

# Family Forums 2019

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**BE D·B·H·D·D**

Georgia Department of Behavioral Health & Developmental Disabilities

Division of Developmental Disabilities



**D·B·H·D·D**

## DBHDD Vision and Mission

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

**Mission:** Leading an accountable and effective continuum of care to support Georgians with behavioral health challenges, and intellectual and developmental disabilities in a dynamic health care environment



New Options Waiver Program (NOW)/  
Comprehensive Supports (COMP) Waiver Programs

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- Collaboratively administered by the Georgia Department of Community Health (Medicaid) and the Georgia Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Disabilities
- GA DBHDD serves as the Operating Agency for the two waiver programs
- Provides 23 distinct services, some with self-directed options

## **NOW/COMP Waiver Services Include:**

- **Community Residential Alternative (COMP)**
- **Community Living Support**
- **Additional Residential Staffing**
- **Community Access**
- **Prevocational Services**
- **Supported Employment**
- **Respite Services**
- **Transportation**
- **Natural Support Training**
- **Community Guide**
- **Financial Support Services**
- **Individual Directed Goods and Services**
- **Behavioral Supports Consultation**
- **Behavioral Support Services**
- **Nursing Services**
- **Specialized Medical Equipment**
- **Specialized Medical Supplies**
- **Adult Physical Therapy**
- **Adult Occupational Therapy**
- **Adult Speech and Language Therapy**
- **Nutrition Services**
- **Environmental Accessibility Adaptation**
- **Vehicle Adaptation**

## Participant Direction Model of NOW/COMP

- Individuals can choose to self-direct their waiver services  
(\* *some services cannot be self-directed*)
- Individual and Family Representative must attend the 6-hour training and complete a Memorandum of Understanding (annually)
- Support Coordination is a required service as part of the self-direction model
- Self-direction is required to follow Medicaid policies and liable for misuse of funds/policy violations
- If interested in the self-direction model, discuss with your support coordinator

## DBHDD NOW/COMP Planning List

- Assessment is completed at least annually by the DBHDD Regional Field Office on all individuals on the Planning List
- If in between assessments a major life event occurs, contact the DBHDD Regional Field Office to see about completing a new assessment
- People are moved off the Planning List into waiver services based on assessment scores and are in order of most in need

# Planning List Navigators

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- Region 1: Raquel Pike 770-781-6923
- Region 2: Shareka Moore 706-792-7739
- Region 3: Latonia Daniel and Delicia Levy 404 244 5182
- Region 4 Dale Gurley 229-225-5099
- Region 5: Katina Lee 912-657-7701
- Region 6: Linda Smith 470-249-7161

## Support Coordination/Intensive Support Coordination

- In 2018 Support Coordination role changed from a monitoring of providers to advocacy for individuals in services
- Support Coordination is your front line to assist with issues related to services, need changes, new requests, etc.
- Support Coordination is required to make monthly contact with individuals on waiver.
- Intensive support coordination is assigned when an individual has a higher level of acuity
- There are 7 support coordination agencies to choose from in GA.
  - \*Not all agencies cover every region



## “New” Individualized Service Plan (ISP)

- New IDD Connects System went live 8.19.19, ISP was slimmed down.
- Contains ALL pertinent information as the previous version of ISP
- Information reorganized in the system to create efficiencies
- Added employment questions directly into the ISP

# IDD Connects Portal for Family Access

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DBHDD new IDD Connects portal went live August 19, 2019

This portal enables individuals and families to apply online through the portal for waiver services

Individuals and families can track progress of their application in the portal

Individuals and families will be able to review and approve ISPs in the IDD Connects Portal

<https://idd.georgiacollaborative.com/IDDIndividualPortal/>

## DBHDD's Behavioral Health Services

**A CRISIS HAS NO SCHEDULE**



# Autism Crisis Services and Supports

## Mobile Crisis Team

- Ages 4 and up
- ASD Specialists
- Contact Georgia Crisis and Access Line 1-800-715-4225

## Autism Specific Crisis Homes

- Two-3 bed homes
  - InCommunity formerly GCSS
  - Houston and Clayton County
  - Statewide access
  - November 1, 2019
- Short-term out of home behavior intervention
- Ages 10-17 years old
- Accessed through referral from mobile crisis

## Autism Crisis Stabilization Unit

- 10 bed CSU
  - View Point Health
  - Rockdale County
  - Statewide access
  - Spring 2020
- Short-term out of home behavior intervention and medication management
- Ages 10—14 years old
- Accessed through referral from mobile crisis

## Crisis Services through DBHDD

- Effective January 1, 2019, DBHDD eliminated its separate BH and DD Mobile Crisis Teams in favor of a holistic mobile crisis response system.
  - Key changes:
    - (1) Contractual 59-minute response time (*from time of GCAL dispatch*)
    - (2) Availability to individuals **age 4 and older**
    - (3) Team composition based on the individual's primary presentation, not exclusively on their diagnosis, with additional expertise for those individuals with Autism Spectrum Disorder

## Crisis Services Continued

- DD Crisis Services consist of intensive in-home and out-of-home (“crisis homes”).
  - **Intensive in-home:** Time-limited interventions provided primarily in the individual’s residence to caregivers (paid and unpaid) for the implementation of assessed behavior training and intervention needed
  - **Intensive out-of-home:** A service that provides out-of-home behavior stabilization and support for an individual who experiences a serious emotional/behavioral change

To access crisis services **contact GCAL 800-715-4225** Mobile Crisis Team assessment and if warranted a referral to the crisis provider.

# Competitive Integrated Employment

Georgia became an Employment 1<sup>st</sup> state in 2018

Competitive Integrated Employment is:

- GOAL of 10 hours per week
- At least minimum wage
- In the community working with people without disabilities
- Employer cannot be a provider of services

Includes traditional and customized employment services

Funding: GA Vocational Rehabilitation, NOW/COMP, State-funds, employment express funding

Speak with your support coordinator if you are interested in this service if in the waiver. If on the planning list, call your local DBHDD Field Office to inquire.

# Electronic Visit Verification (EVV)

Owned by Department of Community Health (DCH)

- Email: [evv.Medicaid@dch.ga.gov](mailto:evv.Medicaid@dch.ga.gov)
- Website: <https://Medicaid.Georgia.gov/Georgia-electronic-visit-verification>
- Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/gadept.communityhealth/>
- YouTube: <https://www.youtube.com/user/gacommunityhealth>



# Georgia STABLE Accounts

## **Tax-Free Earnings**

The earnings you make on your STABLE Account are not subject to federal or state of Georgia income taxes, so long as you spend the earnings on Qualified Disability Expenses.

## **Keep Your Public Benefits**

One of the primary reasons that the federal ABLE Act was passed was to protect individuals with disabilities from losing certain benefits such as SSI or Medicaid.

## **No Impact on Medicaid Benefits**

The money in your STABLE Account will not affect your eligibility for Medicaid benefits.

## **Limited Impact on SSI Benefits**

<https://www.georgiastable.com>



# GA Council on Developmental Disabilities Facebook Live Recording Link

- To view the saved presentation about STABLE accounts please click the following link provided by the Georgia Council on Developmental Disabilities
- <https://www.facebook.com/georgiaddcouncil/videos/vb.110812264182/2596432700419584/?type=2&theater>

# Office of Health & Wellness (OHW) Structure

## The Structure

- OHW was added to the Division in May of 2015
- Organizational Structure of the office includes:
  - Director with a background in medical and behavioral services
  - Two statewide managers; a clinical expert of behavioral services and a manager of nursing with expertise in community and IDD
    - Registered Nurse Managers and Behavioral Specialists assigned in each field office

## “Just a few” of OHW Functions

Serves as a **clinical hub** offering (clinical)

- **Consultation** to field offices, providers (residential, clinical, and support coordination) agencies as well as families supporting (COMP/NOW) waived individuals. Some of the areas of consultation include
  - Assessment for clinical supports (nursing and behavioral),
  - Proxy regulation clarification and feedback;
  - Responses to clinical policy and process inquiries originating from the PIMS database.
- Provision of **oversight** of field office clinical staff,
  - Behavioral
  - Nursing...responsible for
    - clinical assessment and
    - determination of skilled nursing and behavioral supports.

# OHW Contributions

This Office is a sponsor and contributor of...

- Development of clinical content and tools,
- Strategic clinical workforce development initiatives,
- Clinical symposiums; topics include...
  - Training and educational forums of professional
  - Health advocacy
  - (Audiences)
    - field office staff, and
    - providers; clinical, residential and case management.

# The Future

Projected initiatives include:

- Clinical contributor to correspondence informing providers and families of the services and trends related to IDD services and supports.
- Developer of content promoting skills of health advocacy targeting members of support systems of individuals with IDD
- Clinical partner participation in initiatives promoting access to clinical resources.

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**QUESTIONS?**