



AGENCY OF HUMAN SERVICES

DEPARTMENT OF DISABILITIES, AGING AND INDEPENDENT LIVING

DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES SERVICES DIVISION

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WATERBURY, VT 05671-2030

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To: Interested Stakeholders

From: Clare McFadden, Director, DDS

Re: Invitation to participate in DDS Payment Reform workgroups

Date: October 16, 2018

The Department of Disabilities, Aging and Independent Living, in partnership with the Department of Vermont Health Access, is working on a major Payment Reform initiative for Developmental Disabilities Services (DDS) Home and Community-based Services. There are a number of reasons the State has initiated this project. One major reason is to comply with the State's agreement with the federal Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services to develop a plan to coordinate payment and delivery of Medicaid Home and Community-based Services within the State's delivery reform efforts for health care. Another major reason is a report from the State Auditor's Office to increase the transparency and accountability of DD services. Overall, the goal of this project is to create a transparent, effective, and administrable payment model for DD services that aligns with the Agency of Human Service's broader payment reform and health care reform goals.

A group of providers and other stakeholders have been meeting with the state since January to redesign how to pay and account for services. We are now adding three new workgroups to this effort and we are interested in adding additional stakeholders to these workgroups. We are interested in having three people who represent individuals receiving services, family members or advocacy organizations for each workgroup. The workgroups are as follows:

Needs Assessment: This workgroup is focusing on the adoption of a uniform, standardized assessment tool for determining what services individuals need. The workgroup will review assessment tool options, considerations of transitioning to a new tool and the process for implementation.

Payment Model: This workgroup will be focused on designing the payment mechanism by which providers are paid to provide services. They will consider payment model options and implications for providers and people receiving services. They will provide input for planning and implementation of a new payment model.

Licensing and Protection

Adult Services

Vocational Rehabilitation

Developmental Disabilities Services

Blind and Visually Impaired

Encounter Data: This workgroup will be focused on how provider agencies report to the state what services were delivered to individuals. A determination has been made that the providers will be reporting services through the Medicaid Management Information System. The workgroup will provide input into implementation of this new process.

The structure for the meetings of each workgroup:

Membership: State staff as needed, 3 agency provider representatives, 3 stakeholders representing recipients, families or advocacy organizations.

Frequency of Meetings: Meet twice a month for 90 minutes at the Waterbury State Office Complex, but people have the option to participate by phone. Meetings are scheduled through June, 2019 (subject to change depending on need).

Role of Members: Provide feedback and recommendations to the state to advance the work on Payment Reform in DDS. Review materials provided in between meetings to prepare for participation.

Please forward this invitation to any stakeholders who may be interested.

If you are interested in participating, please email Clare McFadden at clare.mcfadden@vermont.gov . Please indicate who you are and your relationship to DDS (person receiving services, family member or advocate), where you are from in VT and in which workgroup you are interested. Please respond as soon as possible, but no later than 11/12/18. A small stipend and mileage is available for stakeholders who would not be participating as part of their job. For those selected, I will provide an orientation to the project to you are up to speed on the effort to date. Feel free to email me if you have additional questions.