



WASHINGTON

CONTEXT

The WA State Developmental Disabilities Administration (DDA) has a case load of 42,519 (September 2015) of which 28,328 adults and children with intellectual disabilities receive paid DDA services. Prior to 2015, the DDA operated four HCBS Waivers: Basic Plus, Core, Community Protection and Children’s Intensive In-Home Behavioral Support Waiver. With funding from the 2014 Session, the Legislature authorized creating a new Individual and Family Support (IFS) Waiver to replace the state only funded Individual and Family Support program and creating a new Community First Choice Option under which all will receive Personal Care. DDA is now implementing the new IFS waiver with a goal of serving 5,000 people from the 14,191 on the No Paid Services Case Load, as it is called.

GOALS

Develop effective and proactive strategies to address the needs of aging caregivers supporting family members.

Establish an adult sibling support network.

Educate parents with IDD about parenting support services offered in the Individual and Family Support Waiver and make parents aware of the rights they have in the foster care system and the courts.

Explore issues related to autonomy and self-determination for adults with IDD living with family.

Improve the experience that individuals and families have with the first point of contact with DDA.

ANTICIPATED OUTCOMES

Families with aging caregivers receive supports that effectively meet their needs and assist with planning for the future.

Siblings of individuals with IDD have access to information, resources, and mutual support.

Initial contact with DDA is easy to navigate and considers both formal and informal supports that best align with individual and family needs.

Parents with IDD have effective supports to effectively manage their parenting role.

ACTIVITIES

Discovery & Navigation

- Disseminating information via listserv and “Informing Families” initiative
- Implementing online person-centered planning tool, mylifeplan.guide, across life stages.
- Gathering information from particular stakeholder groups via surveys and focus groups.

Connecting & Networking

- Working with local and national sibling support groups to develop strategies to best support siblings of people with IDD.

Goods & Services

- Partnering with two counties to pilot approaches to improve the first point of contact with the service system.
- Participating in Smart Living Demonstration Project to explore technology support strategies.
- Integrating the online planning tool with person-centered service planning process.