmhealth.org

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Assistant Editor: Lisa Storti
Layout: André Walker

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.

NEW HIRES

Submitted by:
Joe Anaya, DDSD Human Resources

Jennifer Roth, Social & Community Service
Coordinator-A, October 19, 2019, Community
Programs Bureau

David Chavez, Social & Community Service
coordinator-B,
October 04, 2019, Bureau of Behavior Supports

Gloria Collins, Registered Nurse-A,
October 05, 2019, Albuquerque

Marie Sanders, Registered Nurse-A,
October 05, 2019, Roswell

Kathy Phoenix-Doyle, A/O 1 Family Infant Toddler
Program Manager
November 02, 2019

Brandi Rede, Social & Community Service
Coordinator-O,
October 05, 2019, Intake & Eligibility, Las Cruces

Crystal Rodriguez, Social & Community Service
Coordinator-O,
October 19, 2019, Las Cruces

Robin Evans, Social & Community Service
Coordinator-O,
October 05, 2019, Taos

Julie Pierce, Legal Support Worker-Supervisor,
October 21, 2019, Albuquerque

Whashin Lee, Mortality Review Registered Nurse-A,
November 16, 2019, Albuquerque

Laria Conde, Social & Community Service
Coordinator-O,
November 16, 2019, Roswell

Michelle Herrera, Administrative Services Coordinator-B,
November 16, 2019, Santa Fe

Angela Aragon, Healthcare Surveyor-O,
November 30, 2019, Albuquerque

Britney Mascarenas, Legal Support Worker AO-A,
November 30, 2019, Albuquerque

Magdelyn Montoya, Social & Community Service
Coordinator-O,
November 30, 2019, Taos

April Armijo, Registered Nurse-A,
November 30, 2019, Gallup

2019 NATIONAL HOME & COMMUNITY BASED SERVICES CONFERENCE

National Association Of States United for Aging and Disabilities (NASUAD)

Submitted by:
Jennifer Rodriguez, Community Programs Bureau Chief

The National Association of States United for Aging and Disabilities (NASUAD) annually showcases visionary leadership, the advancement of state systems innovation, and highlights emerging policies that support home and community based services (HCBS) for older adults and individuals with disabilities. The HCBS Conference provides an opportunity for state agency representatives, federal partners, advocates, providers and beneficiaries to engage in conversations and learn from each other.

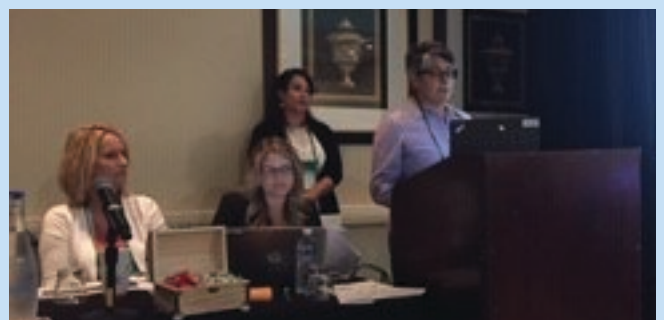
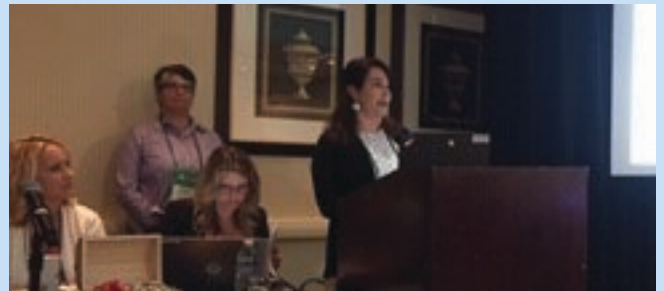
Roberta Duran, Deputy Director, and Jennifer Rodriguez, Community Programs Bureau Chief, were invited to present with Public Consulting Group (PCG) at the conference. Roberta and Jennifer presented with Lora McCurdy, Deputy Director of the Illinois Department on Aging, Barbara Ramsey, former Director of the Colorado Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities Division, and Sarah Salisbury, Senior Consultant with PCG on "Rate Re-basing: Turning a Sometimes Painful Process into a Data Treasure Trove." The session included an interactive poll with audience members related to their experiences with rate re-basing, background information on rate re-basing from PCG and panelist perspectives on rate re-basing. The presentation focused on thinking outside of the box and recognizing that rates do matter, but better outcomes for individuals and their families are the ultimate goal. PCG described how this is done by:

- Making visioning and strategic planning part of the process;
- Emphasizing the importance of participation and why it matters;
- Being creative with data analysis to achieve policy goals;
- Using data to inform innovation; and
- Taking the fear out of data by understanding the data and using it.

New Mexico, Illinois and Colorado shared examples of data that is routinely collected, their most painful and positive aspects of the rate re-basing process, overall lessons learned, examples of data used to inform system innovation and change, and their biggest surprise moment from the data collection process. The session concluded with a group activity that identified underutilized data that is currently being collected by states, identification of data gaps and how it could be captured through a rate study process and a discussion on what rate setting data could be leveraged to inform policy decisions and innovation.

DDSD concluded their comprehensive rate study with PCG on June 30, 2019.

Photos: Jenn Rodriguez and Roberta Duran of DDSD



ELECTRONIC VISIT VERIFICATION UPDATE

Submitted by:
Marc Kolman, Deputy Director

Electronic visit verification was created to help cut down on fraud and ensure that people receive the documented care they need. EVV was designed to help verify that services billed for home healthcare are for actual visits made. The passing of the Affordable Care Act signed into law in 2010 made provisions to cut down fraud and over-payments, requiring states to stop Medicaid payments to providers when there is credible evidence of fraud. At least 10 states implemented an office of inspector general to oversee Medicaid fraud investigations, with many moving towards a system of verifying home healthcare visits in order to help reduce fraud. Several states have introduced electronic visit verification with some mandating it for home healthcare. In January 2014, Illinois became the first state to mandate the use of EVV when the Department of Human Services required it for its home services program. (source: Wikipedia)

Beginning in January 2020, New Mexico will use EVV for the following services in the DD and Mi Via Waiver programs:

DD Waiver Services Requiring EVV

- Customized In Home Supports (S5215 HB & S5215 HB UA)
- Respite (T1005, T1005 HB, T1005 U1, T1005 HB HQ)

Mi Via Waiver Services Requiring EVV

- Homemaker (99509 & 99509 E)
- In Home Living Supports (T2033 & T2033 E)
- Respite Standard (T1005 SD & T1005 SD E)

What EVV Does and Does Not Do?

- EVV does not restrict individuals from participating in activities in which they choose to participate. For example, EVV does not require an individual to stay at home.

- EVV systems are designed with the ability to collect data in rural areas that do not have internet connectivity (e.g., no-tech zones) by recording and storing the information and uploading it when the individual enters an area with connectivity.
- VV data may also be documented using a landline phone.
- We envision an EVV system that is flexible and adaptable to changes in employee schedules, accommodates limited internet access, is mobile, and is user-friendly and intuitive to use.

EVV Stakeholder Group

DDSD convenes a monthly EVV Stakeholder Group to develop plans for EVV implementation and address needs for communication to the field. The group includes self-advocates, service providers and members of both DDSD and the Human Services Department. Contact Marc Kolman at marc.kolman@state.nm.us if you are interested in working with this group.

For More Information:

Extensive information is available from the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) available at: <https://www.medicaid.gov/medicaid/hcbs/guidance/electronic-visit-verification/index.html>.

You can also see Wikipedia at https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Electronic_visit_verification.



2019 MOBILITY AND ASSISTIVE TECHNOLOGY CONFERENCE

Submitted by:
Betsy Finley, Chief, Clinical Services Bureau

The 2019 Mobility & Assistive Technology Conference, hosted by the NM Department of Health-Specialty Seating Clinic in conjunction with Albuquerque Public Schools, was held on October 28-29, 2019. This Conference offered a unique learning opportunity for Therapists and Assistive Technology Professionals from across the state. Attendance was at an all-time high this year with 160 people learning about everything from basic wheelchair adjustments to mobility solutions for individuals with more complex needs.

Mary Beth Schubauer and Scott Hubbard, Clinical Services Bureau Physical Therapy consultants, were the conference organizers. Dr. Antoinette Benton from UNM Family Practice gave the plenary presentation focusing on the

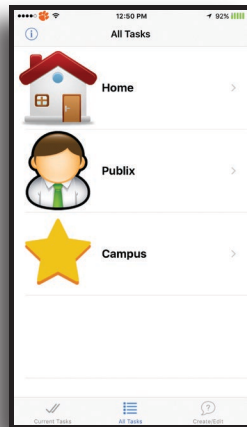
medical importance of positioning and the critical communication needed between physicians and therapists for wheelchair prescriptions.

We have received very positive feedback about the schedule, location, and sessions, along with many great suggestions for the future. If you or someone you know would like to propose a presentation for future years, please let us know! We are already looking at possible dates for next year's conference and hoping to make it bigger and better. Thank you to all who attended, to our sponsors and exhibitors, to the presenters, and to all the volunteers who helped to make the conference such a great success!

ASSISTIVE TECHNOLOGY RESOURCES

Submitted by:
Casey Stone-Romero, Community Inclusion Manager

Smartphones, tablets and computers rule our lives! Below are two helpful apps to support independent living and completion of task analysis.



TaskAnalysisLife APP by Clemson Life

Available for Apple Users and it is free.

- a. Helps individuals to complete a task
- b. Breaks down the tasks into manageable steps
- c. If you are at work - it populates work related tasks
- d. If you are at home - it populates home related tasks

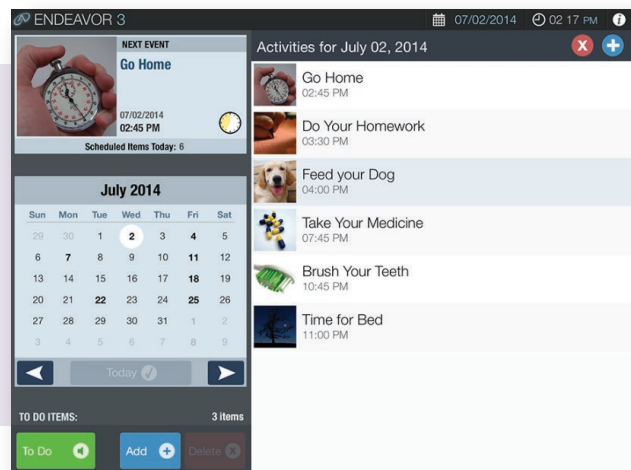
<http://clemsonlife.org/TaskAnalysis/>
<http://clemsonlife.org/TaskAnalysis/Tutorials/>

Endeavor 3 APP

Available in Apple Store or Google Play for \$100.

It provides individuals with cognitive disabilities who have difficulty remembering as it helps you to know when to perform key activities such as taking medication, turning appliances off, getting to meetings or appointments, as well as doing work tasks - other routine or non-routine activities of daily living.

Apps helps to perform independently and on time.



For more information on how assistive technology can help you in employment and/or day services contact the Community Inclusion Team. Casey Stone-Romero, casey.stone-romero@state.nm.us or Casilda Gallegos, casilda.gallegos@state.nm.us.

CALL FOR PRESENTERS - MAY 27-29

Reaching New Heights in Supported Employment Conference

Submitted by:
Casey Stone-Romero, Statewide Employment Lead

Partners for Employment is looking for dynamic speakers to present on topics related to competitive and integrated employment of persons with intellectual and developmental disabilities.

This year, we will be combining our School-to-Work Transition Conference and Leadership Summit into one annual statewide conference at the beautiful Hyatt Tamaya Resort on May 27- 29, 2020. If you or someone you know would like to be considered as a presenter, click the link below for the presenter application.

The theme of this year's conference is "Reaching New Heights in Supported Employment" and we are looking for local and national subject matter experts to present on innovative and effective approaches to supporting individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities to find and keep meaningful jobs in their communities.

The goal of the conference is to present information on School-to-Work Transition, Innovative Practices in Supported Employment, and Leadership and Management. Our audience will include staff who are new to the supported employment field, professionals who

work with young adults who are transitioning from school-to-work, and supported employment managers and directors.

There will be three tracks and presentations will range from 1 to 1.5 hours per presentation. In your application, please provide a summary of your proposed presentation, indicate the track your topic falls under and the length of time for your topic.

Topics:

- School-to-Work Transition
- Innovative Practices in Supported Employment
- Leadership and Management

Presentation Length:

- 1 hour
- 1.5 hours

The deadline to apply is November 22, 2019. We look forward to receiving your applications! For more information or if you have any questions, contact Carrie Roberts at cnroberts@salud.unm.edu.

THANK YOU LETTER

Submitted by:
Jacoba Viljoen, Aspiration Nurse, Clinical Services Bureau



NAVAJO ELEMENTARY
2936 Hughes Rd SW,
Albuquerque, NM 87105
(505) 873-8512 Fax (505) 873-8513

Sarah A. Garcia, Principal

September 10, 2019

Dear New Mexico Department of Health,

On behalf of the students and staff at Navajo Elementary School, it is my pleasure to thank you for your generous donation of school supplies. With your assistance, we are able to make sure every classroom has enough supplies. The contribution you made is evidence of your belief in quality education for our children and for that we are truly grateful. Thank you so very much for all you do for our students and community.

Sarah Garcia
Principal
Navajo Elementary School

Athena Samora
Community School Coordinator
Navajo Elementary School
athena.samora@aps.edu