

Georgia Department of Behavioral Health & Developmental Disabilities

# **BE** D·B·H·D·D

**BE COMPASSIONATE** 

**BE** PREPARED

**BE RESPECTFUL** 

**BE PROFESSIONAL** 

**BE CARING** 

**BE EXCEPTIONAL** 

**BE INSPIRED** 

**BE ENGAGED** 

**BE ACCOUNTABLE** 

**BE INFORMED** 

**BE FLEXIBLE** 

**BE HOPEFUL** 

**BE CONNECTED** 

BE D·B·H·D·D

Meeting:		DBHDD IDD Provider Meetings
Dates/Locations:	Nov 12th -UGA Tifton Campus Conf Center - 15 R D C Rd, Tifton, GA 31794 Nov 13th-Anderson Conference Center - 5171 Eisenhower Pkwy. Ste. D, Macon, GA 31206 Nov 14th - Douglasville Conference Center - 6700 Church St, Douglasville, GA 30134	
Торіс	Time	Presenter
Opening Welcome	9:00 am- 9:20am	Ron Wakefield, Division Director, DBHDD
Understanding the HCBS Settings Rule	9:20am- 9:50am	Shandria Beasley, HCBS Waiver Supervisor/ NOW/COMP Lead, DCH
The Settings Rule / Best Practices / Mitigating Risk	9:50am- 10:20am	Robert Bell, Director – Community Services, DBHDD Nancy Overs-Ikard, GA Project Director, Qlarant
NOW & COMP Waiver Rate Increase Update New Service Updates	10:20am- 10:50am	Ronald Singleton, Budget Manager, DBHDD
Supported Employment News and Notes	10:50am- 11:00am	Christine Gudgin, Supported Employment Manager, DBHDD
OHW Policy Update and Information for Independent Reviewer Visits OHW Provider Announcements	11:00am- 11:30am	Shannon Smith, Director – OHW Nursing Services, DBHDD Karen Cawthorn, OHW Project Manager, Office of Health and Wellness, DBHDD
Regional Field Office Breakouts	11:30am- 12:00pm	Lead by relevant Regional Field Office
All Audience Provider Q/A	12:00pm- 12:30pm	All DBHDD staff – responding to written questions from audience



Georgia Department of Behavioral Health & Developmental Disabilities Opening Welcome & Updates Ron Wakefield, IDD Division Director DBHDD



# UNDERSTANDING THE HCBS SETTINGS RULE

Shandria Beasley

NOW/COMP Supervisor Medical Assistance Plans/DCH

Date:11/12/2025

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**Our Purpose** 

Shaping the future of *A Healthy Georgia* by improving access and ensuring quality to strengthen the communities we serve.



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# Overview of the HCBS Settings Rule





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## Georgia HCBS Settings Rule

- Definition and Purpose of the HCBS Settings Rule
  - Established by Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS)
  - Implemented and Monitored by DCH
- Key Objectives of the Rule
  - Full access to the benefits of community living
  - Provided services in the most integrated settings
    - Avoid isolation
    - Promote involvement and integration
    - Engagement in community life
    - Control personal resources
    - Receive services wit h same access as non-Medicaid HCBS citizens



Owner Departments



## **REGULATORY AND POLICY DRIVERS**



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Key Components HCBS Settings Rule





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## THE HCBS SETTINGS RULE





# **COMPLIANCE IS MANDATORY**





#### **Definition and Importance**





Steps for Implementing Person-Centered Planning





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Updates

Goals and

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## A COORDINATED EFFORT



#### CARE **COORDINATORS**

- Facilitate Communication and Collaboration
- **Ensure Consistency** and Quality of Services

#### PROVIDERS

- **Delivering Services**
- **Environment meets HCBS Standards**

# HCBS SETTINGS RULE



## COMPLIANCE = A COORDINATED EFFORT



INDIVIDUAL'S GOALS, CHOICES & PREFERENCES - EXPLORED -EVALUATED -UPDATED DOCUMENTED IN ISP

ACCESS TO SERVICES TRANSPORTATION TO ACTIVITIES REGULAR EVALUATIONS AND UPDATES – ISP ISP REFLECTS EVOLVING NEEDS & PREFERENCES PLAN INCLUDES GOALS

Slide #



# MAINTAINING A COMPLIANT CARE PLAN



#### A DOCUMENTED COORDINATED EFFORT BY ALL

#### PERSON-CENTERED

My Needs My Goals My Choices

#### SERVICES PROVIDED

Goal – A Job Services – Job Coaching Transportation Volunteering/Paid Emp.

#### MODIFICATIONS

Accommodations Implemented Changes to reflect changing needs

#### **RE-EVALUATION**

Must be current Regular Updates Documented and evident in Staff Awareness and Member Experience

#### SIGNED CONSENT

Aust reflect coordination nd required written Consent



- Assessment of needs and preferences
- Specific goals and outcomes
- Detailed service provisions

• Regular reviews and updates





### Best practices from successful providers

- Encouraging Community Integration
- Enhancing Privacy and Personalization
- Supporting Autonomy and Choice
- Promoting Employment and Volunteering
- Facilitating Personal Relationships





- Non-Compliance Example 1: Outdated care plan
- Non-Compliance Example 2: Inadequate documentation
- Non-Compliance Example 3: Restricting access to food
- Non-Compliance Example 4: Lack of privacy in personal care







## Remediation Strategies

- Remediation Example 1: Ensuring access to food at all times
- Remediation Example 2: Providing private spaces for personal care





- Overview of individual rights under the HCBS Settings Rule
- Privacy requirements
- Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)







Q1: Can we restrict access to food for individuals with IDD to manage their dietary needs?

Q2: Are we allowed to lock the doors to individual rooms for safety reasons?

Q3: How do we handle situations where an individual wants to choose their roommate?

Q4: Can we implement a curfew for individuals in our residential setting?



Q5: What should we do if an individual with IDD requests privacy during personal care activities?

Q6: How can we support individuals in making informed choices about their services and supports?

Q7: Can we modify the additional conditions for certain individuals based on assessed needs?

Q8: What measures should we take to ensure privacy in shared living units.

Q9: How should we handle situations where individuals want to date and have their date/ visit their bedrooms?



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- Specific requirements for residential settings
  - 1. Legally enforceable agreement/lease
  - 2. Privacy and Security
  - 3. Personalization of Living Space
  - 4. Access and Control
  - 5. Visitation Rights
- Examples and best practices
  - Establish clear policies
  - Involve individuals in decisions
  - Regular reviews and updates







- Requirements for non-residential settings
- Best practices for community access and inclusion





- Requirements for Community Integration
  - Same Opportunities to participate in community life as others
  - Access to Employment
  - Access to Education
  - Access to Recreational/Social Activities
- Examples of integrated settings
  - Workplaces
  - Community Centers
  - Social Clubs





- Ensuring dignity and respect in service delivery
- Avoiding coercion and restraint





• Managing personal finances

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• Ensuring access to personal funds





# TRAINING REQUIREMENTS - PROVIDERS



Training must be conducted regularly, at least annually, when changes to regulation and policy need to be operationalized.

Providers must maintain accurate and current documentation of all required training policies, training schedules and completed trainings.





## MONITORING AND COMPLIANCE

- Monitoring mechanisms for compliance
  - Regular audits and reviews
  - Provider self-assessments
  - Desktop reviews
  - On-Site Visits
  - Member surveys
- Consequences of non-compliance
  - Penalties
  - Loss of Funding
  - Disenrollment



## **HCBS** Provider Survey



Georgia Department of Community Health (DCH) is rolling out an assessment to ensure that Home and Community-Based Services (HCBS) providers are adhering to Person-Centered Planning principles across various service settings. This assessment will cover a range of services, including:

- Adult Day Health
- Alternative Living Services
- Community Access Group
- Community Residential Alternative
  - Pre-Vocational Services
  - Supported Employment Group
- Out-of-Home Respite Care Services





# THANK YOU! QUESTIONS / COMMENTS?



# IDD Provider Meeting The Settings Rule/Best Practices

# **BED·B·H·D·D**

Georgia Department of Behavioral Health & Developmental Disabilities

Robert Bell Director of Community Services



November 2024

"Easy access to high-quality care that leads to a life of independence and recovery for the people we serve."

~DBHDD Vision

# Introduction

What is the HCBS Settings Rule? DBHDD and the Division of IDD are committed to the HCBS Settings Rule, which is a set of regulations that aim to ensure that people with disabilities receive the care and support they need in the most integrated setting possible. This means that they should be able to live and receive services in their own homes or communities, rather than in institutions.

# What does HCBS Settings Rule mean?

The rule requires states to offer a wider range of settings and services, including non-disability-specific settings, and to develop person-centered plans (ISPs) that reflect the individual's preferences and goals. It also requires states to assess provider-owned and operated settings to ensure they comply with the rule's requirements.

# Why are we doing this?

- The goal of the HCBS Settings Rule is to promote greater independence, choice, and inclusion for people with disabilities. It is important and required that our network of providers understand and implement the HCBS Settings Rule because of those reasons, plus it is the right thing to do.
- By ensuring that people have access to a wider range of settings and services, and by empowering them to make decisions about their own care, the rule helps to improve their quality of life and well-being.

## Why is the Settings Rule important for people with disabilities?

The HCBS Settings Rule is a significant step forward for people with disabilities because it prioritizes their right to live in the most integrated setting possible. Here are reasons why it's important:

**Community Integration** 

- Person-Centered Support
- Increased Independence and Choice
- Improved Quality of Life
- Protection of Rights




**Home & Community Based Service** (HCBS): **Person-Centered Supports** 



Marion Olivier, MSW – Vice President of Operations / Qlarant Menorca Collazo – Director of Training and Communication / Qlarant

# The HCBS Settings Rule Puts Choice at the Heart of CMS Expectations





# HCBS Settings Rule...Individuals are

- Integrated in and supported to access the greater community
- Provided opportunities to seek employment and work in competitive integrated settings, engage in community life, and control personal resources
- Received services in the community with the same degree of access as individuals not receiving Medicaid home and communitybased services







# **HCBS Settings Rule...**

- Allow full access to the greater community
- Is chosen by the individual from among residential and day options that include generic settings
- Respects the individual's option to choose a private unit in a residential setting
- Ensures right to privacy, dignity and respect, and freedom from coercion and restraint
- Optimizes autonomy and independence in making life choices
- Facilitates choice of services and who provides them







Summary of Key Provisions of the HCBS Settings Final Rule: https://www.medicaid.gov/sites/default/files/2019-12/hcbs-setting-fact-sheet.pdf

# **Provider-Owned or Controlled Residential Settings**

#### Additional Requirements! Individuals must have\*:

- Lease or legally enforceable agreement to protect from eviction
- Privacy in their unit including entrances lockable by the individual (staff have keys as needed)
- Choice of roommates
- Freedom to furnish and decorate their unit
- Control of their schedule and activities
- Access to food at any time
- Visitors at any time
- Physical accessibility

\*Deviations from this rule (except accessibility) must be supported by a specific assessed need and justified in the person-centered service plan.



# What strategies can you use to promote a person-centered culture





#### National Center for Advancing Person-Centered Policies and Practices (NCAPPS) Team Definition of Person-Centered Approach

- Georgia promotes a person-centered approach in the delivery of services to individuals and families that is based on:
  - Holistic approach that acknowledges the individual and their loved ones to be the experts in their own lives; that centers on the individuals/family; that explicitly includes their strengths, interests, values, assets, and challenges; and that is trauma-informed and culturally aware and competent.
  - Flexible and collaborative plans of care that explicitly define roles of all members of the support team; that allow for multiple pathways for success; and that account for and mitigate challenges.
  - Intentional conversations and actions that support individuals/families on their journey toward life goals; that encourage them to dream and explore possible futures; and that build their resilience.
  - System of care that aligns services to ensure the individual has maximum access to the benefits
    of living in the community and that facilitates the individual achieving his/her desired outcomes.





\*\* J. Keilson, V. Bradley, J. Petner-Arrey, & J. Lawrence. Human Services Provider Agency Toolkit for Self 43
 Determination. National Center for Advancing Person-Centered Policies and Practices.



# How To Support a Person-Centered Culture

- Identify multiple ways that participants can exercise self-determination in everyday as well as important life decisions including:
  - Where to live
  - Who to live with
  - Who gets hired
  - Home furnishings and décor
  - Menus, food choices, and mealtimes
  - Activities and leisure options
  - Individual or group schedules

\* J. Keilson, V. Bradley, J. Petner-Arrey, & J. Lawrence. *Human Services Provider Agency Toolkit for Self-Determination*. National Center for Advancing Person-Centered Policies and Practices. 44 What Would a Person-Centered Culture Look Like?

The Georgia Collaborative ASO



The provider agency holds individuals' preferences in the same standing as applicable regulations and requirements

Individuals are supported in decision-making regardless of the severity of their disability or level of support needed

Agencies collaborate with support coordinators to ensure that individuals can make informed choices when selecting the agency to provide services

Major decisions are made collaboratively between individuals supported (and families/guardians, when appropriate) and the provider agency

Individuals, with the support they need, make choices such as selecting housemates, how their day is structured, and their circle of support

Individuals choose how they receive services by having input on schedules, leisure activities, etc.

Support staff understand the concept of "dignity of risk," and support individuals' right to make choices even if they disagree with those choices

# A Person-Centered Culture Exists When DSPs are Supported As Well

- DSPs need to know that the organization supports them to take initiative and rewards them for embracing personcentered practices
- Providers can create a learning community among staff so that they can share experiences, lessons, and challenges
- The health and well-being of DSPs should be encouraged through stress reduction exercises, nutrition counseling, and other initiatives
- Staff should be involved in providing feedback to agency administrators regarding what is working and what needs to change



PERSON-CENTERED RESPECT HEAMSTOLDE SUPPOR WASHING HEAMANGEU UN HEAMANGEULUN ADVOCATE CARING HEAMANGEU UN HEAMANGEULUN SUPPORT CANNES SUPPORT CANNES ADVOCATE RESPECT MEANINGPLICINE NOVOCATE RESPECT MEANINGPLICINE CARING CENTERED HEAMANGEULUNE CARING CENTERED HEAMANGEULUNE CARING CENTERED HEAMANGEULUNE ADVOCATE ASSNCT SUPPORT MEANINGPULLIFE ADVOCATE ADVOCATE ADVOCATE ADVOCATE

## HCBS Settings Rule Also Lays Out Best Practices for Person-Centered Planning

#### The planning process...

- Is driven by the individual
- Includes people chosen by the individual
- Describes employment and self-directing options

#### The planning meeting...

- Takes place in a location convenient to the individual
- Is conducted in plain language and materials are accessible

#### The ISP...

- Takes into account cultural considerations
- Includes goals important to the individual
- Provides necessary information and support to assist the individual to direct the process





# Training Focused on the Practical Application of Person-Centered Principles



# **Georgia Collaborative ASO Webinar Series**

It has been said...."You have achieved a person-centered culture when a person new to your home or classroom would have difficulty determining who is supported there from who works there." To support the development of that culture....we are offering courses.

- Putting person-centered practices into action...
  - During Meal times
  - Supporting Adult Dressing Skills
  - Exploring the Community
  - Developing Social Roles
  - Increasing Engagement and Participation

Other courses that support implementing person-centered practices:

- Power Over vs Power With
- Observation Techniques to Evaluate Person-Centered Practices
- Day to Day Person-Centered Supports What Every New DSP Needs to Know





DBHDD

https://www.georgiacollaborative.com/providers/training-education/

# NOW & COMP Rate Increase Update & Upcoming Services Implementation

# BE D·B·H·D·D

Georgia Department of Behavioral Health & Developmental Disabilities

Ron Singleton DD Budget Manager Division of Intellectual & Developmental Disabilities November 2024



### DBHDD Special Bulletin: October 30, 2024

#### A MESSAGE FROM OUR PARTNERS AT DCH

#### Department of Community Health NOW/COMP Provider Banner Message

Per the Georgia Department of Community Health (DCH) banner message dated 7/23/2024, DCH announced the approval of the amendments to the New Options Waiver (NOW) and Comprehensive Supports (COMP) waiver programs. The approved amendments increased rates for NOW/COMP are effective 7/1/2024.



For Provider Relations inquiries, Please contact us at DBHDD.Provider@dbhdd.ga.gov

### DCH Provider (Banner) Message: October 30, 2024

#### https://mmis.georgia.gov

#### Provider Information > Provider Messages

ome   Contact Information	on   Member Information   Provider Information   Provider Er	nrollment   Nurse Aide/Medication Aide   EDI   Pharmacy   H	IFRD
Home Provider Notice Web Portal Training P		Forms for Providers Reports for Public Access FAQ for Provid	ders
GAMMIS:Provider Mess	ages <- Bookmarkable Link 👷 Click here for help and informat	ion about bookmarks	
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Subject: NOW/COMP 7/1/2024 Rate Increase – GAMMIS UPDATES COMPLETE

# NOW & COMP Rate Increase Implementation Update

#### DCH System Update – GAMMIS Web Portal – Part 1

#### **GAMMIS – Georgia Medicaid Management Information System**

Every approved Medicaid provider number for the NOW and COMP has an associated Fee Schedule (Rate Table) within the Medicaid system. The Fee Schedule (Rate Table) contains the billable procedure codes, applicable modifiers, associated rates, the category of service (rate type) and an effective and end date.



Fee Schedule - Community Residential Alternative – Category 1 – 3 Person

#### DCH System Update – GAMMIS Web Portal – Part 2

The Medicaid system has several service audits that are in place to ensure compliance with authorized and/or annualized waiver service limitations. Each impacted audit will need to be adjusted by DCH such as the example below.

Community Living Support - COMP					
Audit Error Code 6116 - COMMUNITY LIVING SUPPORTS SVCS MAX UNITS (AMOUNT) REACHED					
Rule	Effective/	money _mm		DBHDD Note	
5000111	03/01/2017			and mic Maximum	
5000222	03/01/2021		mbe oll Birth y F od	0 Increase - March 1, 2021	
5000333	07/01/2021			se - July 1, 2021	
5000444	07/01/2022 - 06/30/2024	\$60,436.53	Member Rolling Birthday Period	2% Increase - July 1, 2022	
5000555	07/01/2024 - 12/31/2299	\$83,520.00	Member Rolling Birthday Period	Rate Study Increase - July 1, 2024	

#### IDD Connects System Update (PA) – Carelon – Part 3

For the upcoming implementation, Carelon will split the existing PA service line. The original service line will remain in place and will have an end date, one day prior, to the rate increase effective date. The new line will start on the rate increase effective date.



**Note:** The service line updates will be visible in the GAMMIS web portal including the rates. Carelon will use paid claims and/or unique percent based on a date range to determine the number of units to remain on the original line. The balance of the authorized units will be placed on the new line.

#### IDD Connects System Update (ISP) – Carelon – Part 4

Carelon will make IDD Connects updates in two areas of the system which includes the ISP Service Summary.



**Note:** Service rates are not visible to viewers. However, the rates are updated within the system and includes an increase the annual maximums (dollars) for selected services as noted in Appendix 'A' part III the NOW & COMP policy manuals.

#### **PA Transmission – IDD Connect to GAMMIS**

Carelon will transmit (send) the updated prior authorizations to Medicaid (GAMMIS) for processing.

The Medicaid system currently accepts a limited number of prior authorizations each day for processing (5,000). Nearly 20,000 prior authorizations currently exists. Prior authorization processing occurs

Monday-Friday.







#### **Claims Reprocessing – DCH & Gainwell**

Upon approval of the prior authorizations within the Medicaid system, DCH will be notified. Shortly after, all paid claims for the impacted services with an effective date July 1, 2024, or after will be reprocessed systematically by DCH. No actions will be needed from the approved billing providers.

Below is an example of a July 1, 2024, claim for Community Residential Alternative Services (Category 1 – 3 Person). The original paid amount of the claim, based on one unit (day), was \$210.32. The claim will be reprocessed based on a rate of \$294.16 per unit (day). Providers will receive the difference of the paid amounts as shown below.

ORIGINAL CLAIM
Service Name
Community Residential Alternative - Category
REPROCESSED CLAIM
REPROCESSED CLAIM Service Name



Units Paid	Service Date	Amount Paid	
1	07/01/2024	\$210.32	

Units Paid	Service Date	Amount Paid	
1	07/01/2024	\$294.16	

Difference \$8	3.84
Difference \$8	5.84

### Guidance and Troubleshooting for Billing & Claims

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



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

# NOW & COMP Rate Increase New Services Implementation

# Increased rates for individuals in need of Deaf and Hard of Hearing Services.

- Community Living Support
- Respite 15 Minute (In Home)
- Community Access (Group & Individual)
- Prevocational
- Supported Employment
  - Supported Employment Individual Job Developer
  - Supported Employment Individual Job Coach
  - Supported Employment Group
- Community Residential Alternative
  - Group Home (3 & 4 Beds)

#### **Tier/Category format for Community Access Group Services.**

Crosswalk of Assessment Levels to Rate Categories				
Level	Group Home Rate Community Access Category Rate Categories			
1	Category 1 Category 1			
2	Category 2	Category 2		
3.1 3.2	Category 3	Category 3		
4				
5				
6	Category 4	Category 4		
7				

Three new Community Residential Alternative models designed to serve individuals with complex care needs who are currently unable to be supported by traditional CRA models.

Specialized Transitional – Community Residential Alternative

Behavior Focused – Community Residential Alternative

Intensive – Community Residential Alternative

Training and additional information such as policies, rates and procedure/billing codes coming soon!



# Community Residential Alternative 344 Limit Reset

# Community Residential Alternative – Waiver Policy

www.mmis.georgia.gov

# Comprehensive Supports Waiver Program (COMP) Part III, Chapter 2300

### Reimbursement Rates ➤ Chapter 2300, Section 2308

> Appendix A

Comprehensive Supports Waiver Program – Policy

Part III, Chapter 2300, Section 2308 Basis for Reimbursement

**C**. The annual maximum number of CRA daily units is 344 daily per year.

**E**. Rates for Community Residential Alternative - Group Home and Host Home include an absence factor that adds a premium to the daily rate (based on a 365-day year). Thus, rates represent annualized annual reimbursement over 344 billing days.

# COMP and NOW Waiver Programs – Policy

Part II, Chapter 1100, Section 1102 Individualized Service Planning and Implementation

**1102.1.** ...Annual ISP meetings will use the individual's date of birth as a guide to annual review.

ME		<b>Community Res</b>	sidential A	Alternative	
D	EOB COD	DE: 6727 - PROCEDURES	CANNOT EXC	EED 344 UNITS PER YEAR	Č
Q	Rule	Effective/End Dates	Unit Limit	Time Unit	
AID	5000000	03/01/2017 - 12/31/2299	344	Member Rolling Birthday Period	

Note: EOB – Explanation of Benefit

# Community Residential Alternative – 344 Limit Reset

# **344 Limit Reset Demonstration** (Homes Operated by Two Different Provider Agencies)



# **Community Residential Alternative – Absence Factor**

"Rates for Community Residential Alternative – Group Home and Host Home include an **absence factor** that adds a premium to the daily rate (based on a 365-day year). Thus, rates represent annualized annual reimbursement over 344 billing days".

COMP - Part III, Chapter 2300, Section 2308, Letter 'E'

# **Community Residential Alternative – Absence Factor**

https://www.healthmanagement.com/burns-reports/georgia-waiver-rates/

#### NOW and COMP Waiver Rate Study

Final Rate Models

prepared for Georgia Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Disabilities

**Community Residential Alternative - Group Home, 3 Beds** 

	Category 1	Category 2	Category 3	Category 4
Levels	1	2	3,4	5,6,7
Unit of Service	Day	Day	Day	Day
Total Cost per Member per Week	\$1,940.70	\$2,132.61	\$2,522.26	\$3,345.16
Rate per Day	\$277.24	<b>\$304.66</b>	\$360.32	<mark>\$477.88</mark>
Rate per Day at 344 Days per Year	\$294.16	\$323.26	\$382.32	\$507.05
### Community Residential Alternative – Absence Factor

### **Absence Factor in Action!**

Category 4	Witho	out the Absence Fac	tor	
Days per Year	Days Absent	Billable Days	Daily Rate	Annual Total
	0	365	\$477.88	\$174,425.20
265	5	360	\$477.88	\$172,036.80
365	10	355	\$477.88	\$169,647.40
	21	344	\$477.88	\$164,390.72

Category 4	With	the Absence Facto	or	
Days per Year	Days Absent	Billable Days	Daily Rate	Annual Total
	0	344	\$507.05	\$174,425.20
265	5	344	\$507.05	\$174,425.20
365	10	344	\$507.05	\$174,425.20
	21	344	\$507.05	\$174,425.20

# Adult Therapy Services Occupational and Physical Therapy

### Adult Therapy Services – Final Rate Models

### https://www.healthmanagement.com/burns-reports/georgia-waiver-rates/

#### NOW and COMP Waiver Rate Study

#### **Final Rate Models**

#### prepared for Georgia Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Disabilities

#### **Comparison of Current Permanent and Appendix K Rates to Final Rates**

Unit	Current Perm. Rate	App. K Rate	Final Rate	Notes
15 Min.			\$30.23	Current multitude of codes would be consolidated
15 Min.	vari	es	\$30.23	under a single code (or code for each discipline) at
15 Min.			\$30.23	the highest current rate
	15 Min.	Perm. Rate 15 Min. 15 Min. vari	Perm. Rate Rate 15 Min. 15 Min. varies	Perm. Rate         Rate           15 Min.         \$30.23           15 Min.         \$30.23

Service	Current Limits	Final Service Limits
Adult Therapies	\$5,400 per year in combination	\$10,800 per year

### Adult Therapy Services – OT & PT Consolidation

### Adult Physical & Adult Occupational Services

PROCEDURE CODE	UNIT RATE	DETAILED SERVICE DESCRIPTION	CONSOLIDATION OF CODES	PROCEDURE CODE (TRADITIONAL)	PROCEDURE CODE (SELF-DIRECTED)	UNIT RATE
97161-GP 97162-GP	\$74.27 \$74.27	Physical Therapy - Evaluations				
97163-GP 97164-GP	\$74.27 \$50.49		Physical Therapy	97110-U1	97110-U1-UC	\$30.23
97112-GO 97110	\$28.99	Physical Therapy - Services				
97165 97166	\$71.98 \$71.98	Occurrentian of Theorem . Evolutions				
97167 97168	\$71.98 \$47.55	Occupational Therapy - Evaluations				
97530-GO 97760-GO	\$29.33		Occupational Therapy	97530-GO-U1	97530-GO-U1-UC	\$30.23
97761-GO 97533-GO	\$26.19	Occupational Therapy - Services				
97763-GO	\$24.56					

Note: Per CMS Rule (Medically Unlikely Edit) Speech Language Therapy Will Not Be Consolidated

### Adult Therapy Services – OT & PT Consolidation

The implementation for the consolidation of Adult Physical & Adult Occupational Therapy will begin on January 1, 2025, during the Individual Service Plan renewal meetings.

All NOW and COMP Individual Service Plans and Prior Authorizations for Adult Physical & Adult Occupational Therapy will be consolidated by December 31, 2025.

All recipients of these services are currently eligible for increases up to the annual maximum of \$10,500 upon clinical approval.

# HCBS Provider Survey Secure Web Portal: Accessing Messages

### Medicaid Web Portal: Provider Contract Status

### https://mmis.georgia.gov

### Step 1: Enter 'Provider ID'



### Medicaid Web Portal: Provider Contract Status

### https://mmis.georgia.gov

### Step 2: Click on the 'rows returned' item



### Medicaid Web Portal: Provider Contract Status

### https://mmis.georgia.gov

### Provider Contract Status Information: Email Address Missing

				?
Provider Contract Stat	us Information			?
Name GE	ORGIA REGIONAL HOSPITAL	Address 1	3073 PANTHERSVILLE RD	
ovider Reference ID RE		Address 2		
Provider Type HO	ME AND COMMUNITY BASED SVC	City, State	DECATUR, GA	
Email Address		Zip	30034-3828	
Phone Number (40	4) 243-2100	Fax Number		

### https://mmis.georgia.gov

### Step 1: Click on the Web Portal link



### https://mmis.georgia.gov

### Option 1: Click on applicable row in the 'rows returned' section



### https://mmis.georgia.gov

### Option 2: Click on 'Messages' in the 'Account' submenu

ome Messages	Switch User					
Ļ						
Actions Needed						
Notification	and a second					
	Description ASK IN MESSAGE "00 : HCBS ASSESSMENT REQU	IRED" REOU	ESTED ON 10	/31/2024 AT 4	40:04 AM (HCBS001	
			LOTED ON TO	13112024 AT 4		
Provider Recred	ential/Revalidation Required for Service Location					?
Messages						Top ?
Category	Subject	Sent Date	Effective Date	End Date	Remove	
INTRODUCTION	00 HCBS Assessment Required	10/31/2024	10/31/2024	11/20/2024		
PROVIDER ALERT	July 1 2024 Rate Increase for Community Behavioral	10/30/2024	10/30/2024	12/31/2299	0	
PROVIDER ALERT	NOW/COMP 7/1/2024 Rate Increase - GAMMIS UPDATES C	10/30/2024	10/30/2024	12/31/2299		
PROVIDER ALERT	HCBS Settings Rule Assessment	10/25/2024	10/25/2024	12/31/2299		
PROVIDER ALERT	Update to Autism Spectrum Disorder Manual	10/25/2024	10/25/2024	12/31/2299		
PROVIDER ALERT	Georgia Medicaid Fall Fair - Thursday, October 31,	10/23/2024	10/23/2024	12/31/2299		
PROVIDER ALERT	Georgia Medicaid Fall Fair - Thursday, October 31,	10/16/2024	10/16/2024	12/31/2299	0	
PROVIDER ALERT	Georgia Medicaid Fall Fair - Thursday, October 31,	10/09/2024	10/09/2024	12/31/2299	0	
PROVIDER ALERT	Georgia Medicaid Fall Fair - Thursday, October 31,	10/01/2024	10/01/2024	12/31/2299	0	
	Important Update Regarding Blood Pressure Monitor	10/01/2024 1 2 3 1		12/31/2299		
PROVIDER ALERT						

### https://mmis.georgia.gov

### Step 3: Click on applicable "...HCBS Assessment Required" row



### Medicaid Web Portal & Survey: Technical Support

Medicaid Web Portal Support (Gainwell): <u>https://mmis.georgia.gov</u>



HCBS Survey Support (DCH): <u>HCBSTransition@dch.ga.gov</u>



### Thank You!

### Ronald.Singleton@dbhdd.ga.gov





# Supported Employment News & Notes

### **Christine Gudgin**

Supported Employment Manager Office of Community Services Division of Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities



Georgia Department of Behavioral Health & Developmental Disabilities

# Supported Employment Services As of January 1, 2025

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Supported Employment has four distinct categories:

- Individual Job Development
- Individual Job Coaching
- Job Maintenance
- Group

### **SE Individual Job Development**

- Activities needed to obtain paid work by individuals, including job location, prospective employer outreach, assistance with resume development, and job interview preparation, as well as services and supports that assist individuals in achieving self-employment through the establishment of a business.
- Job Development services can only be authorized when not available through the Georgia Vocational Rehabilitation Agency (GVRA).



### **SE Individual Job Coaching**

- Services consist of activities needed to sustain paid work by individuals, including supervision, training, and services and supports that assist individuals in achieving self-employment through the operation of a business.
- This service is distinguished from Job Maintenance in that individuals authorized for Job Coaching typically require more direct, faceto-face support on an ongoing basis.

### **Supported Employment Job Maintenance**

- Consist of activities needed to sustain paid work by individuals, including supervision, training, and services and supports that assist individuals in achieving self-employment through the operation of a business, including helping the individual identifying the supports that are necessary for the individual to operate a business and providing ongoing assistance, counseling and guidance once the business has been launched. These services do not include the supervisory activities rendered as a normal part of the business setting.
- Individuals authorized for Job Maintenance activities typically require occasional support and generally do not need support for every hour they work. To be authorized for Job Maintenance, an individual must work at least 60 hours per month.





### Supported Employment Group

- Services are provided to groups of individuals, with a staff to individual ratio of one to two or more. The staff to individual ratio for Supported Employment Group services cannot exceed one (1) to ten (10). Ratio billing is in accordance with actual support ratios of Employment Specialist to individuals.
- Service expectations are the same for SE Individual Job Coaching and Supported Employment Group, the only differences are in support ratios and transportation.
- Contract work in which the provider passes funds through to individuals for payment is <u>not</u> SEG, but Pre-Vocational Services.

### Supported Self-Employment Provider Training



Griffin-Hammis Associates

- Online Certified Business and Technical Assistance Consultant (CBTAC)
- CBTAC is a proprietary training and consultative system developed and implemented by GHA to address the needs of state Vocational Rehabilitation (VR) and other disability agencies as they increase their use of self-employment and microenterprise to meet the needs of their customers.
- The twelve-week online training course covers all critical aspect of business research and design, including: Discovery and Business Concept Identification; Market Research; Funding and Financing; Public Benefits Analysis; Marketing and Operations; and Business Plan Development.
- CBTAC is an all-inclusive approach to business development based on the extensive international experience of GHA. The methods taught and detailed in extensive materials and examples address strategies and supports used by individuals with physical, psychiatric, developmental, sensory, and other disabilities.
- The Vocational Rehabilitation agencies in both Florida and Texas currently require providers of self-employment services to earn and maintain the CBTAC certification.
- \*https://www.griffinhammis.com/self-employment-online-training/

### DBHDD is funding...

The retooling of the provider CBTAC training to be Georgia specific. Rolling CBTAC training cohorts will start with a goal of 120 employment specialists being certified. Ten selfemployment mentorship opportunities available for provider/individual combinations.

### Mentorship Criteria

Ten individuals who are on the planning list between the ages of 18-26 who wish to start their own business. (Can be currently working)

The ten Employment Specialists who are currently supporting the individuals on their employment path.

This cohort will be the included in the first CBTAC training session to start sometime in December. The first session will have between 30-40 Employment Specialists.

### **NDEAM Award Winners!**



- Employment Advocate of the Year Award: Stacey Valrie Peace
- Employment Agency of the Year Award: Woodright Industries
- Employment Specialist of the Year Award: Kailey Bagwell
- System Navigator of the Year Award: Cassaundra Lenior
- Large Employer (100 + employees): Effingham County Board of Commissioners
- Smaller Employer: Fur's Gonna Fly
- Legacy Award: Howard Stroud

### **NDEAM Award Winners!**



- Region 1 Employee of the Year: Doug Reynolds
- Region 2 Employee of the Year: Kristy Brown
- Region 3 Employee of the Year: Erik Phillipeck
- Region 4 Employee of the Year: Barry "Chris" Franks
- Region 5 Employee of the Year: Klaudia Byra
- Region 6 Employee of the Year: Stephanie Bray



#### Shannon Smith, RN, MS Director, Office of Health and Wellness

### Karen Cawthon, Project Manager

Office of Health & Wellness, Division of Disabilities



Georgia Department of Behavioral Health & Developmental Disabilities

# Independent Reviewer Site Reviews Extension Agreement Overview

- On May 18, 2016, the State of Georgia and the United States Department of Justice (DOJ) agreed to an Extension of Settlement Agreement modifying the original terms of the 2010 Americans with Disabilities Act Settlement.
- The extension agreement represents an acknowledgement by the DOJ of the state's compliance with the majority of provisions in the original ADA settlement agreement.

### Independent Reviewer

- Both Parties selected Elizabeth Jones to serve as an Independent Reviewer to assess the State's compliance with the terms of the Settlement Agreement and for the Extension Settlement Agreement.
- In order to determine compliance with the Agreement, the Independent Reviewer shall have full access to persons, employees, residences, facilities, buildings, programs, services, documents, records, and materials that are necessary to assess the State's compliance and/or implementation efforts with the Agreement.
- The independent Reviewer shall conduct the factual investigation and verification of data and documentation necessary to determine whether the State is in compliance with the terms of the Agreement.



### Independent Reviewer's Expectations for Site Visits:



Staff *who know the person best* should be present to answer questions during these site visits.



Provider nursing staff (if applicable) would also be a great resource during these site visits.



The independent reviewer may reach out to the provider nurse and/or support coordinator following the visit to follow up on any questions they may have.



There will be documentation provided to the independent reviewers prior to the visits that will include incident reports, investigations, etc.

### Requested Documentation that will be reviewed in the homes:

Current Documentation for the following if applicable:

- 1. ISP
- 2. IDD Connects Individual 360
- 3. HRST
- 4. DBHDD Clinical Assessments and/or Evaluations from Nurses, Behavior Specialists, and/or Social Workers
- 5. Healthcare Plans- also training roster for completed trainings
- 6. Risk Mitigation Documents- also training roster for completed trainings
- 7. Provider LPN/RN, Behavior Specialists, etc. documentation
- 8. Consent for Psychotropic Medications
- 9. Schedule of MD appointments- including Physical Exam and Dentist Exam within last 12 months
- 10. Documentation of therapies assessments and/or adaptive equipment

# Monitoring Questionnaire

- The Independent Reviewer has stated DBHDD can share a blank copy of the Monitoring Questionnaire prior to scheduled visits with Providers.
- The Independent Reviewer completes the Monitoring Questionnaire with the individual, family, provider staff, ISC/SC, Nursing staff, etc. as applicable.

## Office of Health & Wellness Provider Announcements

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Curriculum in IDD Healthcare Course Located in Relias Register

### **ATTENTION RN AND LPN PROVIDER STAFF:**

- All New Provider RNs and LPNs are required to complete Curriculum in IDD Healthcare at a minimum of six (6) hours of CEUs as orientation training. Applies to Providers approved 1/1/24 forward.
- All RNs/LPNs who were hired prior to January 1, 2024, are required to take Curriculums in IDD Healthcare on or prior to December 31, 2024.

Requirements were published in DBHDD Provider Manual Update Effective 4/1/24 located on Page 24, 13. d. as part of Continuing Education. No cost for this course. CME and CEU credits are available.

Please send an email to <u>martha.thweatt@dbhdd.ga.gov</u> for instructions on accessing the course.

### **DBHDD** Relias

To access the Relias Library - Email a request to: <u>Relias.admin@dbhdd.ga.gov</u>

You will need to assign a Training Contact. They will be the main contact of the library and will receive the permissions to make/edit users, assign training, etc.

> Have access issues or questions? Email: <u>Relias.admin@dbhdd.ga.gov</u>

### HRST BOOKMARKING PERSON SERVED RECORDS

User opens record for person & clicks on silhouette icon at the top left of page



### HRST BOOKMARKING PERSON SERVED RECORDS

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				A	dd New Pe	erson									
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Pr	rovider Agend	v		Cas	y Bookma	rked Red	cords		Health Ca	re Level	Ages (0 -	125)	-		
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There are two options to use to navigate to your bookmark list:

- 1. My Bookmarked Records
- 2. Bookmarked Records Toggle



### **\*NEW\*** Enteral Nutrition Training Course

This course is about supporting individuals with enteral tube feeding and nutrition.

Presented By: Cyndi Berenguer, OHW ICST Registered Dietitian/Nutritionist & Bobbie Davidson, OHW RN Consultant

To request 2024 Training Information please email Karen Cawthon: <u>karen.cawthon@dbhdd.ga.gov</u>

### **Dangerous Mealtime Practices Train The Trainer**

Focused on how people swallow and what happens when someone has challenges with swallowing safely

## Presented By: Cyndi Berenguer, OHW ICST Registered Dietitian/Nutritionist

To request In Person Train-the Trainer Course presented by DBHDD ICST Registered Dietician/Nutritionist please email Karen Cawthon: <u>karen.cawthon@dbhdd.ga.gov</u>

## **NEW eLearn Courses in 2025**

Office Of Health and Wellness is working in collaboration with IntellectAbility to build 6 new training courses for Providers and Support Coordination to be available in Relias which include:

- The Dangerous Dozen: Essential Mealtime Practices for Case Managers
- Special Diets and Meal Planning for IDD Provider Agency Staff
- Proper Maintenance of Specialized Medical Equipment
- Best Practices For Communicating and Understanding People with IDD
- Recognizing and Responding to Signs of Pain in People with IDD
- Polypharmacy Dynamics in People with IDD

# Regional Break Outs

Regional "Break Out" Sessions will be led by your local RSA followed by general Q&A. Listen for the breakout room location of your designated Regional Field Office



### **General Session Q/A**



# BED·B·H·D·D

Georgia Department of Behavioral Health & Developmental Disabilities

