



STATE OF NEW MEXICO

GOVERNOR'S COMMISSION ON DISABILITY



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Long Term Services and Supports

Progressive transformation of Medicaid waiver Long Term Services and Supports cannot happen without a paradigm shift from the current view. In moving into the future, maybe the question for receiving Medicaid LTSS should change from meeting nursing home or institutional level of service need to community living services and supports needs to avoid nursing home or institutional placement; maybe look at a waiver to get into a nursing home or institution.

An important shift in thinking should be funding equity across all long term services and supports waiver programs. Such is not the current situation. Also, begin to more fully support consumer-, self-direction and self-determination across all LTSS programs, and that includes the 'dignity of risk'. The freedom to choose the activities and direction of one's own life, that most people enjoy, will begin to empower people with disabilities to manage their own lives.

All New Mexicans should have access to the same services and supports, and base the service plan on community living needs, which the 1115 Medicaid demonstration waiver begins to pursue, instead of continuing a 'silo system'. New Mexico should continue to work to provide a LTSS environment that supports community living, choice and consumer-, self-direction; one LTSS program with defined parameters and limits, common definitions of services and supports, consistent reimbursement rates for services and supports.

Philosophical concepts:

1. Enhance self-care through improved coordination
2. Encourage community Integration and Involvement
3. Expand accessibility of services and supports
4. Uphold personal preference
5. Empower people to participate in the economic mainstream
6. Invest in assistive technology
7. Implement a community-FIRST living philosophy
8. Increase the availability of independent living options
9. Include the experience of consumers/end users in program design and implementation
10. Develop common services or supports definitions
11. Develop uniform rates for services and supports

'Creating Opportunities for Barrier Free Futures'

12. Address services and supports needs of people with significant disabilities such as brain injury, stroke, Alzheimer's, vent users and those with cognitive and/or psychiatric disabilities

Other key areas:

- Single, comprehensive assessment tool, based on community-living need(s); create a self-assessment tool for service recipients for TPA comparison
- Focus on consumer-, self-direction and self-centered planning
- Re-think the idea of the 'dignity of risk'
- Emphasize consumer directed/self-determination delivery systems that have shown to be less expensive
- Systems and Programs are adverse to change
- Re-build system to a "Person-Directed/Centered" approach rather than the current "Program-Centered" approach