GETTING OUT THERE: COMMUNITY SUPPORT SERVICES FOR PEOPLE WITH INTELLECTUAL AND DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES IN MEDICAID HCBS WAIVERS

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Abstract
Despite an increased number of community-based services, people with intellectual and developmental disabilities (IDD) continue to struggle with meaningful community participation and often feel they are not valued community members. This study examined how community support services, which support physical placement and community integration, were allocated in Medicaid 1915(c) HCBS waivers, the largest provider of long-term services and supports for people with IDD in the United States. Community support services totaled $447.5 million of projected funding in fiscal year 2014. While community transition services funded expenses required to establish a basic household for the initial transition, community integration services promoted a successful community placement by utilizing natural supports and developing skills necessary to maintain community integration.

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Type of Waiver. 1915(c) Home and Community-Based Services Waiver. Eligibility Requirements. Must have eligibility for full scope Medi-Cal. Must have a formal diagnosis of a developmental disability that originates before an individual attains the age of 18, as defined in the California Lanterman Developmental Disabilities Services Act, Welfare and Institutions Code, Section 4512(a). Must be a Regional Center consumer. Must meet the level of care of the Federal intermediate care facility for the mentally retarded (ICF/MR), or in California, the ICF/DD-type facilities. Services Provided. Homemak Medicaid Home and Community-Based Services (HCBS) 1915(c) waivers are one of the largest providers of long-term services and supports for people with intellectual and developmental disabilities (IDD). HCBS waivers also play a prominent role in providing day habilitation services for people with IDD. The purpose of this study was to examine how HCBS waivers allocate day habilitation services for people with IDD. HCBS waivers providing day habilitation services for people with IDD were analyzed to determine service utilization and projected expenditures.