Overview of New Mexico’s System of Services for Individuals with Developmental Disabilities

Early Intervention:
New Mexico’s lead agency for IDEA Part C early intervention services for birth to three year old children with or at risk for developmental delay is the Department of Health, Developmental Disabilities Division (DDSD). These services are delivered in accordance with each Individualized Family Service Plan via a network of provider agencies statewide under contract with DDSD. These programs coordinate with the mental health system whenever parents or children served are identified with mental health support needs. For details regarding this program please see: http://www.health.state.nm.us/ddsd/fit/index.html. Questions may be directed to Andy Gomm at Andrew.Gomm@state.nm.us.

State General Fund Services:
State General Funded Services are outlined below. Individuals may choose to participate in State General Funded Services (outside of Self-Directed Family Supports as outlined below) once they are deemed to match eligibility criteria for DD Waiver services and are added to the Central Registry (waiting list). However, especially for Adult Day and Residential Services there are a limited number of openings available each year and there may be a waiting period. When individuals are allocated to the DD Waiver, they may choose to continue with State General Funded Services or move to the waiver (see description of the DD Waiver below). For details see: http://www.health.state.nm.us/ddsd/eligibility/eligibilitypg6.htm or direct questions to Travis Goldman at Travis.Goldman@state.nm.us.

Respite services are offered to individuals of all ages at 200 hours each year for individuals and families to utilize when the family needs a break from caring for their loved one. These services are extremely flexible and to be used at the family’s discretion.

Adult Day Services for individual who have completed their school special education program and are at least 18 years old, are typically offered during daytime hours to support individuals to grow with employment, community or pre-vocational skills building supports. These services are flexible and individuals may participate in more than one type of day service to meet their needs.

Adult Residential Services for individuals 18 years old and older, provide support for individuals in activities of daily living. Supported Living offers support for individuals in all aspects of daily living. Typically this support is offered in a home with up to 4 individuals and offering 24 hour staffing to ensure the health and safety of the residents. Independent Living offers varying levels of support to individuals in their own home or that of their family. This support is offered on a schedule developed between the individual and/or family based on the individual’s specific areas of need.

Behavioral Support Consultation for individuals of all ages consists of an evaluation and short term consultation to help individuals experiencing challenging behavior which is interfering with their ability to participate in the community. The individual and their family are provided with a Positive Behavior Support Plan and trained in the implementation of this plan to promote more positive behavior and coping skills.

Self-Directed Family Supports for individuals of all ages offers families a $2600 stipend to fund various goods or supports to meet the individual’s needs. Typical items procured through this support are Durable Medical Equipment, Alternative Healthcare, Community Supports, Respite, Educational Items, etc. Families are eligible to receive this support for two consecutive years unless they are allocated to the DD Waiver and choose to put that allocation on hold. In this circumstance, families will have ongoing eligibility until they opt for the DD Waiver.
Developmental Disabilities (DD) Waiver:
New Mexico currently serves approximately 3800 individual through this program, while approximately 4000 remain on the Central Registry awaiting allocation. At this time, most individuals remain on the Central Registry approximately seven years before they are allocated. Expedited allocation is only available to individuals on the Central Registry who are either: 1) experiencing abuse, neglect or exploitation in their current setting, 2) at eminent risk of becoming homeless, or 3) are aging out of the foster care system and are not eligible for any other appropriate placement option. During the waiting period, State General Fund services listed above may have openings in which they can participate. Services are budgeted within an “Annual Resource Allotment” (ARA) which is a budget limit based upon the individuals age and level of care. Individuals chose from the services listed below, up to the limit of their ARA. Children/youth under age 21 participating in the DD Waiver must obtain services covered by the Early Periodic Screening Diagnosis and Treatment Program (EPSDT) under their Medicaid card coverage rather than through their DD Waiver budget – affected services are indicated by an asterisk below. For details on the DD Waiver please see the following website: [http://www.health.state.nm.us/ddsd/regulationsandstandards/pg01standards.htm](http://www.health.state.nm.us/ddsd/regulationsandstandards/pg01standards.htm) or direct questions to Roberta Duran at Roberta.Duran11@state.nm.us.

DD Waiver Services:
- Case Management
- Respite
- Personal Companion Supports (a.k.a. Personal Care)*
- Behavioral Support Consultation
- Occupational Therapy*
- Speech Language Pathology*
- Physical Therapy*
- Nutritional Counseling*
- Non-medical Transportation
- Residential Services (only for individual 18 years or older)
  - Supported Living (24 hour supervision in a group up to 4)
  - Family Living (paid caregiver in a family based setting)
  - Independent Living (drop in supports in individuals own home based upon specific support needs)
- Day Services (only for individuals who have completed special education program and are at least 18 years old)
  - Adult Habilitation
  - Supported Employment
  - Community Access
- Environmental Modifications
- Goods & Services
- Supplemental Dental
- Personal Plan Facilitation
- Private Duty Nursing*

Mi Via Waiver:
Individual eligible and allocated to the DD Waiver have the option to instead participate in the Mi Via self-directed Waiver program. The following website has more information on this unique program: [http://www.health.state.nm.us/ddsd/programswaiversandstatefunding/Mi_Via.htm](http://www.health.state.nm.us/ddsd/programswaiversandstatefunding/Mi_Via.htm). Questions may be directed to Pat Syme at Pat.Syme@state.nm.us.
Services for Individuals with Autism Spectrum Disorders (ASD):

Individuals with an Autism Spectrum Disorder who meet level of care criteria are eligible for the DD Waiver. Likewise infants and toddlers with this diagnosis are eligible for early intervention services. In addition the ASD specific services listed below are available. Please contact Pat Osbourn for details regarding services delivered through the Center for Development & Disability (CDD) at posbourn@salud.unm.edu. Other questions may be directed to Jennifer Thorne-Lehman at Jennifer.Therne-Lehman@state.nm.us.

- Multidisciplinary Evaluation through the CDD – with a capacity of approximately 225 evaluations per year
- Parent and Professional Training through the CDD
- Intensive Home Parent Training Program for parents of children with ASD up to age 5 through the CDD – with a capacity of approximately 100 families per year
- Adaptive Skill Building for children age 6 to 18 through the CDD and three subcontractors – with a capacity of 80 children per year
- Recreational Respite through several DDSD subcontractors with a capacity of approximately 100 families per year
- Behavioral Respite through Value Options with a capacity of approximately 40 families per year