

Goal: Establish and implement a resource allocation process for ADSD/Developmental Services based on assessed support needs.

The number of children and adults with intellectual and developmental disabilities living with family members and community supports continues to climb. Increasingly states are tasked with developing models of support that allow for people to live within their natural homes and communities while providing assurances for health and safety. CMS has increased the requirements for states to have formalized assessments that are directly tied to resource allocation and level of service. Each level of service is tied to a specific cost. At least 43 states use some assessment for resource allocation. Having an assessment system and methodology for determining level of service and resource allocation allows states to fairly and responsibly allocate the resources. Through an assessment process people get what they need at lower cost per person, services are individualized, and rate schedules are matched to service arrays that allow for maximum utilization of natural and new resources. Currently, the State of Nevada Developmental Services does not have a formalized assessment process that is standardized and independent. An independent assessment is separate from the service providers and the state targeted case managers. This reduces conflicts of interest and allows for the individual to receive what they need through a fair and unbiased assessment process. An independent assessment system will strengthen our capacity to provide fiscally responsible resource allocation to allow children and adults with intellectual and developmental disabilities to remain living in their natural homes and communities.

Opportunities for success:

1. Developmental Services is able to apply for Technical Assistance through CMS. We are able to request technical assistance for both the assessment portion of this project and the rate analysis and rate setting portion of this project.
2. This project is in alignment with Nevada's legislative cycle.
3. This project is in alignment with the Waiver renewal date of October 2018.
4. This project is in alignment with the ADSD Strategic Plan.
5. This project is in alignment with the states' participation in the Balancing Incentive Program (BIPP) which requires states to use a core standardized assessment and uniform assessment process for a given population across the state

Other ADSD and state initiatives that support this project:

1. *Closure of the ICF/IDD:* The closure of the state ICF/IDD will require Nevada Developmental Services have a system in place to adequately assess community support needs of individuals transitioning. Additionally, there needs to be a rate structure that will support Developmental Services with recruiting and retaining service providers that will have the competency to serve individuals with complex behavioral and medical support needs. This project is supportive of this current initiative.
2. *Behaviorally Complex Rate Adjustment:* Establishment of a higher rate for the behaviorally complex population will support Nevada Developmental Services with recruiting and retaining competent service providers. In order to determine individuals eligible for this increased rate, Nevada Developmental Services will need an effective and equitable method for assessing for this level of need. This project will support Nevada with this current initiative.
3. *Integrated Behavioral Health for Individuals with Intellectual Disabilities:* Nevada Developmental Services has current plans to develop acute care facilities for individuals with intellectual disability who also have severe mental illness. This will require the Division to develop systems that allow for an integrated approach, blending support from Behavioral Health Services as well as Developmental Services. Integrating assessment processes between Behavioral Health and Developmental Services will support the Division in developing an integrated support approach. This project is in alignment with this initiative.
4. *Daily Rates for Supported Living:* Nevada Developmental Services has current plans to evaluate the current rate structure for community based supported living services moving from an hourly rate to a daily rate for intensive 24 hour services, as well as the shared living program. Evaluation of the current rate structure and rate setting is in direct alignment with this project.
5. *Intake & Assessment:* Nevada Developmental Services currently has an intake and eligibility assessment process separate from targeted case management, however, this process is not tied to support need assessment and resource allocation. Aligning Developmental Services Intake/Eligibility with the establishment of a centralized intake and assessment unit for ADSD will support Nevada Developmental Services with developing an assessment team specialized in developmental services assessment and is responsible to conduct assessments that lead to budget allocations. This will also support Nevada Developmental Services with becoming compliant with the CMS requirement for conflict free case management.
6. *Quality Assurance:* ADSD's plans for a central quality assurance unit will support Nevada Developmental Services with developing specific provider standards around serving behaviorally and medically complex individuals, as well as with provider recruitment and retention of specialized service providers who have the competency to serve individuals with a high level of behavioral and medical needs.

7. *Balancing Incentive Program (BIPP)*: As part of the states' participation in BIPP, the Level II assessment for intellectual and developmental disabilities that meets CMS requirements for capturing a Core Dataset of five domains has been developed within Harmony. Using this assessment with the intent of developing the normative information to support resource allocation is a viable approach toward the development of the independent assessment process.

Current status of project: Technical Assistance from the Centers for Medicaid and Medicare Services is occurring March 27 and 28 to facilitate and assist Nevada Developmental Services with accomplishing this goal.

Draft project timeline:

