

# Medicaid Updates

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# Overview

- ▶ Hope and Opportunities in Many Environments (HOME) Waiver Redesign Project
- ▶ Transition from SIS-A to interRAI-ID
- ▶ CMS site visit the week of August 12, 2024

# Hope and Opportunity in Many Environment (HOME)

HCBS Waiver Redesign






Health and  
Human Services

# Current HCBS System

## Challenges

## Recommendations

<p>1</p>  <p><b>Waitlists are not timely, efficient or needs-based</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Develop a single waitlist that allows Iowa HHS to understand needs and prioritize waiver slots</li></ul>
<p>2</p>  <p><b>Services do not align with Iowan's needs</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Transition to a waiver system that is need-based, person-centered and equitable</li><li>• Expand service offerings to address the whole person</li><li>• Use tiered budget levels to more efficiently use limited funds</li></ul>
<p>3</p>  <p><b>Services and supports are difficult to navigate and access</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Develop a system that is easier to understand and navigate</li><li>• Use blended provider networks to maximize capacity</li></ul>

# HOME Guiding Principles



Equitable  
access



High quality  
service



Coordinated  
systems



Proven  
valuable  
services

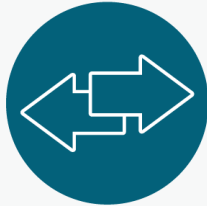


Effective and  
accountable  
system

# Proposed Waiver Redesign

Supporting families, serving individuals across the lifespan, and serving individuals in the living situation that works best for them and their families.

1



## Change from 7 waivers to 2, age-based waivers

Waiver 1: Children and Youth (ages 0 to 20)  
Waiver 2: Adult and Aging (ages 21 and older)

2



## Offer comprehensive service packages

Include formal and informal supports that meet the needs of Iowans across their lifespan

3



## Develop “tiered” budgets

Allocate resources for eligible individuals based on their needs



# Change from 7 waivers to 2 age-based waivers

CURRENT HCBS WAIVERS (2024)

WAIVER	GROUPS SERVED	AGES SERVED
Elderly	Aging	65+
Intellectual Disability	Intellectual Disability	0+
Brain Injury	Brain Injury	0+
AIDS/HIV	AIDS/HIV	0+
Health & Disability	Physical disability; blind or disabled	0-64
Physical Disability	Physical disability; blind or disabled	18-64
Children's Mental Health	Serious emotional disturbance (SED)	0-17



PROPOSED WAIVER REDESIGN (2025/2026)

WAIVER	GROUPS SERVED	AGES SERVED
Children & Youth	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Intellectual disability</li> <li>Brain injury</li> <li>AIDS/HIV</li> <li>Physical disability, including blindness</li> <li>SED</li> <li>Developmental Disabilities <b>NEW</b></li> </ul>	0-20
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Intellectual disability</li> <li>Brain injury</li> <li>AIDS/HIV</li> <li>Physical disability, including blindness</li> <li>Aging</li> <li>Developmental Disabilities <b>NEW</b></li> </ul>	21+

# Waitlist Management

Current Waitlist	Future Waitlist
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Some people apply for multiple waivers and stay on the waitlists for long periods without receiving adequate services to meet their needs</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• An assessment and prioritization system would ensure those with the highest needs can access services in a timely fashion</li><li>• People with lower assessed needs may be placed on a waitlist, and receive navigation services to connect them with services and supports during this time</li></ul>



# Children & Youth Waiver

## Daily Activities and Care

- Home-Delivered Meals
- Medical Day Care for Children
- Respite
- Supported Community Living
- Transportation

## Help with Health Needs

- Positive Behavioral Support and Consultation
- Family and Community Support Service

## Equipment and Modifications

- Assistive Devices
- Enabling Technology for Remote Support
- Home and Vehicle Modifications
- Personal Emergency Response Services

## Day Services

- Day Habilitation
- Prevocational Services
- Supported Employment

## Residential Services and Supports

- Residential-Based Supported Community Living

## Self-Direction Supports

- Financial Management Service
- Independent Support Broker
- Individual Directed Goods and Services

## Other Services

- **Community Transition Services**
- **Crisis Planning and Support**
- **Peer Mentoring**

# Adult & Aging Waiver

## Daily Activities and Care

- Attendant Care (skilled & unskilled)
- Companion\*
- Home-Delivered Meals
- Home Health Aide
- Home Maintenance Support\*

## Help with Health Needs

- Positive Behavioral Support and Consultation
- Family Training
- Interim Medical Monitoring and Treatment
- Nursing
- Nutritional Counseling

## Equipment and Modifications

- Assistive Devices
- Enabling Technology for Remote Support
- Home and Vehicle Modifications
- Personal Emergency Response Services
- Specialized Medical Equipment

## Day Services

- Adult Day Health
- Day Habilitation
- Prevocational Services
- Supported Employment

## Residential Services and Supports

- Assisted Living
- Supported Community Living

## Self-Direction Supports

- Financial Management Service
- Independent Support Broker
- Individual Directed Goods and Services

## Other Services

- Respite
- **Community Transition Services**
- **Crisis Planning and Support**
- **Peer Mentoring**
- Transportation

# Develop “tiered” budgets

- ▶ A universal assessment would assess every individual’s needs and result in a level of need score.
- ▶ The score, plus other factors such as age or living arrangements, would set the monthly budget for waiver services.
- ▶ The approach would ensure Iowans receive services they need in an efficient and cost-effective way.

# Proposed timeline for waiver redesign



*\*Timeline contingent upon ongoing support from the IA legislature and federal review, support, and approval*

# Transition from SIS-A to interRAI-ID

# Transition from SIS-A to interRAI-ID

- ▶ The Iowa Intellectual Disabilities (ID) waiver uses the Supports Intensity Scale- Adult Version (SIS-A) version 1.0 to identify the supports Iowans need to live independently in the community.
- ▶ AAIDD will retire the first edition in mid-2024 but provided Iowa HHS an additional 6 months to use the tool. Iowa HHS is required to discontinue use of the first edition by December 31, 2024.
- ▶ Starting in January 2025, Iowa HHS will use the interRAI Intellectual Disabilities (interRAI-ID) assessment for adult members on the ID waiver.
- ▶ During this transition, members will be placed in the same tier they had from the SIS-A assessment. .

# Transition from SIS-C to interRAI-CHYMH-DD

- ▶ The Iowa Intellectual Disabilities (ID) waiver uses the Supports Intensity Scale- Children's Version (SIS-C) to identify the supports children need to live and thrive in the community.
- ▶ To align with the adult transition to interRAI-ID, Iowa HHS has decided to also transition from the SIS-C to the interRAI Child and Youth Mental Health and Developmental Disability (interRAI-ChYMH-DD) assessment tool for children.
- ▶ Starting January 1, 2025, Iowa HHS will use the interRAI ChYMH-DD assessment for child members on the ID waiver.



# Conducting a parallel assessment

- ▶ To make the transition, Iowa HHS needs to use the SIS and interRAI data from the same person during the same time period, to compare the results of the both assessments.
- ▶ This is why we call it a “parallel assessment.”
- ▶ The letter to members call this an “optional assessment.” Members may refuse to participate in the assessment or may end the assessment any time after it is started.

# Parallel assessment of eligible members

If the member...	Next action
Had an off-year assessment (OYA) in April or May 2024 that <b>indicated no change</b> from the last full SIS-A or SIS-C	Member is eligible* to participate in the parallel assessment and take the interRAI-ID or ChYMH-DD
Had an off-year assessment (OYA) in April or May 2024 that <b>indicated a change</b> from the last full SIS-A or SIS-C	Member is NOT eligible to participate in the parallel assessment

- ▶ Eligible members will be asked to participate in an interRAI assessment in June 2024 that can be compared to a previous SIS assessment. They are not required to participate.

# CMS Iowa Site Visit

# CMS Iowa Site Visit

- ▶ CMS plans to conduct a site visit in Iowa the week of August 12, 2024.
- ▶ The goal of the CMS site visit is to:
  - Assess implementation of the settings criteria throughout the state's home and community-based services (HCBS) systems.
  - Assess settings previously identified as requiring heightened scrutiny review or other settings identified by the state or stakeholders as necessitating third-party review.
  - Assist the state with establishing reliable ongoing monitoring processes across residential and non-residential settings.
  - Evaluate if the state's case management and person-centered planning processes are supporting implementation of the HCBS settings criteria.

# CMS Iowa Site Visit

- CMS will conduct interviews with:
  - Case Managers
  - Medicaid staff as related to operations of settings compliance
- At settings visits, CMS will:
  - Review Person-Centered Service Plans
  - Review Residency/Lease Agreements
  - Review training materials used by providers related to HCBS Settings
  - Tour the state selected setting
  - Converse with individuals receiving HCBS in the setting
  - Converse with Direct Support Staff



# Resources

## Medicaid HCBS Waiver Program Information Page:

<https://hhs.iowa.gov/programs/welcome-iowa-medicaid/iowa-medicaid-programs/hcbs>

- Waiver Information Packets
- HCBS Waiver applications and amendments
- 1915(i) HCBS Habilitation State Plan Amendment
- HCBS Program Information
  - waitlist, service comparison, process flow for applications and enrollment
- HCBS Provider Information
  - Enrollment, manuals, contacts, HCBS Specialists, LTSS Program Managers
- IoWANS access request (Case Managers)

## Home and Community-Based Services (HCBS) Waivers Program Page

<https://hhs.iowa.gov/programs/welcome-iowa-medicaid/policies-rules-and-regulations/home-and-community-based-services-hcbs-waivers-program>

- HCBS Member Information
  - Applying for HCBS, Find a HCBS provider,
- HCBS Provider Information
  - Applying , HCBS Specialist, HCBS Settings, HCBS Quality Oversight, CNRS Quality Oversight, Contacts
- Service Information
- HCBS Resources

# Questions

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