



Overnight therapeutic camping

State of Utah
Division of Services for People with Disabilities
October 1, 2023

To: Social Services Appropriation Subcommittee
From: Angie Pinna, Director
Subject: Overnight therapeutic camping

Purpose

2023 General Session, Senate Bill 7 Item 111

"The Legislature intends that the Department of Health and Human Services report to the Social Services Appropriations Subcommittees by October 1, 2023 on (1) how the cost of regular services for Medicaid clients on the Community Supports Waiver compare to the cost of overnight therapeutic camping for the same number of days and (2) explore cost neutral options to offer overnight therapeutic camping to more clients on other waivers."

Executive summary

Therapeutic camping services are part of a wide array of services that individuals on the Community Supports Waiver use to meet their health and safety needs. This report provides a comparison of the daily cost of therapeutic camping services in comparison to the cost of regular services. Additional appropriations would be needed to offer overnight therapeutic camping to clients on other waivers.

Report

How the cost of regular services for Medicaid clients on the Community Supports Waiver compare to the cost of overnight therapeutic camping for the same number of days.

Individuals on the Community Supports Waiver have a wide array of services, including overnight therapeutic camping services, that can be used to make sure their health and safety needs are met. Individuals attending an overnight therapeutic camping program may be replacing the respite, supported living, day supports, or residential services they would otherwise be receiving. Overnight therapeutic camping services are offered as a group service. Many of the other services are one-on-one services, making it hard to provide a direct comparison. Outlined below is a description, including rates, of each of these services.

Overnight therapeutic camping services provide services to persons to give relief to, or during the absence of, the person's regular caregiver. Services are generally offered at a camp facility or in the community. Support is generally provided in a group setting with one staff person for up to six participants. The daily rate, which provides support up to 24 hours, is \$251.33.

Respite services provide either hourly or overnight support to persons to give relief to, or during the absence of, the person's regular caregiver. Service can be offered in either the individual's private residence or at a facility. Daily respite services at a provider facility are \$110 - \$150 a day, depending on the person's needs. This rate often makes it challenging for persons to find providers willing to provide respite services. If provided in an individual's private residence as part of a self-administered services (SAS) model, overnight respite services covering 10 hours of support cost \$199 a day.

Supported living services provide one-on-one support, supervision, skills building, and assistance for individuals to live independently. Supported living is generally offered for 8 hours or less a day and is not used overnight when individuals are sleeping. The cost for 8 hours of supported living is \$199 through the SAS model and \$293.12 through the provider model.

Day support services provide safe, non-residential habilitation services to prevent isolation of persons while providing daily support, supervision and skills building. Day support programs support the person's choice of participating in and contributing to their community. Day support services typically provide support to groups of persons. The rate for day supports generally covers 6 hours of support and varies by individual based on their health and safety needs. From June 1, 2023 through August 31, 2023, the range for day support services was \$35.40-\$242.70, with the average daily rate of \$114.34.

Residential Habilitation Supports provide skilled residential assistance that supports a person to live as independently and self-determined a life as possible, in a setting that is integrated in their community. The rate for residential habilitation supports generally covers 18-24 hours of support and varies by individual based on their health and safety needs. From June 1, 2023 through August 31, 2023, the range for residential habilitation supports was \$78.00-\$592.29, with the average daily rate of \$270.16.

Host Home Supports provide a community integrated, shared living setting with a host family providing support and services to adult persons in a certified private home. The rate for host home support generally covers 18-24 hours of support and varies by individual based on their health and safety needs. From June 1, 2023 through August 31, 2023, the range for host home support was \$90.66-\$372.92, with the average daily rate of \$225.32.

Professional Parent Supports provide a community integrated residential setting in the home of a professional parent family providing support and services to persons below the age of 22. The rate for host home support generally covers 18-24 hours of support and varies by individual based on their health and safety needs. From June 1, 2023 through August 31, 2023, the range for professional parent support was \$113.30-\$359.26, with the average daily rate of \$226.15.

Average rate summary

Service	Hours per day	Daily rate
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Overnight therapeutic camp	Up to 24 hours	\$251.33
Provider-based respite	Up to 24 hours	\$110-\$150
Self-administered services respite	Hourly Rate	\$19.92/hour
Provider-based supported living	Hourly Rate	\$36.64/hour
Self-administered services supported living	Hourly Rate	\$24.92/hour
Day Supports Services	6 hours	Avg. \$114.34
Residential Habilitation Supports	18-24 hours	Avg. \$270.16
Host Home Supports	18-24 hours	Avg. \$225.32
Professional Parent Supports	18-24 hours	Avg. \$226.15

Explore cost-neutral options to offer overnight therapeutic camping to more clients on other waivers.

If services are expanded or added in any of the 1915(c) waiver programs, Medicaid policy mandates that all individuals who participate in the waiver be afforded access to the services which they have an assessed need to receive. If overnight therapeutic camping was added to programs such as the Medically Complex Children's Waiver or the Technology Dependent Waiver, it would not be possible to complete this in a cost-neutral fashion. For example, participants on the Medically Complex Children's Waiver (MCCW) have access to 13 hours of respite per month with a monthly cost ranging from \$276.44- \$775.32. This would only cover 1-3 days of therapeutic camping services at the current rate. It would be reasonably expected that nearly all new service provision would be new expenditure and require additional appropriations to provide these options.