

**DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH CARE FINANCE &
DEPARTMENT ON DISABILITY SERVICES**

PUBLIC NOTICE OF WAIVER APPLICATION

Home and Community-Based Services Individual and Family Support Waiver (IFS)

The Director of the Department of Health Care Finance (DHCF), pursuant to the authority set forth in an Act to enable the District of Columbia to receive federal financial assistance under Title XIX of the Social Security Act for a medical assistance program, and for other purposes, approved December 27, 1967 (81 Stat. 744; D.C. Official Code § 1-307.02 (2016 Repl. & 2019 Supp.)), and the Department of Health Care Finance Establishment Act of 2007, effective February 27, 2008 (D.C. Law 17-109; D.C. Official Code § 7-771.01 *et seq.* (2018 Repl.)), and the Director of the Department on Disability Services (DDS), pursuant to authority set forth in Title I of the Department on Disability Services Establishment Act of 2006, effective March 14, 2007 (D.C. Law 16-264; D.C. Official Code § 7-761.01 *et seq.* (2018 Repl.)), hereby give notice of their intent to submit an application for the District of Columbia Medicaid's new Home- and Community-Based Services for Individual and Family Support (IFS) Waiver program to the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services' Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) for review and approval.

The new IFS Waiver is intended to establish a program that will allow District residents with intellectual or developmental disabilities (IDD) who live in an independent environment, either in their own homes or with family or friends, to receive HCBS services and supports tailored to their specific needs. DDS is proposing to create a streamlined IFS Waiver to meet the needs of individuals who can leverage supports from family or friends and do not need residential services. In this way, the new IFS Waiver will offer person-centered services that meet the person's needs in the least restrictive setting needed, applying the highest standards of quality and national best practices.

The IFS Waiver will offer a full range of health and clinical services necessary to help persons with complex support needs and their families to choose an alternative to institutional service that promotes community inclusion and independence by enhancing and not replacing existing informal networks. The new IFS Waiver will use eighteen (18) services, all of which are currently available under the more comprehensive Medicaid IDD Waiver, and add a new Education Supports Services. Residential supports and services will not be included in the IFS waiver.

A summary of the proposed application, including detailed information about the services and reimbursement rates, and copies of the application, may be obtained on the DDS website at <http://dds.dc.gov/ifs-waiver>, and is available upon request from Kirk Dobson, Deputy Director, Quality Assurance and Performance Management Administration (QAPMA), D.C. Department on Disability Services, 250 E Street, SW, 6th Floor, Washington DC 20024, or by email to dds.qapma@dc.gov.

There are two opportunities for the public to provide comments or other input on the proposed new HCBS IFS Waiver application:

First, written comments on the proposed new HCBS IFS Waiver application shall be submitted to: Ieisha Gray, Director, Long Term Care Administration, Department of Health Care Finance, 441 4th Street, NW, Suite 900S, Washington, D.C. 20001, or via email at dhcfpubliccomments@dc.gov, during the thirty (30) calendar day public comment period, starting from the date this notice is published in the *D.C. Register*.

Second, DHCF and DDS will hold a virtual public forum during which written and oral comments on the proposed new HCBS IFS Waiver application will be accepted. The virtual public forum will be held on **June 24, 2020, from 10:00 am to 11:30 am**. Scheduling information for the public forum will be posted on the DDS website at <http://dds.dc.gov/ifs-waiver>. Individuals can join the public forum by telephone by dialing **1-650-479-3208** and using the access code **479 487 709**, or by web conference by going to <https://dcnet.webex.com/dcnet/j.php?MTID=m14e02c4c34d50292afaded40b5348cf9>

Accommodations for the public forum are available upon request. Please provide your name, address, telephone number, organizational affiliation and accommodation request, if needed, by June 19, 2020, to Cynthia Scott at (202) 910-0148 or cynthia.scott@dc.gov.

Electronic copies of this notice also will be published on the DDS website at <http://dds.dc.gov>.

For further information, please contact please contact Kirk Dobson, DDS Deputy Director for QAMPA, at kirk.dobson@dc.gov, or visit the DDS website at <http://dds.dc.gov>.