

DHHS FY 16/17 Budget Initiative: HCBS Waiver Services for Elders & Adults with Disabilities

Section 19 Home and Community Benefits for the Elderly and for Adults with Disabilities

- The budget provides an increase in funding to support efforts to ultimately eliminate waitlists within the Home and Community Benefits for the Elderly and for Adults with Disabilities program.
- These programs are designed to help people who are at a high risk of institutional placement and to allow them to remain independent by creating services that support them in the community.
- This program includes in-home care and other services designed as a package to assist adults who meet nursing facility level of care to remain in their homes and thereby avoid or delay more costly and restrictive institutional care.
- Covered services include care coordination, nursing, personal care, home health, adult day, respite, home modifications, transportation, emergency response systems, and assistive technology. It allows for consumer-directed personal care service delivery, including the designation of another individual to act as a representative to manage a member's services.

GOAL: Eliminate a longstanding waitlist for people to remain in their homes and avoid institutionalization.

Initiative

In December 2014, the Section 22 Waiver, serving persons with physical disabilities who direct their own services, was merged into Section 19. This was done in response to a Legislative resolve (Resolve 2011, ch. 71) to streamline and achieve efficiencies in service delivery and administration. Additional funds for these programs will assist in serving 52 individuals who are currently on the waitlist for Section 19 (including a number who were served under Section 22 prior to the merger).

SFY 2016		SFY 2017	
General Fund	Federal Fund	General Fund	Federal Fund
\$960,898	\$1,599,448	\$941,662	\$1,580,873

Impact

- This initiative would fund services for individuals who are in institutional placements or are at risk for institutionalization without additional support.
- Some of the members transitioning from the waitlist could be assisted by the Homeward Bound grant which assists in transition to home/community from institutions.
- Providers who work with this population will see an increase in the numbers of individuals served.