

DODD HCBS ARPA Spending Plan

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Adult Day Blueprint Recommendations

ADS Quality Pilot - \$23,500,000

This project aims to enhance the quality of Adult Day Support services by ensuring that people receive high-quality care and experience greater community engagement within the ADS program. Includes funding for project administration and management.

Employment Quality Pilot - \$450,000

This project aims to enhance the quality of Employment services by enhancing competitive integrated employment outcomes and experiencing greater quality of support within employment services.

Provider Capacity Grants - \$250,000

Technical assistance grants for Adult Day Support providers willing to expand their services to people with behavioral health conditions, particularly to access integrated community settings. These grants will be specific to HCBS Adult Day Support providers.

Purchase Employment Courses - \$100,000

This project will support integrated community employment, provide employment DSPs with more training, and ultimately promote community integration for people receiving employment services in Ohio.

Support for People Receiving Services and their Families

Funds from this proposal will be used to support and strengthen a person or family's access to HCBS services and will not be available to support institutional settings or providers.

Individual Programs- \$2,000,000

Supported Decision Making – \$250,000

This project focuses on promoting supported decision-making and providing strategies to support decision-making. Supported decision-making is important to HCBS services because it allows people with disabilities to make their own decisions about their lives, and it will be supported by a cross-organizational advisory council as well as increased outreach and education through a vendor selection process.

Supporting Adult Crime Victims with Disabilities - \$500,000

This project will increase the awareness of abuse, neglect, and exploitation of people with disabilities who access HCBS waiver services and will include training on forensic interview protocol for adults with disabilities who have been victims of crimes or neglect.

Mentorship Program- \$500,000

This project aims to establish a mentorship program, connecting families and people living with disabilities with experienced peers who can offer guidance and support in navigating disability services and increased independence. The primary audience for these trainings would be people and families accessing Medicaid HCBS services or wanting to learn more about or advocate for those services, but may also include people and families accessing locally funded HCBS.

Ohio Leadership Academy – \$350,000

The Ohio Leadership Academy seeks to equip people living with disabilities and family members with leadership and advocacy skills to actively contribute to decision-making processes. The primary audience for these trainings would be people and families accessing Medicaid HCBS services or wanting to learn more about or advocate for those services but may also include people and families accessing locally funded HCBS.

Charting the LifeCourse Resource Expansion – \$200,000

The expansion of Charting the LifeCourse resources aims to help people living with disabilities and their families identify their vision for a fulfilling life and effectively utilize home and community-based services.

Training Content- \$200,000

The development of in-person and online content will focus on enhancing person-centered planning assessments by Service and Support Administrators to better support people with disabilities and their families in accessing appropriate services, especially those who have complex or behavioral health needs.

County Administered Projects- \$14,200,000

Funds from this proposal will be used to support and strengthen a person or family's access to HCBS services and will not be available to support institutional settings or providers. Counties may apply to use the funding for singular projects or across the multiple programs below.

Supporting Connections

Funds will provide agile support and services to people living with disabilities and their families by addressing their diverse needs and expanding their HCBS services to access more non-disability specific settings. Funds may be used for informal respite care, access to modified or non-traditional transportation, support needed for youth to attend summer camps, housing repairs or modifications for people who have complex behavioral needs, assistive technology or technology subscriptions, access to additional education and training opportunities along with support groups. Funds should be utilized to ensure that there is awareness of this program and the benefits of using it.

Accessible Communities

Investments in public and private infrastructure to expand access to non-disability-specific settings, including grants for accessible transportation, and other projects that will expand the

accessibility of the community for people receiving HCBS waiver services. While these funds will be targeted to expand accessibility for people receiving HCBS waiver services, there will be a secondary effect of the infrastructure also being available for the broader disability community to access. Funds may also be used to increase the awareness of the availability of the funding as well as the additional accessibility as the outcome of the project.

Universal Changing Tables

Investments in public and private infrastructure to expand access to non-disability specific settings, including grants for the purchase and installation of universal changing tables.

Community Experience

Participating in community activities is essential for people with developmental disabilities to form and maintain relationships with others. However, the cost of these activities can be a barrier for many to take advantage of these opportunities through HCBS waivers. This project proposes to set up grants to help people with developmental disabilities and their support staff pay for community experiences accessed through HCBS services.

Unserved and Underserved Communities – Non-English Speaking

Funding to increase access to services for non-English speaking people living with disabilities and their families. Funding can cover the cost of staff, travel, interpreter services, etc. for people who need it to better access and advocate for HCBS Waiver services.

Inclusive Conferences and Meetings

These funds will be used to support the various conferences and local meetings in Ohio to be more accessible for people with disabilities to attend and to support them to have a more prominent voice in their development. This funding would be made available to counties to provide more accessible settings for conference organizers, board meeting accessibility, or travel accommodations needed to attend which would provide for more participation by people receiving HCBS waiver services.

Workforce Support- \$5,000,000

The DSP support network will establish provider-specific projects that can be used to support DSPs in HCBS settings in ways that reduce their isolation and provide them with person-specific support. These projects could include the creation or expansion of employee resource networks that could include linkage to success coaches and community resource navigators for DSPs. It can also include other support such as mentoring, culture improvement, training, and supervisor or manager training. Awareness campaigns can also be funded to increase the recruitment of DSPs. This project will culminate in a Workforce Symposium where best practices, project scale, and sustainability will be recommended.

Innovative Technology and Supporting Youth- \$6,000,000

MSY Waiver Pilot

The MSY waiver pilot will determine the additional services and costs associated with those services needed for youth with complex needs to be supported successfully in an HCBS waiver setting. The funds for this pilot project will be used to assess the needs of service providers as well as to test the viability and cost of new services. If the pilot is successful, these services may later be added as an HCBS waiver service.

Technology

Funding to be used for smart home technology to be purchased and installed in HCBS settings to provide more support and independence for people living with disabilities, as well as grants proposed for technology services to ensure that people living with developmental disabilities have access to the latest technology and that they can live as independently as possible in HCBS settings. Funding may also be used to support system infrastructure such as enhancing accessibility and choice for people living with disabilities and their families by simplifying provider searches, improving access to services such as transportation, and empowering greater control and self-direction in HCBS service selection and personalization.

Waiver Modernization- \$5,000,000

DODD is working with a consultant to redesign, modernize, and simplify current processes related to assessments, funding, rate setting, data collection, and establishing individual budgets for Medicaid Home and Community-Based Services Waivers. The Waiver Modernization Project has four main areas of focus:

- Streamlining the billing process for providers;
- Creating a single assessment to create individual budgets;
- Making the Shared Living service more responsive to people's needs; and
- Increasing the availability of technology used in the Remote Support service, giving more people the opportunity to have more independence in their lives.

Funding will be used to support the work of DODD's consultants and to ensure significant stakeholder engagement in the project.