

# NOW and COMP Waiver Programs: *Recent Improvements and Renewal Plan*



**GEORGIA DEPARTMENT OF BEHAVIORAL  
HEALTH AND DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES**

**CATHERINE IVY, LCSW  
DIRECTOR OF COMMUNITY SERVICES  
DIVISION DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES**

**FEBRUARY 2015**

# DBHDD Vision

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

# Today's Discussion

- Two Medicaid waiver programs designed for people with intellectual/developmental disabilities
  - *New Options Waiver Program*
  - *Comprehensive Supports Waiver Program*

*What's Working?*

*What's Not?*

*In preparation for:*

**Federal application to renew the COMP Waiver Program by Sept. 30, 2015**

## People Currently Served

New Options Waiver Program:	4,789
-----------------------------	-------

Comprehensive Supports Waiver Program:	7,018
--	-------

# Waiver Services Options

Community Access  
Prevocational Services  
Supported Employment

Financial Support Services  
Community Guide

Community Living Support

Environmental Accessibility  
Individual Directed Goods and Services  
Natural Support Training  
Transportation  
Vehicle Adaptation

Support Coordination  
Intensive Support Coordination **new**

Respite  
Community Residential

Behavioral Supports Consultation  
Behavioral Supports Services **new**

Adult Occupational Therapy  
Adult Physical Therapy  
Adult Speech and Language Therapy  
Specialized Medical Equipment  
Specialized Medical Supplies  
Skilled Nursing Services **new**

# Recent Changes through Waiver Amendment

*approved Dec. 11, 2014*

2011 Approved Waiver	2014 Waiver Amendment
<b>Nursing Services</b> Only available within community living supports and community residential services	<b>Nursing Services</b> Available as a <i>stand-alone service</i> regardless of setting <i>No rate change</i>
<b>Behavioral Supports Consultation</b> Maximum units: 108 <i>Only reimbursable in home setting</i>	<b>Behavioral Supports Consultation</b> Maximum units: 96 <i>Available in all settings</i> <i>No rate change</i>
<b>Behavioral Supports Services</b> Not available	<b>Behavioral Supports Services new</b> Maximum units: 96 <i>Available in all settings</i>
<b>Intensive Support Coordination</b> Not available	<b>Intensive Support Coordination new</b> Provides medical or behavioral expertise and coordination

# What's Next?

- **COMP waiver to be renewed in 2015**
  - Public forums January–March to solicit stakeholder comment
- **DBHDD will:**
  - Consider service edits, additions, or other changes
  - Collaborate with the Georgia Department of Community Health in rate analysis and all aspects of the renewal
  - Submit a NOW waiver amendment application to align the two waiver programs

# Timeline

- COMP waiver program expires Dec. 31, 2015 unless renewed
- Department of Community Health must submit renewal application by Sept. 30, 2015
- Stakeholders may continue to submit comment throughout the renewal process by:
  - Offering comment in public forums
  - Attending other events and networking with fellow stakeholders
  - Submitting comment through the “*feedback form*” on the DBHDD website at [www.dbhdd.georgia.gov/nowcomp-community-forums](http://www.dbhdd.georgia.gov/nowcomp-community-forums)



# Additional Resources

- [Catherine.Ivy@dbhdd.ga.gov](mailto:Catherine.Ivy@dbhdd.ga.gov)
- [www.mmis.georgia.gov](http://www.mmis.georgia.gov)
  - Provider policy manuals (in alphabetical order as Comprehensive Supports Waiver and New Options Waiver)
  - Also member information/member notices as home and community-based services booklet, 2014
- <https://gadbhdd.policystat.com/>
  - All DBHDD policies including those related to the waiver programs