

Increase in New Choice Waiver Billing Rates

Request for Appropriation

Deliverables / Performance Measures

Background:

Until last year, people with intellectual and developmental disabilities (ID/DD) only had two options when they applied for services: receiving them in an Intermediate Care Facility (ICF) or in their homes and communities. Utah offers immediate placement in ICFs, but applicants must wait for years on a list for home and community based services (otherwise known as HCBS, waiver or DSPD services). For those individuals who must receive services immediately because they cannot remain on a waiting list for years, private ICFs were the only option. Once a person is living in a private ICF, he or she effectively did not have the option to leave the ICF and receive services in the community.

During the 2019 Legislative Session, the DLC worked very hard, along with DOH and DSPD, to get approval and funding for a settlement allowing for a pathway out of an ICF or improved care within the ICF. There were four specific funding requests: (1) funding to move a portion of the 250 individuals from their ICF to the community, (2) a limited supports waiver that would allow more individuals to receive services in their community to help prevent institutionalization, (3) increased funding for ICFs if they made quality improvements so that individuals who choose to remain in ICFs live a better, more comfortable life, and (4) nursing services for those in the community to help ensure individuals in the community could have their needs met.

This request allows those with ID/DD the ability to move from an ICF in order to live in an integrated community setting with the proper service provision at rates that cover the cost of the services.

Deliverables:

Reduce state costs by allowing individuals to move out of nursing facilities and into home and community based settings. Average annual costs are as follows:

Nursing home	\$70k
New Choice Waiver participant	\$25k
Serve in home	\$10k

Performance Measure:

Number of additional service providers willing to provide services under the New Choice Waiver service delivery model. **This will improve access to less expensive services in a community based setting.**

DSPD / New Choice Waiver Service Code Comparison

Service Code Description	Division of Services for People with Disabilities (DSPD)	New Choice Waiver	Columbus Cost/Hr	New Choice Waiver
Residential Services in Group Homes and Apartment units referred to as RHS under DSPD code. Compared to <u>Habilitative Services (HCPS Code# T2017) under New Choice Waiver code.</u>	\$75.00 - \$289.00 per day based on level of Supervision Average daily fee is \$153.35 see note comparing DSPD SLH code	\$22.65 Per Hour	\$27.89 Per Hour	Note if you compare this to the DSPD Supported Living Code (SLH) that unit fee based on a unit being 15 minutes is \$7.31 which translates to \$29.24 per hour. If you compare the DSPD Supported Living Rate (SLH) with the Attendent Care Services there is a difference of \$6.59 per hour which reflects a 22.5% difference between these two rate codes.
Supported Living (SLH) under DSPD code. Compared to <u>Attendent Care Services (HCPSC Code# S5125) under New Choice Waiver code</u>	\$7.31 per 15 minute unit of services - translates to \$29.24 per hour	\$4.77 per 15 minute unit of service translates to \$19.08 per hour	\$27.89 Per Hour \$6.98 per 15 minutes	The difference between these two codes are \$10.16 per hour which reflects a 35% difference.
Supported Living (SLH) under DSPD code. Compared to <u>Homemaker Services (HCPSC Code# S5130) under New Choice Waiver code.</u>	\$7.31 per 15 minute unit of services - translates to \$29.24 per hour	\$19.85 per hour	\$27.89 Per Hour \$6.98 per 15 minutes	The difference between these two codes are \$9.39 per hour which reflects a 32% difference.
Personal Budget Assistance referred to PBA under DSPD Code. Referred to as <u>Personal Budget Assistance (HCPCS# H0038) under New Choice Waiver code.</u>	\$7.24 per 15 minutes	\$4.72 per 15 minutes	\$27.89 Per Hour \$6.98 per 15 minutes	The difference between these two codes are \$2.25 per 15 minute unit which reflects a 31% difference.
Transportation referred to MTP under DSPD code and <u>Non-Medical Mileage Per mile (HCPCS# S0215) under New Choice Waiver code.</u>	\$16.60 per day which translates to providing client 2 trips per day.	\$37.66 per day	Varies	The difference between these two codes are \$21.06 per day which reflects a 56% difference. This is the only New Choice Waiver rate that is higher than the DSPD comparable rate.