Introducing: The Newsletter!

The Division of Disability and Rehabilitative Services (DDRS) will be producing a newsletter on a quarterly basis in conjunction with regional provider engagement meetings. The newsletter’s purpose is two-fold:

1. To provide a modest amount of background and some additional resources about the purpose of the HCBS Statewide Transition Plan.
2. To provide updates on the development of the HCBS Statewide Transition Plan rollout and the milestones reached by DDRS.

Please distribute this newsletter to your agencies, organizations and networks.

What is the HCBS Transition Plan?

In March of 2014, the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) established the final Home and Community-Based Services (HCBS) rule, which set forth new requirements for several Medicaid authorities under which states may provide home and community-based long-term services and supports.

The intent of the new rule is to ensure that people receiving services through the HCBS waiver programs operated by the State of Indiana receive services in the most integrated settings. The settings include both residential and non-residential settings where services through the waiver program are received. The end goal is to truly enhance the quality of HCBS and provide additional protections to individuals that receive services under these Medicaid authorities.

DDRS as a division under FSSA, like the Division of Mental Health and Addiction (DMHA) and the Division of Aging (DA), was required to assist with creation of the Indiana HCBS Transition Plan. As such, DDRS has their own portion of the Transition Plan where there are activities that pertain to DDRS alone.

Overview of the HCBS Transition Plan key elements

Better Outcomes for Participants & Families
What is Included in the Indiana Statewide Transition Plan?

The plan includes a detailed description of how and what FSSA/DDRS has done or will do to ensure compliance with the requirements of this new rule. The new rule applies to both residential and non-residential settings.

In the plan submitted by DDRS, it includes the steps that DDRS has taken to review current services and the future plans for additional reviews.

The DDRS Transition Plan includes the following major activities:

- Assessment of all residential and non-residential settings (happening now through Dec. 2015)
  - Comprehensive provider and participant survey
  - Site specific assessments
- Assembling a Transition Taskforce to provide technical assistance and support
- Revisions to DDRS Waiver Manual, Forms and Training process
- Policy Modification through the revision of policies and procedures
- Development of a Corrective Action Process
- Revisions to Indiana Code

These phases overlap and will not cleanly transition from one to the next.
Individual Experience Survey (IES)

The Individual Experience Survey (IES) was created to examine how people receiving services and supports experience their day to day activities in their homes and communities. The survey results will be used to assess changes that may need to be made to improve the experience people have when receiving services. This survey will also help ensure Indiana is compliant with the HCBS Settings Rule.

The survey’s questions will examine how people live, work, and spend their time both at home and out in their communities. How do they interact with family and friends? What kinds of activities do they participate in, and what do their daily routines look like? The survey is to be given to all individuals receiving Home and Community Based Services on both the Community Integration and Habilitation (CIH) and the Family Supports Waiver (FSW) in Indiana.

Case managers will complete the Individual Experience Survey (IES) with each person currently receiving services (for at least three months). The survey will be completed during regularly scheduled service planning meetings sometime between July 1, 2015 and December 31, 2015. Participant/family cooperation and participation in this survey is greatly appreciated and encouraged, however the survey is completely voluntary.

For questions about the survey, please contact BQIS Help: BQIS.Help@fssa.IN.gov
If CIH or FSW recipients have questions they may contact their case managers for more information.
An FAQ for case managers is available at: http://www.in.gov/fssa/4917.htm
An IES case manager training webinar and slide presentation is also available

Individual Experience Survey (IES) UPDATES

Case managers are currently in the survey implementation phase and are actively completing surveys with waiver participants. Individuals who have not yet been surveyed should expect their case manager to approach them with this opportunity during their next regularly scheduled service planning meeting.

Below is an overview of the total survey status overall.

Survey Completion Data as of August 21, 2015

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<th>Survey Status</th>
<th>Number of Individuals</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
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