



NEW RULES MEAN BIG CHANGES

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What's a Medicaid Waiver?

- There are many different kinds of waivers that work in different ways.
- Helps keep people out of “institutional” or “segregated” programs and homes.
- Gives the state a way to get back about half the money spent on services.
- Helps people stay in their communities.
- Helps people get “real” jobs.

The Bottom Line?

The Home and Community-Based Services (HCBS) Waiver helps people with disabilities live the same lives as people without disabilities.

What are the New HCBS Rules?

- Person-Centered Planning for all.
- More choices.
- More independence.
- Protects everyone's rights.
- Makes group homes more like typical homes.
- Jobs that pay at least the minimum wage (Competitive Integrated Employment).

Let's Talk About "Settings"

- A "setting" can be where you go during the day, where you work or volunteer, or where you live.
- A day program is a "setting."
- Your apartment or house is a "setting."
- The place you work is a "setting."

New Rules for “Settings”

- No “institutions.”
- No nursing homes.
- No large facilities where lots of people live together.
- No “workshops” where lots of people work together and make less than minimum wage.
- No hospitals.

New Settings

- Must be “Community-Based.”
- Must be something you choose.
- Must help you get a job that pays at least the minimum wage if that’s what you want.
- Must give you more choice and control.

What will Change?

If you live in a group home...

- You must have a key to the house.
- You can have your own room if that works best for you and be able to lock your door.
- You can have visitors when you want.
- You can go anywhere in the house as long as it's safe.
- You are a “tenant” not a “resident.”

What will Change?

If you want to work...

- The people that help you have to try to find you a job that pays at least the minimum wage.
- The place you work can't be just for people with disabilities.

Questions

- Will I have to move from my group home if the owner doesn't follow the rules?

No. The owner has until March 17, 2022 to make changes so they don't break any of the new rules. After that they will have to do things differently if they don't want to break the rules.

Questions (cont'd)

- Will my workshop be closed because only people with disabilities work there and everyone makes less than the minimum wage?

No. Workshops will also have until March 17, 2022 to make changes so that they don't break any of the new rules. After that they will have to do things differently if they don't want to break the rules.

Questions (cont'd)

- I live at home with my family. Do we have to follow the new rules?

No. Family homes are community-based and don't break any rules.

Self-Determination: The Other Waiver

- Self-Determination has its own waiver just for people in the Self-Determination Program.
- Self-Determination gives people control of the money set aside to pay for their services.
- Self-Determination gives people more Authority, Support, Freedom and Responsibility.

The Self-Determination Waiver

- Must be approved by the federal government before Self-Determination can start.
- Once approved, Self-Determination will be made available to 2,500 people statewide for 3 years.
- After that, Self-Determination will be made available to anyone who wants it.

Both Waivers...

- Have rules that say everyone must have a **Person-Centered Plan.**
- Give the state a way to get back about half the money spent on services.
- Will help people with disabilities live the same life as people without disabilities.
- Will lead to big changes for people with disabilities, family members and the people who are paid to help them.

What's a Person-Centered Plan?

- It takes as long as needed.
- Anyone you want can be on your team.
- It's all about you and how you want to live your life.
- It's about all the things you can do.
- It's not about all the things you can't do.
- Everything you and your team talk about at the meeting goes into your IPP.
- It's fun - "A party with a purpose."

Online Resources

- The HCBS Advocacy California webpage:
<https://hcbsadvocacy.org/state-re>
- The Department of Developmental Services (DDS) HCBS Waiver webpage:
<http://www.dds.ca.gov/waiver/index.cfm>
- The DDS Self-Determination webpage:
<http://www.dds.ca.gov/SDP/>

Questions?