

Issue Brief – DSPD Mandated Waiver Services

DIVISION OF SERVICES FOR PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES

NUMBERDHS-08-08

HOME AND COMMUNITY BASED WAIVER SERVICES

The Division of Services for People with Disabilities (DSPD) is requesting funding to provide additional services under the three Medicaid waiver programs they administer. DSPD is requesting an appropriation of \$4,039,700 with \$1,200,000 from General Funds and \$2,839,700 from federal Medicaid funds for FY 2008.

OBJECTIVE

DSPD strives to enhance the quality of life for individuals with disabilities and their families through services that allow them to remain in the least restrictive environment possible.

DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS

DSPD in the Department of Human Services under the State Medicaid plan has an interagency agreement with the Department of Health to act as the operating agency to administer the Home and Community-based Services Waiver (HCBS) services in a home setting. DSPD under the State Medicaid Plan administers three waiver programs: 1) Mentally Retarded/Related Conditions (MR/RC) Waiver; 2) Acquired Brain Injury (ABI) Waiver; and 3) Physical Disability Waiver. Medicaid waiver programs are exceptions to the regular Medicaid State Plan allowing states more flexibility than the regular State Medicaid Plan. Waiver programs must be cost neutral or less expensive than institutional placement. Once an individual is accepted in the waiver program, Medicaid requires DSPD to provide additional services as needed. If the Division cannot meet the health and safety needs of the clients already in the waiver program, the results could be a loss of Federal Financial Participation (FFP) in the amount of \$78 million.

The waiver programs under DSPD provide a variety of services to allow individuals to remain in less restrictive environments like their home, group homes, or assisted living apartments rather than institutions. Some of the services provided are respite care, supported employment, behavior consultant, day services (day care), transportation, companion services, and equipment or modifications for the home or vehicle like ramps, lifts, etc. DSPD is projecting 286 individuals already in service will need about 369 additional services in FY 2008 as shown in the following table:

Waiver Service	Count	FY 2008 DSPD Additional Waiver Services Needed		Description
		Cost per Service (General Funds Only)	General Funds Requested	
Intensive 24-hour Living Support	2	\$25,265.50	\$50,531	Intensive residential services in host homes, supervised apartments or supported living.
Routine 24-hour Community Living Support	51	\$13,483.14	\$687,640	Intermittent residential services in host homes, supervised apartments or supported living.
Day Services	58	\$1,732.59	\$100,490	These programs take place in the community or in a workshop and are designed to maintain skills in post-school years and provide work opportunities.
Family Support	27	\$1,195.37	\$32,275	Provides families services that enable them to care for their children with disabilities at home. These services are provided through contract providers or by staff hired directly by the parents.
Host Home	1	\$8,220.00	\$8,220	
Transportation or Professional Services	81	\$305.73	\$24,764	Provides transportation for people with disabilities to travel from their homes to day programs, jobs, and other activities.
Personal Services	1	\$2,646.00	\$2,646	
Professional Parent Homes	6	\$10,644.50	\$63,867	These are family homes in which one or two children with disabilities live with 24-hour support in a very intensive therapeutic family arrangement.
Respite Care	67	\$804.88	\$53,927	Gives regular caregivers a break on a short-term basis
Hourly Supported Employment Services	24	\$1,859.54	\$44,629	Helps pay wages for persons who require assistance on the job
Hourly Supported Living Services	51	\$2,757.78	\$140,647	Persons with disabilities live independently in their own homes or apartments and receive periodic assistance and training with money management and other skill necessary for independent living.
Total	369		\$1,209,636	

Note: There are 286 individuals requiring additional services. An individual may need more than one service which is why the count does not tie to the number of individuals

Non-lapsing Authority

DSPD statutorily has non-lapsing authority (UCA 62A-5-102 (7)). In the past, DSPD has used non-lapsing funds and attrition (savings from individuals who have a reduction in services or who leave the waiver program) for the Home and Community Based Waiver Program, emergency services, children aging out of state custody, or individuals ordered by the court into services. The agency has projected that current non-lapsing funds will be depleted during FY 2007 leaving only attrition to provide emergency services, children aging out of state custody or individuals ordered by the court into services. The funding request is to cover the cost of additional services needed for individuals already in the waiver program.

RECOMMENDATION

It is the recommendation of the Analyst that the Subcommittee appropriate of \$4,039,700 with \$1,200,000 from General Funds and \$2,839,700 from federal Medicaid funds for FY 2008 for the Division of Services for People with Disabilities' additional waiver services.