

Informing Families

Building Trust

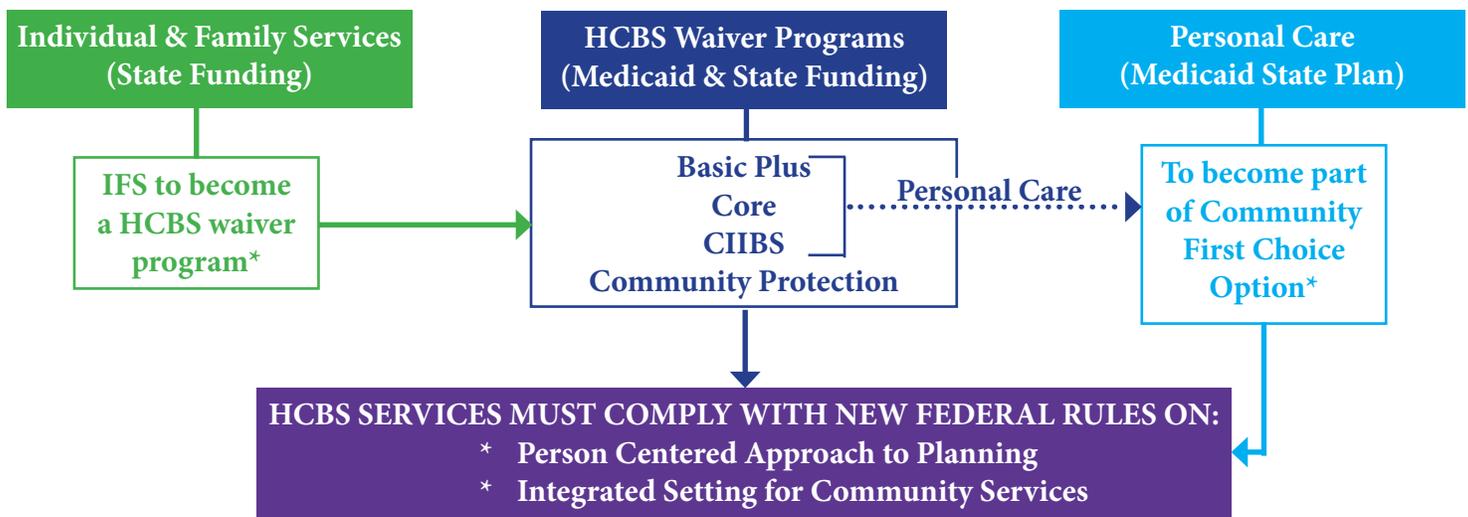
A Partnership for Better Communication
on Developmental Disability Issues in Washington State



CHANGES AHEAD

Three significant changes are on the horizon that will impact almost all individuals receiving services from the Developmental Disabilities Administration (DDA). If you or your family member receives services through one (or more) of the following programs, you can expect changes to what and how services are delivered:

1. **Individual & Family Services (IFS)** will become a Home & Community Based Services waiver.
2. **Personal Care** will become a new state plan program called Community First Choice Option (CFCO).
3. **Home & Community Based Services (HCBS)** waivers must comply with new federal regulations for a person centered approach to planning and the delivery of services in a (newly defined) integrated setting.



Why are these **CHANGES** happening?

The first two changes come at the direction of our state legislature and will bring in more federal funding, which will serve *thousands of individuals* on DDA's No Paid Services caseload.

The third change is a result of new federal Medicaid rules intended to reinforce a person-centered approach to planning and to ensure that covered services are fully integrated into the community.

What will be **DIFFERENT** or the **SAME** about services?

- ▶ First, and most importantly, no one will lose services or have their service amounts reduced as a result of these changes.
- ▶ No one on a HCBS will lose his/her waiver enrollment.
- ▶ Most clients will be happy to learn that they might have more services (such as Medicaid coverage for those transitioning to an IFS waiver, and more flexibility to choose from a menu of services).

NOTE: These changes will begin to take place in the spring of 2015, and continue into 2017 and beyond. Planning is already underway. Look for more information at informingfamilies.org as more details emerge in the coming weeks and months.

*Pending approval by the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services

Want to share your thoughts? Email Ed Holen: ed.holen@ddc.wa.gov