



## BEAVER COUNTY BEHAVIORAL HEALTH

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### Home and Community Based Services and Waivers

#### **Integrating an array of supports to achieve the vision of an Everyday Life:**

Historically, supporting people with disabilities revolved around the disability services system. But, truly it takes a variety of support to achieve a good life, not just the formal service system alone.

Integrated supports include:

- Our personal strengths, assets, and interests
- Relationships that provide informal support
- Community resources we access and count on
- Technology
- Eligibility-based supports (publicly or privately funded)

From *The Community of Practice: Supporting Families across the Lifespan through the LifeCourse Framework*. Learn more at [www.lifecoursetools.com](http://www.lifecoursetools.com) or [www.myODP.org](http://www.myODP.org)

Publicly funded eligibility-based supports may include home and community based services (HCBS) through waivers (funding).

#### **Waivers:**

- Come from the federal government waiving Medical Assistance (Medicaid) rules for institutional care
- Are meant to help you live more independently in your home and community
- Pay for an array of home and community based services that promote community living

#### **Waiver services:**

- Rely on available funds
- Are meant to meet your needs as reflected on your Individual Support Plan (ISP) and Prioritization of Urgency of Need for Services (PUNS) form
- Are provided by specific willing and qualified providers
- Offer different levels of support. For instance from a few hours in the home and/or community to 24 hour residential
- Include community participation supports (CPS)
- Can be employment related and/or residential supports

*Learn about more available services on the PA Department of Human Services (PA DHS) website*

**Individuals registered with Beaver County Behavioral Health Administrative Entity may be eligible for the below waivers:**

- Consolidated Waiver
  - No individual cost limit per person for services
- Community Living Waiver
  - \$97,000 fiscal year individual cost limit per person for services

- Person/Family Directed Support Waiver (P/FD)
  - \$47,000 fiscal year individual cost limit per person for services (the limit can be exceeded by \$15,000 for Advanced Supported Employment or Supported Employment services)

*Learn more about these waivers on the PA DHS website*

### **What are some of the criteria that must be met to be eligible for these waivers?**

- Be registered for services with Beaver County Behavioral Health Administrative Entity\*
- Require the appropriate level of care (LOC)
- Be financially eligible. \*\*

*\*For additional information about eligibility requirements for individuals with intellectual disability and/ or autism call 724-624-7304*

*\*\*Income and assets (for instance, bank accounts or cashable life insurance or burial accounts) may not total more than the allowable limit. Only the individual's income and assets are counted. No other family members affect financial eligibility. The PA Department of Human Services sets and reviews this amount annually and it is subject to change at that time. Check with your Supports Coordinator or County Assistance Office for the current requirements.*

### **How do I receive a waiver?**

- Your Supports Coordinator (SC) will work with you to be sure your need for services and supports are included on your ISP (Individual Support Plan) and, when services funded through waiver are needed, they are reflected on your PUNS Form (Prioritization of Need for Services)
- PUNS Form information is shared with the County and State and used to prioritize individuals need for services funded through waiver
- You should inform your SC any time your needs change
- You will be informed when funding is available and be assisted by your SC in arranging services

**How do I learn about additional ways to receive funded home and community based services?** To find out if you qualify for other waivers, Community Health Choices (CHC), or Long Term Care Services contact your SC. You may also want to contact the PA Link to Aging and Disability Resource Center at 1-800-753-8827 or the PA Link to Community Care at [www.carelink.pa.gov](http://www.carelink.pa.gov). You can only have one source of HCBS funding at any given time.

*For more information on HCBS and waivers in the Pennsylvania Intellectual Disability/Autism service system visit the PA DHS website and [www.MyODP.org](http://www.MyODP.org) (PA DHS Office of Developmental Programs)*