

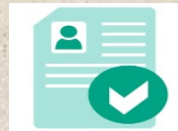
# **The Office of Developmental Programs (ODP) November 2023 Waiver Amendments Consolidated, Community Living, and Person/Family Directed Support Waivers**



# ▶ Today's Agenda

- Provide an Overview of Changes – 40 to 45 minutes
  - Technology (Remote Supports and Assistive Technology)
  - Community Participation Supports and Employment
  - Provider Qualifications
  - Specialty Telehealth and Assessment Team
  - Other Changes
- Questions and Answers – 15 to 20 minutes

# Technology





## ▶ REMINDER: Remote Supports in the January Renewals

Remote Supports were approved in the waiver renewals effective January 1, 2023.

- Remote Supports were originally covered under the Assistive Technology service definition. In the waiver renewals Remote Supports became a separate and discrete service with unique procedure codes for individuals who were not receiving residential services.
- The purpose of Remote Supports services is to assist participants age 16 and older in obtaining and/or maintaining their independence and safety within their private home and in the community and to decrease the need for assistance from others.

## ▶ REMINDER: What is Included in Remote Supports

Remote Supports include the following:

- Staff who monitor and respond to the participant's needs (this does not apply to residential services);
- The technology utilized in the home and community that is monitored by the staff;
- The technology utilized for two-way real time communication (if different from above);
- The equipment necessary to operate the technology; and
- The costs for delivery, installation, adjustments, monthly testing, monitoring, maintenance and repairs to the technology and equipment necessary to operate the technology.

# ▶ REMINDER: Remote Supports Versus Teleservices

Remote Supports	Teleservices
A separate and discrete service definition in the waivers	A method of delivering approved waiver services (such as In-Home and Community Support, Supported Employment, Community Participation Support)
Interaction with a professional occurs as needed but is not the main function of the service	May only be billed when the professional is actively engaging with the individual in the delivery of a service
Technology is used to allow someone from an agency who is offsite to monitor and respond to the individual's needs	Technology is used to actively engage with the individual using live 2-way communication. Monitoring devices is not allowed.



## ▶ REMINDER: Residential Remote Supports

Remote supports is an optional method of delivering Residential Habilitation, Life Sharing, and Supported Living services.

- Remote supports is intended to reduce the individual's need for direct support that would typically be provided as part of the Residential Habilitation/Life Sharing/Supported Living service.
  - As such, staff time spent monitoring devices and interacting with individuals is built into the Residential Habilitation/Life Sharing/Supported Living rate. Remote Supports cannot be authorized as a separate service in the ISP.
- The residential provider can subcontract with another provider to render remote supports. The residential provider is responsible for ensuring all waiver and regulatory requirements are met.

## ▶ Changes for Technology Used in Residential Remote Supports

- The technology used by one individual for this method of residential service delivery was covered under Assistive Technology.
  - **The technology used for residential remote supports needs to be authorized and billed under W6087 (Remote Support Technology/ Equipment).**
  - **Technology used by multiple individuals is covered in the residential rate and may not be authorized/billed through W6087.**



## ► Changes to Assistive Technology - Leasing

Assistive Technology covers purchasing, leasing or otherwise providing for the acquisition of assistive technology devices for the individual. **Leasing is only allowable short-term:**

- **For emergency substitution of a device or equipment until repairs are made or a replacement can be purchased**
- **To allow an individual to try equipment and devices to determine whether they will be a good fit for the individual's needs.**



## ▶ Changes to Assistive Technology: Electronic Devices

Electronic devices that are **not used for the delivery of Remote Supports** are included under Assistive Technology to meet a communication or prompting need **or to enable participants to independently control devices and appliances in their home and community.**

- Examples of electronic devices include: tablets, computers and electronic communication aids. Applications for electronic devices are also covered.



# ▶ Remote Supports Technology Versus Assistive Technology

Remote Supports Technology	Assistive Technology
Technology is monitored partially or fully by paid professionals as part of remote supports to ensure the individual's needs are met.	Technology is either not monitored at all or is only monitored by unpaid supports.
Can be leased short term or long term.	Can only be leased short-term for specific reasons.

An individual may have both Remote Supports technology and Assistive Technology on their ISP.



# Community Participation Support & Employment

## ▶ Community Participation Support

After November 11, 2023 (11/11/2023):

- **A variance is no longer required to be completed** for individuals who do not spend at least 25% or more of their CPS time in the Community.

As of November 1, 2023 (11/1/2023):

- Conversations must be held **at least quarterly by the CPS provider** with individuals about community activities in which they wish to participate

## ▶ CPS – Comprehensive Analysis

**CPS should** include a comprehensive analysis of the participant in relation to the following:

Strongest interests & personal preferences for community activities

Skills, strengths, & other contributions likely to be valuable to employers or the community

Conditions necessary for successful community inclusion and/or competitive integrated employment



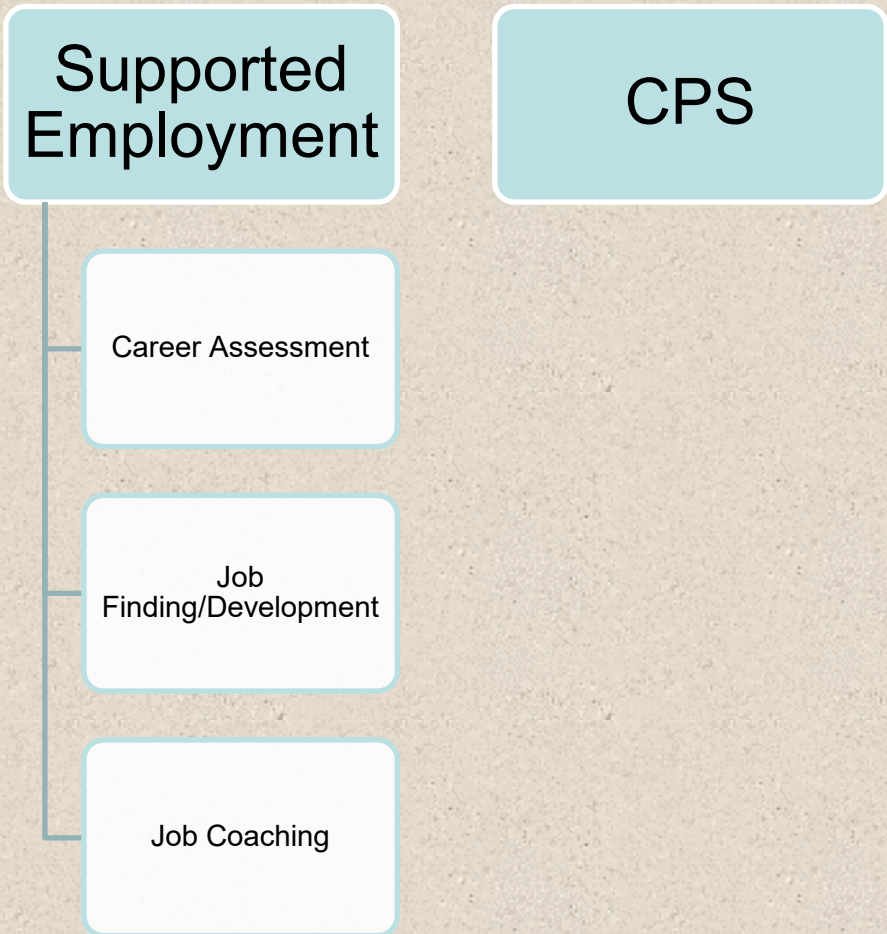
## ▶ CPS QM Action Plans


If a CPS Service Location has more than 10% of individuals receiving services less than 25% of their time in community settings (billed as CPS Community), the provider must develop a Quality Management (QM) Action Plan

Currently, ODP expects providers to begin (or continue) collecting and analyzing billing data to determine monthly and quarterly averages of CPS Community at each service location.

## ▶ Counseling Related to Accessing Employment

Assisting participants with contacting relevant agencies and obtaining documents needed to access employment supports and services that educate participants on the impact of employment on current benefits can now be provided through:





# Provider Qualifications



## ▶ Provider Qualification - Therapeutic Recreation

- A Bachelor's Degree or higher in **Therapeutic Recreation** is acceptable as a required degree to provide enhanced levels of service under the following services:
  - In-Home and Community Support
  - Community Participation Support
  - Respite

## ▶ Provider Qualifications – Residential Services and SCOs

- All new agencies that plan to provide Residential Habilitation, Life Sharing, or Supported Living must first have provided non-residential ODP waiver services for two years prior to their enrollment to provide residential services.
- All Supports Coordination Organizations and Residential Habilitation, Life Sharing, and Supported Living agencies must submit the most recent financial statement to ODP on an annual basis.
  - ODP Announcement 23-076
  - ODP has developed a QuestionPro link for providers and SCOs to easily attach a \*pdf file of their financial statements. The link is available at ODP-Financial-Statement-Submission-Form ([www.cpa.questionpro.com](http://www.cpa.questionpro.com)).

## ▶ Provider Qualifications – Life Sharing

### Life Sharing - Medically Complex Condition (MCC)

**Defined risk mitigation policy:** Have a risk mitigation policy that identifies possible risks for participants with a MCC and what the provider will do to mitigate those risks. Risks could include medical equipment or technology dependent equipment malfunctions, late delivery of medical supplies or medications, and absence or late arrival of medical staff.

# Group Therapies



## ▶ Group Therapies

- Music Therapy, Art Therapy and Equine Assisted Therapy can be provided to groups of no more than 4 individuals starting January 1, 2024.
- These therapies can be provided at the following staffing ratios depending on the individual's needs:
  - 1:1 and
  - 1:2 to 1:4
- Remember: The January 2023 renewals allowed individuals who receive Residential Habilitation, Life Sharing, or Supported Living to have these therapies authorized separately on their ISP.

# Specialty Telehealth and Assessment Teams

## March 2024



# ► Specialty Telehealth and Assessment Team

- Specialty Telehealth and Assessment Team (STAT) is a new service that will be available in the ID/A Waivers starting March 2024.
- The goal of the STAT service is:
  - provide telehealth assessments when the individual's primary care physician is unavailable or unable to determine the best clinical course of action.
  - Avoid unnecessary emergency room visits
  - Preparation of the emergency department when needed
  - Decrease inpatient admissions



## ▶ What Is Included in STAT

Video assisted  
examinations

Development of  
treatment plans

Education on the  
symptoms and  
how to support  
the person

Coordination  
with other  
healthcare  
professionals

Follow-up  
consultations

Medical support  
for DSPs and  
nursing staff



## ▶ Who Can Receive STAT

- The short answer is... **EVERYONE** can receive the STAT service.
  - Individuals who live in private homes they own, rent, or lease or who live with family members in homes owned, rented or leased by family
  - Individuals who live in licensed or unlicensed residential homes (Residential Habilitation, Life Sharing, or Supported Living)
- Individuals must have access to an electronic tablet or smart phone that has internet service via Wi-Fi or cellular data and is capable of audio and video transmission

## ▶ STAT Providers and Payments

- Providers that will deliver the STAT service must enroll with ODP and be determined qualified to render the service.
  - This provider will show up on the individual's ISP to render the STAT service.
- STAT is always available to perform activities outlined in the service definition when the individual's primary care physician is unavailable or unable to determine the best clinical course of action.
- Because the STAT service is always available, the provider will bill the same amount each month regardless of whether the service is used. Example: \$30 per month.

# Other Changes

# ▶ Home Accessibility Adaptations

- Handrails that are considered a structural home modification are being returned as a home accessibility adaptation that can be covered under the waivers.
  - Grab bars are covered under Medical Assistance



Handrail



Grab bar



## ▶ End Date of Limits Approved Through Appendix K

- Fiscal year limits that were temporarily increased through Appendix K will end on June 30, 2024.
  - Specialized Supplies: This service is limited to \$500 per participant per fiscal year. **The fiscal year limit is temporarily increased from \$500 to \$1500 to cover needed Personal Protective Equipment. This temporary increase ends on 6/30/24 which is the last day of the full state fiscal year in which the Appendix K authority ends.**
  - Supports Broker: This service is limited to a maximum of 1040 (15-minute) units, which is equal to 260 hours, per participant per fiscal year. **The limit may be temporarily increased up to 2080 15-minute units per participant per fiscal year. This temporary increase ends on 6/30/24...**

# Next Steps and Resources

## ▶ Next Steps

- Webinars, guidance, and clarification on other topics such as the new STAT service and implementation of the Community Participation Support quality management plan requirements and provider qualifications for new residential providers will be provided in future communications.
  - ODP will determine whether additional guidance is needed based on questions asked through the webinars and communications.
- ODP is working on updating the ISP Manual to align with the November waiver amendments
- ODP will update the Technical Guidance for Claim and Service Documentation to include requirements for the STAT service

# ▶ Waivers and Records of Change

[Consolidated Waiver](#)

[Community Living Waiver](#)

[P/FDS Waiver](#)

[Adult Autism Waiver](#)



# Questions