



DIRECT CONNECTION

*Current news from the Missouri Division of
Developmental Disabilities to keep you informed*

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MISSION ACCOMPLISHED

Partnership for Hope Waiver

The Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services has approved the expansion of the Partnership for Hope Waiver. As of February 25, there are 393 participants in the waiver. The waiver is now available in 74 counties and can serve up to 970 people this year. Participating counties include Adair, Audrain, Barton, Benton, Boone, Buchanan, Caldwell, Callaway, Camden, Cedar, Clark, Clay, Clinton, Cole, Cooper, Crawford, Dade, Dallas, DeKalb, Dent, Franklin, Gasconade, Gentry, Greene, Harrison, Henry, Hickory, Holt, Howard, Howell, Jackson, Jasper, Jefferson, Johnson, Knox, Lafayette, Lawrence, Lewis, Lincoln, Linn, Livingston, Macon, Maries, Marion, McDonald, Mercer, Miller, Moniteau, Monroe, Montgomery, Newton, Osage, Ozark, Pettis, Phelps, Pike, Platte, Putnam, Ralls, Ray, Saline, Schuyler, Scotland, St. Charles, St. Francois, St. Louis City, Shelby, Stone, St. Clair, Sullivan, Taney, Vernon, Washington, and Worth. A map of participating counties is attached. New counties may be added through formal amendment when those County Boards vote to participate in the waiver. The amendment process from start to finish may take 3-6 months, including the state's preparation time, review and approval through DMH, DSS and the Governor's Office, and time required for review by and discussion with CMS. The process may take longer when CMS has substantive questions. The next amendment of the Partnership Waiver is tentatively planned for summer, 2011 if additional counties wish to join.

IN FULL SWING

Workgroup Update

Several workgroups are meeting to discuss changes to current practices. Items for discussion include:

- >review of the frequency of provider reviews from annually to every three years;
- >changing the submission of the Uniform Cost Report from annually to every three years, in any format currently used by the provider.
- >Utilizing existing data from Nationally Accredited providers sent electronically in lieu of face-to-face visits.

IN DEVELOPMENT

Waiver Renewal

The Home and Community Based Waiver for Autism will be due for renewal before June of 2012. As part of the renewal process the state is required to submit a report to CMS in March demonstrating effective quality management and improvement strategies. The report describes how the state identifies and prevents incidents of abuse, neglect and exploitation, assures that all people served by the waiver meet ICF DD level of care, demonstrates fiscal accountability, and how the state assures all providers meet required standards and are regularly monitored. The division will seek public input on the waiver reapplication beginning in late summer, 2011. More details about the waiver reapplication and opportunities for public input will be forthcoming.

BRIGHT IDEAS

Power Point

The Division has developed a power point presentation entitled “Moving the System Forward in Difficult Times” to describe **who** is the Division, major events over the past 4 years, and thoughts for the future. The link to the presentation is <http://dmh.mo.gov/dd/> under What’s New.

RESOURCES

PARTNERSHIP FOR HOPE WAIVER SUMMARY

Eligibility Criteria (Required to Serve Adults & Children)

- Person is eligible for Missouri Medicaid;
- Person’s needs can be met with current community support system and waiver services not to exceed an annual cost of \$12,000;
- Person meets ICF/MR level of Care;
- Person resides in a participating county; and
- Person meets crisis or priority criteria.

Crisis and Priority Criteria

When slots are limited, persons whose needs fall into one of the 3 categories under ‘Crisis’ will be served first. If more than one person’s need falls into one of the 3 categories under ‘Crisis’, the person waiting the longest is served first. If no one waiting meets crisis categories of need, then the person waiting the longest who meets criteria under ‘Priority’ will be identified and will be served first.

Crisis

- Health and safety conditions pose a serious risk of immediate harm or death to the individual or others;
- Loss of primary caregiver support or change in caregiver’s status to the extent the caregiver can’t meet needs of the individual; or
- Abuse, neglect or exploitation of the individual.

Priority

- The individual's circumstances or conditions necessitate substantial accommodation that cannot be reasonably provided by the individual's primary caregiver;
- The person has exhausted both their educational and VR benefits or they are not eligible for VR benefits and they have a need for pre-employment or employment services;
- Individual has been receiving supports (other than case management) from local funding for 3 months or more and the services are still needed and the service can be covered by the waiver. Refinancing; or
- Person living in a non-Medicaid funded residential care facility chooses to transition to the community and has been determined to be capable of residing in a less restrictive environment with access to Prevention Waiver Services.

Services:

Day Habilitation	Personal Assistant
Temporary Residential	Behavior Therapy
Behavior Analysis Services	Community Specialist
Personal Emergency Response System	Occupational Therapy
Speech Therapy	Physical Therapy
Transportation	Dental
Specialized Medical Equipment & Supplies	Environmental Accessibility Adaptations
Supported Employment	Support Broker
Career Preparation	Professional Assessment and Monitoring

Annual Service Cap

Annual total waiver service cost per participant cannot exceed \$12,000.

Advocacy Specialists

The Department of Mental Health (DMH), Division of DD, employs self-advocates in each regional office who work either full or part-time providing training for self-advocates, families, disability professionals and service providers. Advocates also participate in other regional office quality enhancement functions. Each advocacy specialist is linked with a mentor who provides support on a regular basis as needed.

Activities include:

- Training in areas such as abuse and neglect, self determination, human rights, people first language, disability specific presentations such as autism and spinal bifida.
- Promoting the creation of People First chapters and supporting PF activities of existing chapters.
- National Core Indicator and SAFE Surveys
- Creation of a Speakers Bureau

Additional information including a listing of advocacy specialists and highlights of special activities may be found at: <http://dmh.mo.gov/dd/Advocacyspecialists.htm>.

