



HOME Project Updates

July 18, 2024

Waiver Redesign

Concept paper feedback

Summary of waiver redesign feedback

The concept paper was shared publicly in April 2024 and took in feedback through the end of May.

Most feedback to the proposed changes to the HCBS waiver system fell in one of three buckets.

- ▶ Change from seven diagnosis-based waivers to two age-based waivers
- ▶ Offer comprehensive service packages
- ▶ Develop “individualized budgets”



Seven waivers → two waivers

Many appreciated streamlining the waivers and hope this process will be clearer, less labor intensive, and reduce paperwork burden.

Iowans liked the concept of waivers being needs based and suited to an individual and their family's need instead of their diagnosis.

Iowans worry about the transition from the child to adult waiver. Worries include needing to reapply and ending up on another waitlist, disrupted service, and need to change providers or case managers.

Some Iowans expressed concern about differences between the child and adult waivers. They would like the child waiver to include services like nursing, nutritional counseling, specialized medical equipment coverage, CDAC services and home health aides.

Offer comprehensive service packages

Iowans would like access to more services and worry about losing current services.

Some Iowans expressed that the quality of case management has decreased since MCOs have been directing it. They note high caseloads, turnover, lack of training, and perceived conflict of interest when the MCO does the assessment and service planning.

Iowans expressed concern that the waiver redesign will not address lack of funding and provider shortages.

Iowans noted that the waitlists are too long. They hope they will decrease and worry they will get longer.

Develop “individualized budgets”

Iowans would like more information on the single assessment tool, how it will be used to determine funding levels, and if there will be an appeals process.

Some Iowans worry that the assessment will not be individualized enough and wonder if certain diagnosis could be exempt from burdensome re-assessment.

Some Iowans worry that people with lower assessed needs who have already been on long waitlists won't receive the care they need. They also worry that the elderly will end up on a waitlist.

Continued engagement needs



Iowans would like **sustained and detailed communication** about the changes.



Iowans worry about potential disruptiveness from the transition and would like to see a **transition plan and timeline.**



Iowans would like to know how people currently on waivers would **transition** to the new waivers.



Providers would like more info about **training and application requirements.**

What's next

Public comment period on waiver application

- ❖ Materials will be posted to HHS's site
- ❖ There will be instructions on how to share your feedback
- ❖ HHS will convene listening sessions

Questions

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Health and
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