



The Proposed New Wait List Rule

2018 Presentation by the Lake County
Board of Developmental Disabilities/Deepwood
Service & Support Administration



Lake County Board of Developmental Disabilities/Deepwood
EMPOWER individuals with developmental disabilities to ENGAGE in activities that ENRICH their lives and contribute to their community



Background: The Problem

- Confusing to those on the list, misleading
- Complex, and difficult to administer
- Not consistently implemented across the state



Lake County Board of Developmental Disabilities/Deepwood

EMPOWER individuals with developmental disabilities to ENGAGE in activities that ENRICH their lives and contribute to their community



Background: The Problem

- Didn't work; people did not advance on list as expected
- County Boards weren't aware of the needs of those waiting
 - Many waiting did not have needs
 - Some do not have DD conditions



Lake County Board of Developmental Disabilities/Deepwood

EMPOWER individuals with developmental disabilities to ENGAGE in activities that ENRICH their lives and contribute to their community



Ohio DD Council Study (2014)

- There are roughly 49,000 people with developmental disabilities on Ohio's waiting list for HCBS waivers; however, that number is misleading
 - Many people on the list receive some type of services
 - Many people on the IO waiting list are already enrolled in L1 or SELF waivers (some CBs estimate 50%+)
 - County Boards have a variety of ways to meet people's needs – a waiver is just ONE of them
- A large percentage of people with developmental disabilities and their families presently on the waiver waiting list:
 - have no current, unmet need
 - requested to be placed on the waiting list in anticipation of a long wait to receive waiver services or for future planning purposes



Lake County Board of Developmental Disabilities/Deepwood

EMPOWER individuals with developmental disabilities to ENGAGE in activities that ENRICH their lives and contribute to their community

Fix the List Coalition



Almost 2 years of collaboration to modernize and improve the Waiting List

Lake County Board of Developmental Disabilities/Deepwood

EMPOWER individuals with developmental disabilities to ENGAGE in activities that ENRICH their lives and contribute to their community





Background: The Solution

- Focus on need
 - Number of people on the list will reflect those with *current, unmet* needs
- Allocate resources and support to those with a current need
 - Boards will decide how to best address the needs
 - More timely access to services



Lake County Board of Developmental Disabilities/Deepwood

EMPOWER individuals with developmental disabilities to ENGAGE in activities that ENRICH their lives and contribute to their community



Background: The Solution

- Uniformity Across the counties
 - State-wide needs assessment
 - Only on waiting list in county of residence



Lake County Board of Developmental Disabilities/Deepwood

EMPOWER individuals with developmental disabilities to ENGAGE in activities that ENRICH their lives and contribute to their community



New Waiting List Rule: Objectives

The overall goal should not be to get on the waiting list, it should be to have the person's needs met

This is a big shift in thinking for *all of us*



Lake County Board of Developmental Disabilities/Deepwood

EMPOWER individuals with developmental disabilities to ENGAGE in activities that ENRICH their lives and contribute to their community



New Waiting List Rule: Objectives

- Emphasis is on the supports a person needs, not a particular payment source
 - This will change the discussion from ‘I’m waiting for an IO waiver’ to ‘what needs do I have and how can they be met’
- Identify those with a need through a formal assessment
 - Thoughtful planning- Boards will know **who** is on the list and **what** is needed



Lake County Board of Developmental Disabilities/Deepwood

EMPOWER individuals with developmental disabilities to ENGAGE in activities that ENRICH their lives and contribute to their community



New Waiting List Rule: Objectives

- Meet the needs of those with a current need in a more timely manner
 - This **may** or **may not** be through waiver funding
 - There are several ways to meet need
 - Local Dollars
 - Community Based Alternative Services
 - Waiver: Most appropriate waiver, not always the I.O. Waiver



Lake County Board of Developmental Disabilities/Deepwood

EMPOWER individuals with developmental disabilities to ENGAGE in activities that ENRICH their lives and contribute to their community



Fix The List

One Wait List for HCBS Waivers

- No more Level I Waiver Wait List, SELF Waiver Wait List, IO Waiver Wait List
 - Person will be put on the Current Needs WL, and CB will determine best waiver to meet needs
- People will no longer be on WL in multiple counties – resident county only
 - NOTE: People on the current needs Wait List will be re-assessed automatically when moving into a new residence county (within 30 days) and if the current need still exists, will maintain the status date previously assigned





Fix The List

- Assess the actual *immediate needs* or *current needs*, not future needs
 - Determine how to support **immediate needs** (substantial risk of harm if action not taken in 30 days) or **current needs** (unmet need within 12 months)
 - Alternative resources (OOD/Vocational Rehabilitation, Children Services, Other community agencies/funding, Private Insurance benefits, Medicaid/Medicaid State Plan Services, Mental Health Services, etc)
 - Local County Board funded supports (Respite, Family Support Services, Camp funds, etc.)





Fix The List

If unmet needs **cannot be met** through community-based alternative services or Local County Board funded resources, **then** a person is eligible to be added to the wait list and the CB will identify the waiver that addresses the unmet needs



Lake County Board of Developmental Disabilities/Deepwood

EMPOWER individuals with developmental disabilities to ENGAGE in activities that ENRICH their lives and contribute to their community



Fix The List

- Order of Enrollment – NEW RULE
 - Immediate Needs (Substantial risk of harm if action not taken within 30 days)
 - NOTE Immediate Needs criteria is similar but not the same as Emergency Status criteria
 - Current Needs (Multiple criteria under current needs enroll before single criteria)





Fix the List

- Removal from List – NEW RULE
 - Move out of county (may be added to list in new county based on assessment)
 - Decline waiver enrollment OR alternate services to meet needs
 - No longer have a current need
 - Enroll on waiver to meet the current need
 - No response to our attempts to contact





Transition From Old To New

- Everybody currently on a County Board HCBS Waiver Wait list will be moved to a *Transitional List* with their existing date/time
 - Within first 12 months of the Rule being in effect (9/1/2018), all those who have an assigned SSA will be assessed using the new statewide *Waiting List Assessment Tool*
 - By December 31, 2020 the CB will assess those who are on the Wait List who do not have an assigned SSA
 - As of 9/1/2018, no one new will be added to the Transitional List. New requests for waiver will be assessed using the WL Assessment Tool by the County Board and be placed on the Current Needs Waiting List if appropriate





Transition From Old To New

- Everyone who is added to the Waiting list will be added with a **Status Date***
 - Assessed to have a current need (criteria in rule)
 - The assessed need cannot be met with the Waiver on which they are currently enrolled and/or through accessing alternative resources or locally funded County Board resources





Transition From Old To New

- **Status Date** is the date someone is assessed to have a current need using the Waiting List Assessment Tool
 - *order of enrollment is based on either status date (date assessment completed) or original request date (from transitional list) – whichever is earlier



Lake County Board of Developmental Disabilities/Deepwood

EMPOWER individuals with developmental disabilities to ENGAGE in activities that ENRICH their lives and contribute to their community



Due Process

- CBs must send due process notifications when:
 - The assessment determines the person will not be added to the Waiting List from the Transitional List.
 - The assessment determines the person will go on the Waiting List instead of waiver enrollment when their request was for a waiver.
 - The assessment indicates the person either has no current need or no longer has a current need and will be removed from the waiting list





Take Aways

- **COUNTY BOARDS** are still here to help, even if you are no longer on the Wait List
- A person can ask to be assessed at any time they feel they have an immediate or current unmet need using a uniform statewide Waiting List Assessment Tool
- The Wait List is only for those people whose *current* unmet need(s) cannot be addressed with community based alternative resources and/or locally funded County Board resources
- The type of Waiver will depend upon assessed needs and will be determined by the CB
- Having a current unmet need does not equal enrollment on a Waiver within 12 months; however, the County Board will be working with and planning for people on the Wait List
- People on the current needs Wait List will be re-assessed automatically when moving into a new residence county (within 30 days) and if the current need still exists, will maintain the status date previously assigned



Lake County Board of Developmental Disabilities/Deepwood

EMPOWER individuals with developmental disabilities to ENGAGE in activities that ENRICH their lives and contribute to their community



Resources

- Fix the List website (fixthelist.info) for individuals/families/ advocates to access for information
 - Results of studies completed
 - Results of individual/family surveys
 - Videos with individuals and families on the wait list
 - Live website that is frequently updated with new information
 - Provides ability to email questions directly and have those questions directed to the most appropriate member of the coalition

