



D·B·H·D·D

Community Access Group

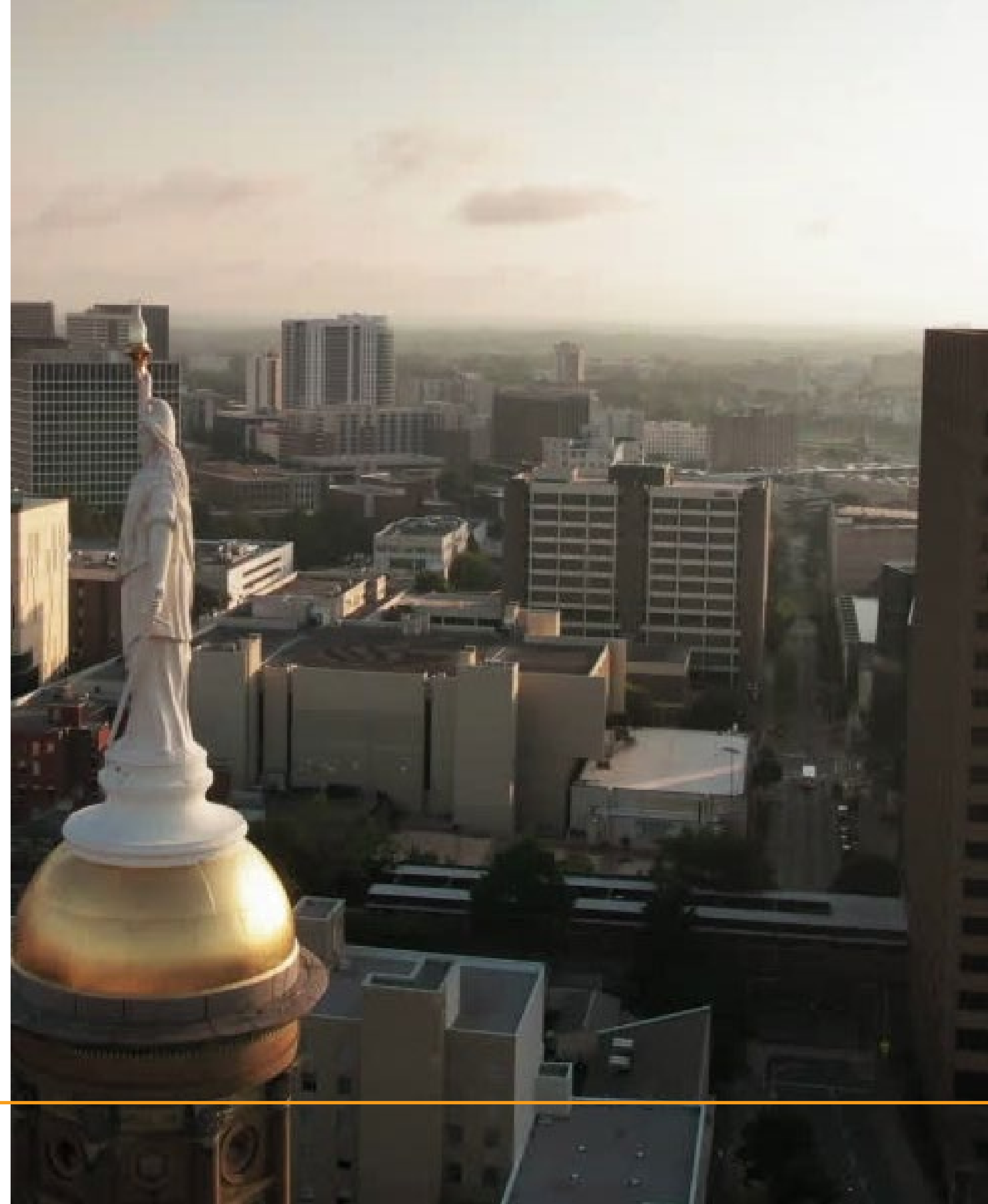
Community Based Services Implementation &
Technical Assistance Preview with Engage Now

Ron Singleton

DD Budget Manager

Christine Gudgin

Community Life Engagement Manager





August 18, 2025



Post Rate Study Provider Training: Community Access- Group (CAG) Services

- presented by -

DBHDD Division of
Developmental Disabilities

Key Tips to Remember

#1

Community Based rates are determined by Rate Categories.

The Facility Based Service rate is \$3.65 per 15-minute unit, for all Categories.

#2

The annual unit limit was increased to 6,000 units per year. This does include Pre Vocational Services. It does not include Community Access Individual Services. See Policy 02-444 regarding the service changes.

#3

Please be sure to document hours billed for Facility and Community Based CAG Services.



Current Criteria for Levels and Rate Categories

CAG-Community Rate Category	Level	Supports Intensity Scale		
		Support Needs Index	Section 1A (Medical)	Section 1B (Behavioral)
Category 1	1	86 or Less	Less Than 5	Less Than 5
Category 2	2	87 to 102	Less Than 5	Less Than 5
Category 3	3	102 or Less	5 to 6 in Either Section or Verified Supplemental Questions (SQ)	
	4	103 to 115	Less Than 7	Less Than 7
Category 4	5	116 or Greater	Less Than 7	Less Than 7
	6	Any	7 or Greater or Verified SQs	Less Than 7
	7	Any	Any	7 or Greater or Verified SQs

Community Access-Group Payment Rates

Setting	Rate Category	Current Rate per 15 Min.	Proposed Rate per 15 Min.	Final Rate per 15 Min.	Final Code
Facility	1	\$3.65	\$2.20	\$3.65	T2025-HQ
Facility	2	\$3.65	\$2.66	\$3.65	T2025-HQ
Facility	3	\$3.65	\$3.61	\$3.65	T2025-HQ
Facility	4	\$3.65	\$4.55	\$3.65	T2025-HQ
Community	1	\$3.65	\$3.13	\$3.65	T2025-HQ-U1
Community	2	\$3.65	\$3.73	\$4.18	T2025-HQ-U2
Community	3	\$3.65	\$4.68	\$5.23	T2025-HQ-U3
Community	4	\$3.65	\$6.66	\$7.42	T2025-HQ-U4

***Community Based Services include additional billing modifier (U7).**

Manual Updates by DBHDD Field Offices



Georgia
Department of
Behavioral Health
& Developmental
Disabilities

All Individual Service Plans (ISPs) and applicable Prior Authorizations, dating back to **September 1, 2025**, will be updated, upon the request of the CAG providers. This will include updates for both case management systems; IDD Connects and Therap.

DBHDD will not mandate that all PAs be updated. We will honor a provider's request to opt out of retroactive updates.



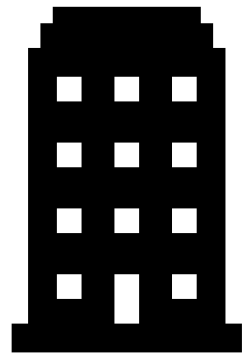
IDDConnects



Therap®

Annual Units (Hours) Distribution: Facility & Community

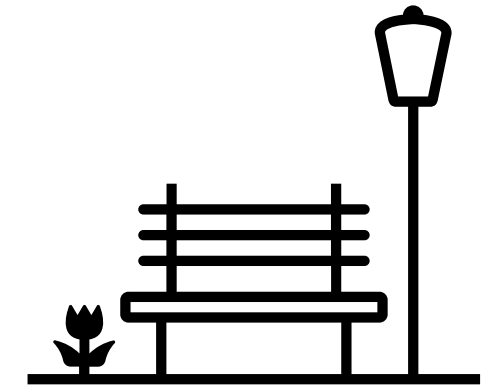
Facility



Annual Units

5,760

Community



80% of Annual Units

4,608

**Provider Assistance
Needed**



20% of Annual Units

1,152

Previous and Current ISPs/PAs



Georgia
Department of
Behavioral Health
& Developmental
Disabilities

Please provide, in writing, a request to the DBHDD field office of your desire to have an existing or previous Prior Authorization updated to including a billable service line for Community Access-Community Based services.

Please include the following items below in your request.

**Individual's
Last Name**

**Individual's
County of
Residence**

**Individual's
CID Number**

**CAG
Distribution
Percentage**

Upcoming ISP Renewals



Georgia
Department of
Behavioral Health
& Developmental
Disabilities

During the initial NOW or COMP ISP meeting or the annual ISP renewal meeting, please provide the Planning List Administrator/Support Coordinator/Intensive Support Coordinator/State Support Coordinator with a distribution percentage for CAG Services. The DBHDD Field Office will apply this percentage to each service line.

**CAG
Distribution
Percentage**

***Note: This is a temporary process.**

IDD Connects ISP (Service Summary)



The current and/or previous ISP will be manually updated to include an additional service line for Community Based CAG.

Service Summary

Refresh

Status

Assessment Level

Modified Date

Date Completed

In-Progress

5

10/15/2024

07/15/2025

		Service Description	PA Approved	Detailed Service Description	
1	☐	Community Access		Community Access - Group	
2	☐	Community Access		CAG – Community – Category 4	

1

10

Remove Service

Add New Service

Minimum FTF Visit Frequency

Monthly

IDD Connects Prior Authorization



Georgia
Department of
Behavioral Health
& Developmental
Disabilities

The Prior Authorization (PA) will contain the billable Procedure Code(s).
***Rates aren't visible within IDD Connects.**

Detailed Service Description ⌵	Procedure Code	Units ⌵	Start Date	End Date
Community Access - Group	T2025-HQ	2080	09/01/2025	08/31/2026
CAG - Community - Category 4	T2025-HQ-U4-U7	2080	09/01/2025	08/31/2026

Therap Pre Auth (Prior Authorization)



Georgia
Department of
Behavioral Health
& Developmental
Disabilities

The current and/or previous ISP and Pre Auth will be manually updated to include an additional service line for Community Based CAG.

Pre Auth(s)

Form ID	Program	Service	Service Provider	Service From Date	Service To Date	Service Amount	Unit of Measure	Frequency	Total Units	Rate Amount(\$)	Total Amount(\$)	Status
EXAMPLE-DBHDDGA-THERAP SERVICE LINE	COMP - Comprehensive Support Waiver Program	CAG - Community Access - Group - Facility	GA012XXX - THE DAY PROGRAM, INC. (MEDICAID NUMBER: 000111222A) (123 GROUP HOME ST, ATLANTA, GA 30000-1234)	07/01/2026	06/30/2027	20	Hour	Weekly	4160	\$3.65	\$15,184.00	Approved
EXAMPLE-DBHDDGA-THERAP SERVICE LINE	COMP - Comprehensive Support Waiver Program	CC1 - CAG - Community - Category 4	GA012XXX - THE DAY PROGRAM, INC. (MEDICAID NUMBER: 000111222A) (123 GROUP HOME ST, ATLANTA, GA 30000-1234)	07/01/2026	06/30/2027	5	Hour	Weekly	1040	\$7.42	\$7,716.80	Approved

Therap Pre Auth Sub Service(s)



Pre Auth Sub Services contain the Service Code and Service Rate.

Sub Service(s)

Service Code	Service Name	Service Rate
T2025-HQ	Community Access - Group - Facility	\$3.65

Sub Service(s)

Service Code	Service Name	Service Rate
T2025-HQ-U4-U7	CAG - Community- Category 4	\$7.42

Therap Pre Auth: Coming Soon!

Community Access Group will be authorized as a single service. DBHDD will use the ‘**Total Units**’ and Community Based ‘**Rate Amount(\$)**’ to determine the ‘Total Amount(\$)’.

Pre Auth(s)												
Form ID	Program	Service	Service Provider	Service From Date	Service To Date	Service Amount	Unit of Measure	Frequency	Total Units	Rate Amount(\$)	Total Amount(\$)	Status
EXAMPLE-DBHDDGA-THERAP SERVICE LINE	COMP - Comprehensive Support Waiver Program	CF4 - Community Access - Group - Category 4	GA012XXX - THE DAY PROGRAM, INC. (MEDICAID NUMBER: 000111222A) (123 GROUP HOME ST, ATLANTA, GA 30000-1234)	07/01/2026	06/30/2027	30	Hour	Weekly	6000	\$7.42	\$44,520.00	Approved

Therap Pre Auth Sub Service(s): Coming Soon!



Georgia
Department of
Behavioral Health
& Developmental
Disabilities

Community Access Group will be authorized as a single service but will allow for the billing of both applicable Service Codes.

Sub Service(s)		
Service Code	Service Name	Service Rate
T2025-HQ-U4-U6	CAG-Facility-Category 4	\$3.65
T2025-HQ-U4-U7	CAG-Community-Category 4	\$7.42

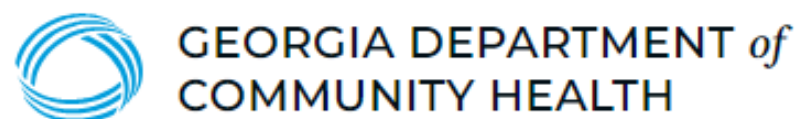
Guidance and Troubleshooting for Billing & Claims



Georgia
Department of
Behavioral Health
& Developmental
Disabilities

If you have any questions regarding the billing process or experience billing difficulties with NOW and/or COMP services, please be sure to reach out to your Gainwell Representative for assistance. Information and guidance for contact information can be found at:

<https://www.mmis.georgia.gov>



Gainwell Technologies is the fiscal agent for Georgia Medicaid and PeachCare for Kids®.



Georgia
Department of
Behavioral Health
& Developmental
Disabilities

Due to the volume of Prior
Authorizations currently in place,
please be patient throughout this
process.

COMMUNITY ACCESS TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE



Georgia
Department of
Behavioral Health
& Developmental
Disabilities



ENGAGE NOW GEORGIA!



Georgia
Department of
Behavioral Health
& Developmental
Disabilities

To support the provider network and ensure that the people of Georgia are receiving the highest quality of services and supports, DBHDD, in partnership with the University of Georgia and others, is embarking on a two year long technical assistance project for all our community facilitated service providers starting in late July-August 2026.



1

David Ralston Center for Behavioral
Health and Developmental Disabilities:
University of GA (Lead)

2

Institute for Community Inclusion (ICI):
University of Mass Boston

3

National Association of State Directors of
Developmental Disabilities Services
(NASDDDS)



Townhall Kickoff Events in each DBHDD Region

- Facilitation of fears and concerns
- Expression of what DBHDD's vision for services
- General information concerning policy, implementation, rates, etc
- Break out groups to identify tangible training needs
- Series of training webinars covering requested topics and concerns
- Quarterly Parent/Self Advocate Training (virtual)
- **Registration will be coming out next week for these sessions.**
 - **Each venue will be capped at 100 participants**
 - **No more than 2 representatives from a single provider agency**
 - **Please attend the session associated with your Region**

Regional Townhall Kickoff Events

Region 1: July 21, Clarence Brown Conference Center, Cartersville

Region 2: July 28, Middle Georgia College, Macon

Region 3: July 23, Douglasville Conference Center, Douglasville

Region 4: August 3, UGA Tifton Conference Center, Tifton

Region 5: July 30, Hilton Garden Inn Midtown, Savannah

Region 6: August 5, Columbus Trade Center, Columbus

Project Highlights:

- Intensive Provider development for 6 providers (virtual/in-person)
 - Technical Assistance partners would help to guide transformation by identifying the selected programs strengths, areas of support, policy (both state and federal), and make sure interventions align with evidence-based and best practices.
 - Selected transformational providers would receive support from Mentor Providers in Georgia on how to deliver high quality organic community engagement services
 - There will be an application process for this level of support; at least one provider per DBHDD region
 - There will be an information session held **July 15, 2026, at 10:00am**
 - See the **Special Bulletin that went out June 10, 2026**, for application information and registration for information session link.

CLE in Action Community of Practice

The CLE in Action CoP is a virtual group where organizations will come together to share ideas and resources about helping people with IDD to meaningfully participate in their communities.

Sign up to [apply for the CLE in Action Community of Practice here.](#)

The deadline for applications is **July 10, 2026.**

Questions? Email Staci.Jones@umb.edu



D·B·H·D·D

Questions?

Christine Gudgin
Community Life Engagement Manager

Christine.Gudgin@dbhdd.ga.gov

