



The Mi Via Waiver Program  
Disabilities Concerns Subcommittee  
August 3, 2017



# Mi Via Waiver-My Path or My Way

- Department of Health (DOH) operates the Mi Via Program through the Developmental Disabilities Supports Division (DDSD).
- Human Services Department (HSD) Medical Assistance Division is the administering agency that applies for the waiver and works with the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) on waiver administration.
  - 1915 c Home and Community Based Services Waiver
  - ICF/IDD Eligibility
  - Available to individuals newly allocated to Medicaid Waiver Services
  - Medical Eligibility Criteria and Financial Eligibility criteria must be met initially and annually.
  - Participants can transfer from traditional waivers:
    - Developmental Disabilities
    - Medically Fragile



# Mi Via Waiver-1915 (c) HCBS Waiver

- The current Mi Via Waiver was approved effective October 1, 2015 for a five year period.
- The waiver was amended effective April 15, 2017 to include the following:
  - Updated the number of participants served under the waiver;
  - Related Goods was updated to align with the CMS technical guide, and to define Recreational and Diversional;
  - Transportation services were updated to clarify that this service is limited to the cost of transportation needed to access waiver services included in the participant's service plan or to access other activities and resources identified in the service plan; and
  - Respite was updated to clarify that the service is provided on an intermittent or short-term basis.



# Mi Via Waiver – New Mexico Administrative Code (NMAC)

- The rule governing the Mi Via Program is 8.314.6 NMAC.
- 8.314.6 NMAC was updated on March 1, 2016.
- MAD and DDSD will be updating the rule to align with the approved Mi Via Waiver Amendment that was effective April 15, 2017.



# Philosophy: Self-Directed

- Participants choose which services, supports and goods they need from the available services.
- Participants choose when, where and how those services will be provided.
- Participants choose who they want to provide services and who they want to assist them with planning and managing services and supports.



# Program Features

- Participants can choose to hire their own employees or choose to work with their choice of vendors for services.
- Service models are available across both participant populations.
- Funding is flexible and not restricted to traditional services.
- Related goods may be purchased to address the participants' needs.



# Program Features

- Participants have the responsibility to self-direct their services.
- Participants create an individualized Service and Support Plan (SSP) to include all allowed services for the plan year.
- Participant or another designated person becomes the Employer of Record (EOR) and is responsible for hiring, training and terminating all employees.
- Receiving services from Mi Via is similar to running a small business.



# Support Services-Consultant

- Consultant Agencies- 8 providing services (some are statewide, some cover a few regions)
  - Assist with eligibility and orientation to Mi Via Waiver Program
  - Assist the Participant with the development of the Services and Support Plan and ongoing plan implementation
  - Assist with guiding participants through the Mi Via Program processes to obtain chosen supports.





# Services and Support Plan-SSP

- Individualized and Person-Centered Plan
- Based on individual needs
- Supports individual to live in the community as independently as possible
- Outlines services/goods needed for community living



# Service Categories

Living Supports

Community  
Membership Supports



Health and  
Wellness  
Supports

Other Related  
Supports/Goods



# Living Supports

- Homemaker/Direct Support Services-Not available to Participants under age 21(covered under Medicaid state plan as expanded EPSDT benefits)
- Home Health Aide-Available to Participants 21years and older
- In-Home Living Supports-Available to Participants 18 years or older



# Community Membership Supports

- Community Direct Supports
- Customized Community Group Supports
- Employment Supports
  - \* Job Development
  - \* Job Coaching



# Health and Wellness Supports

- Extended State Plan Skilled Therapy for Adults (i.e. Physical Therapy, Occupational Therapy, Speech Language Pathology)
- Behavior Support Consultation
- Nutritional Counseling
- Private Duty Nursing for Adults
- Specialized Therapies



# Other Health and Wellness Supports

Specialized Therapies only include the following:

❖ Acupuncture

❖ Hippotherapy

❖ Biofeedback

❖ Massage Therapy

❖ Cognitive Rehabilitation  
Therapy

❖ Chiropractic

❖ Native American  
Healing

❖ Play Therapy

❖ Naprapathy



# Other Supports

- Transportation
- Emergency Response
- Environmental Modifications
- Respite
- Individual Directed Goods



# Annual Budget Allotment

- Intellectually and/or Developmentally Disabled (I/DD) and Medically Fragile (MF) populations are separated by age:
  - 0-17 years old-----\$23,443
  - 18-20\* years old-----\$54,589
  - 21 and older-----\$72,710

\*68,589 if using In-Home Living Supports





# To Become a Mi Via Participant

- If a person is already receiving DD Waiver or Medically Fragile Waiver services:
  - Obtain a Waiver Change Form (WCF) from the local Department of Health/Developmental Disabilities Supports Division Regional Office
  - Transition meeting is held with individual and/or their legal representative, DD or MF Case Manager and Mi Via Consultant, transition date is set
  - Services can only start the 1<sup>st</sup> of a month. Submission guidelines are set for Consultants



# To Become Mi Via Participant

- If a person is not receiving services through the DD or MF Waiver, they must contact the DOH/DDSD, Intake and Eligibility Bureau (1-800-283-5548) and complete the application process for eligibility determination.
- Applicants must meet program eligibility requirements in order to be placed on the Waiting List.
- All allocations through the Waiting List are dependent on funding and meeting program eligibility requirements.



# Mi Via Program DOH/DDSD Contacts

Further questions about the Mi Via program please contact the

DOH/DDSD Mi Via Unit  
5301 Central NE Suite 203  
Albuquerque, New Mexico 87108

or

Regina Lewis, DDSD Mi Via Unit Program Coordinator at 505-841-5519; email  
[regina.lewis@state.nm.us](mailto:regina.lewis@state.nm.us)

or

Fleur Dahl, DDSD Mi Via Unit Project Coordinator at 505-841-5886; email  
[Fleur.dahl@state.nm.us](mailto:Fleur.dahl@state.nm.us)

or

Jennifer Rodriguez, DDSD Community Programs Bureau Chief at 505-476-8840; email  
[Jennifer.Rodriguez@state.nm.us](mailto:Jennifer.Rodriguez@state.nm.us)



# Mi Via Program DOH/DDSD Contacts

To request a WCF or CACF

Please contact the DOH/DDSD Regional Mi Via Regional Liaisons:

- ❖ NE Region—Anysia Fernandez (575) 758-5934
- ❖ NW Region—Dennis O’Keefe (505)-863-9937
- ❖ SE Region—Eugene Vigil (575) 624-6100
- ❖ SW Region—Dave Brunson (575) 528-5180
- ❖ Metro Region— Rose Mary Williams (505) 841-5500  
Metro Region— Larry Lovato (505) 841-5500



# Mi Via Program HSD /MAD Contacts

For questions related to the Financial Management Agency (Conduent) or the Third-Party Assessor (Qualis Health), contact:

HSD/MAD/ESPB Mi Via Waiver Program

Kresta Opperman, MAD/ESPB Mi Via Staff Manager at 505-827-7776  
or [kresta.opperman@state.nm.us](mailto:kresta.opperman@state.nm.us)

or

Katie Hettinger, MAD/ESPB Mi Via Unit Contract Manager at 505-476-7254 or [katie.hettinger2@state.nm.us](mailto:katie.hettinger2@state.nm.us)



# Questions?

Thank you for your time!

