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**An Introduction to Understanding
Colorado Home and Community Based Services (HCBS) Waivers:
*Developmental Disability (DD) Waiver***

This presentation is an introductory presentation in understanding the HCBS- Developmental Disability Waiver in Colorado. We have done our best to ensure accuracy of the information you are about to hear as of July 2016.

The Arc Arapahoe & Douglas is providing this video as a public service to families, you need to decide if this is right for you.

The Arc Arapahoe & Douglas is a private, non-profit, membership organization that exists to better the lives of people with developmental disabilities and their families. We are not a government agency. We provide advocacy, information, education and support to people with intellectual disabilities and their families.

Objectives

- Criteria for the HCBS-DD waiver
- Person Centered Thinking- Who Is Your Son or Daughter?
- Services available through the DD Waiver
- How to apply?
- Funding & the Supports Intensity Scale (SIS)
- Figuring out the Budget
- Next Steps

Developmental Disabilities (DD) aka Residential or Comp

The Waiver for Persons with Developmental Disabilities provides people with developmental disabilities services and supports that allow them to continue living in the community.

For more information, please visit:

<https://www.colorado.gov/pacific/hcpf/developmental-disabilities-waiver-dd>

Criteria for HCBS-DD

To qualify for the DD waiver, you or the person applying must:

- Be 18 or older.
- Need extensive supports to live safely, including access to 24-hour supervision, and do not have other resources to meet those needs.
- Meet the medical criteria:
 - Residing in or at risk of residing in an Intermediate Care Facility for Individuals with Intellectual Disabilities (ICF/IID).
 - Determined to have a developmental disability.
- Meet the financial Criteria:
 - Income must be 300% the Supplemental Security Income allowance per month.
 - Countable resources less than \$2,000 for a single person or \$3,000 for a couple.

Who is your son or daughter?

- What does your son or daughter want to do/accomplish?
- What services do they need to get there?
- Can they be left alone in the home?
- What will they do during the day - can they do any of this alone?
- Which services on this waiver will enhance their quality of life?

Who is your son or daughter?

- If your son or daughter cannot spend any time alone, how will they be supervised/cared for if the waiver can't cover all hours when parents or natural supports are unavailable or working?
- If your son or daughter has a hard time expressing their preferences, what experiences would be helpful for people to observe to guess on preferences?
- Think about environments-- are busy noisy environments good? bad?
- Does your son or daughter thrive with predictable routines and schedules or do they like surprises and novelty?

Who is your son or daughter?

- What about medical needs? Allergies, skilled nursing care, stamina, activity levels?
- What about sensory issues? Lighting, noise, temperature, colors, etc.
- What about mental health needs? Are behavioral services needed?
- Does your son or daughter have a strong work ethic?
- Do they like to be busy?
- Does your son or daughter like to help other people or animals?

Services Available*

- Behavioral services
 - Day habilitation (specialized day, community access)
 - Dental (in addition to what is found in Medicaid state plan)
 - Non-medical Transportation
 - Prevocational services
 - Residential habilitation (24 hour individual or group)
 - Specialized medical equipment and supplies
 - Supported employment
 - Vision (in addition to what is found in Medicaid state plan)
- * Waiver services are additional services not included in Medicaid state plan. If a similar benefit exists, like vision or dental, the waiver services adds additional money/ value.

How to Apply?

- To apply, families and individuals should contact their local Community Centered Board (CCB). A CCB is the single entry point for the I/DD system and all offer case management, as well as a variety of additional services. These services include: intake, eligibility determinations, enrollment, coordination, etc. For a complete list of CCBs in Colorado, please visit:
<https://www.colorado.gov/pacific/hcpf/community-centered-boards>
- Once an individual has been determined eligible for the waiver based on the targeting criteria, your CCB will offer them a waiver resource and conduct an assessment known as the Supports Intensity Scale to determine the level of support needed.

Funding & the SIS

- Once your son or daughter is offered a waiver resource, they will need to go through an assessment call the Supports Intensity Scale (SIS).
- The Arc Arapahoe & Douglas Counties conducted a workshop in 2014 on this assessment and the information and recording can be found here:
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KSb0un7e7_Y
- This is an evidence-based, norm referenced tool that was developed by AAIDD to measure the levels of supports that people with I/DD need to live like typical adults in the community.
- CO has chosen to use this tool to determine rates for services provided through the SLS and HCBS-DD waivers.
- CO has chosen to use this tool to determine rates in the adult I/DD waivers (SLS and DD).

Figuring out the Budget

- What is your SIS Level?
- Your SIS level will determine the rates paid to providers. The higher your SIS score, the higher the rates.
- How many hours of service can you get?
- Can part of the needed services be covered through Medicaid State Plan Home Health? This is only for rehabilitation and possibly Private Duty Nursing.
 - If an individual receives skills nursing care, caregivers should seek to understand what will change after the child ages onto the adult waivers.
- Does the person already have a place to live?

Next Steps

- *This is an starting point.* We've intentionally presented the information in a slow, deliberate and conversational manner so that it can sink in. This is a complicated system and you are not alone in trying to understand it.
- *Sign up for our Weekly Update.* As we put more videos and presentations online, it allows us to offer more in-depth presentations in person. Check out our calendar and sign up for a workshop that can explore these waivers in a more in-depth manner and help you make decisions about which one might be best for your loved on.
- *Contact us!* We are here to help. We offer community education classes and individual advocacy for the lifespan. We want to support you and your family on this journey.