

NORTH CAROLINA DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

DHHS Plan for Leveraging the State's Olmstead Plan and Creating Choice for People with Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities Town Hall

December 9, 2022

Samantha R. et al. vs. NCDHHS and the State of North Carolina

- **Background**

- **Claim brought under the NC Persons with Disabilities Protection Act alleging NCDHHS unnecessarily institutionalize persons with Intellectual or Developmental Disabilities (I/DD).**

- **The Order**

- **Eliminate the Innovations waiver waiting list over a period of ten years**
- **“Divert or Transition” I/DD individuals away from institutional settings**
- **Address the direct support professional workforce crisis**
- **Cease admissions to ICF’s in January of 2028**

What is the reason for our appeal

- **Our Disagreement**

- There is no disagreement regarding where to go, only how to get there.
- The court order misses the mark in ways that could decrease the availability of community-based options.
- It will close community-based ICF's

Several Important Steps

- **North Carolina's Olmstead Plan**
 - **Affirms the right of people with disabilities to receive services in the community in the most appropriate integrated setting.**
 - **Developed with broad stakeholder involvement**
- **Innovations Waiver Slots**
 - **Funded 1,000 additional Innovations Waiver Slots**
 - **As a result, people with intellectual and developmental disabilities can receive services where they live rather than in an institution.**

Several Important Steps (continued)

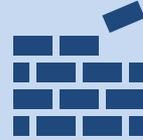
- **Direct Support Professional Wage Increases**
 - Providing rate increases
 - With this action, home and community-based services will have a strong pool of qualified workers to draw from.
- **1915(i) State Plan Amendment**
 - This language in the Social Security Act allows Medicaid dollars to be spent on home and community-based services, supporting the overall goal of choice for people with intellectual and developmental disabilities.

Several Important Steps (continued)

- **Implementing Tailored Plans**
 - **Launching April 2023**
 - **Individuals with I/DD will receive specialized care management and integrated services.**
 - **Our goal is to provide comprehensive and coordinated services.**

A Strong NC System for People with I/DD

Community -Based Services & Supports



- **Increased Waiver Slots**
- **State-Funded Services and Supports**
- **Medicaid-Funded RB-BHT (Research-Based Behavioral Health Treatment) for People with Autism Spectrum Disorder**
- **Medicaid 1915(i) Options services:**
 - **Supported Employment**
 - **Community Living & Supports**
 - **Respite**
- **Whole Person Care through Tailored Plans**
- **Tailored Care Management**

A Strong NC System for People with I/DD

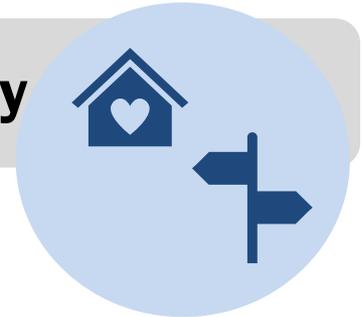
Strong & Inclusive Workforce



- **Increased wages for Direct Support Professionals (DSPs) that support consumers with I/DD**
- **Certification program for Direct Support Professionals (DSPs) tied to higher wage structures**
- **Support more consumer self-direction**

A Strong NC System for People with I/DD

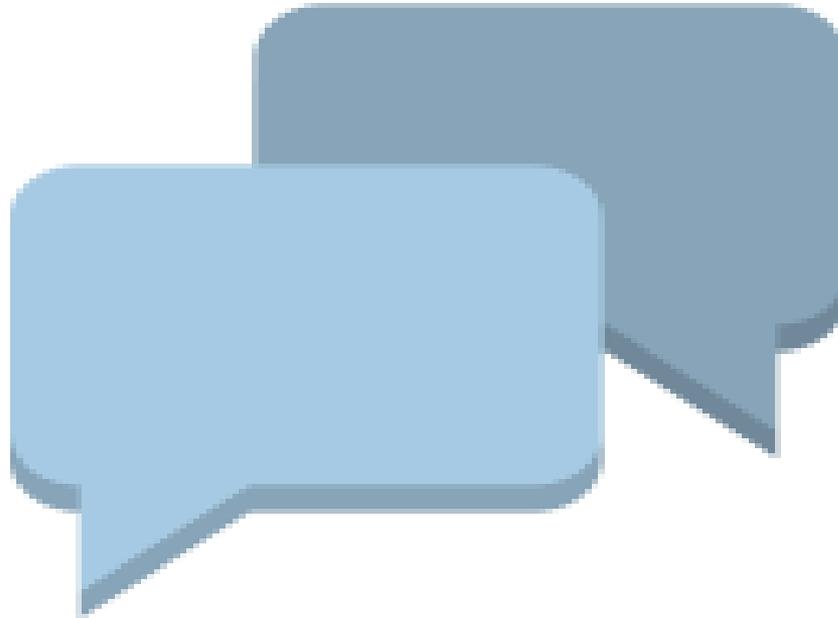
Choice, Community Inclusion, and Equity



- **Promote equity in access and outcomes for people with IDD**
 - **Address inequities for Black & Latinx members in the IDD Community**
- **More choice in community-based housing**
- **Support inclusive healthcare & integrated care**
- **Strengthen community-based employment opportunities**

Consumer & Family Voice

Questions & Answers



Comments, questions and feedback are welcome at:

- BHIDD.HelpCenter@dhhs.nc.gov
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