

**Complimentary Efforts to Improve the ADSD Service System**

- **FOCIS/MFP Transition**
  - During the 82<sup>nd</sup> legislative session ADSD was approved to move the Money Follows the Person (MFP) and the Facility Outreach and Community Integration Services (FOCIS) program from the Division of Health Care Financing and Policy (DHCFP). Money Follows the Person provides states with enhanced federal matching funds for services and supports to help seniors and people with disabilities move from institutions to the community. The Facility Outreach and Community Integration Services program is intended to provide Medicaid recipients with a choice to seek an alternative to institutional placement. As ADSD is actively engaged with the populations that are served by MFP and FOCIS, the state can expect additional transitions from institutional care to a home and community-based setting.
- **NWD Governance Project**
  - In September 2022, ADSD was awarded federal funding to enhance our state's efforts related to a no wrong door system (NWD) for long term services and supports. ADSD has been leading these efforts since 2005 under the Nevada Care Connection brand. Our primary efforts have focused on establishing local aging and disability resource centers to help individuals navigate the long-term services and supports system. The new grant will enable Nevada to reset these efforts through an assessment of current access points, development of a plan to enhance efforts under national key elements, and establishment of an ongoing governance structure for continuous improvement efforts.
- **Business Process Re-Engineering Project**
  - ADSD has contracted with Change & Innovation Agency to complete a high-level review of current processes across various programs and services to identify opportunities for improvement to ADSD, to increase capacity, and better meet the policy and practice objective of the Department and its various programs. Through this process, ADSD will be able to evaluate opportunities to:
    - Streamline intake, and case management business processes and systems.
    - Adapt to change and in a post-pandemic new norm, including person centered planning to ensure the needs of the individuals are met.
    - Create efficiency in operations and workflows and moving to automation and away from human intervention.
    - Address workflows and workforce by centralized streamlined activities and provide/adjust staffing needs based on changing needs of the population served.
    - Improve quality of and access to services.
    - Identify touchpoints and duplication to create efficiencies and remove access barriers.
    - Find opportunities for centralization and statewide standardization.
- **Developmental Services Intensive Support Services**
  - To provide more comprehensive services to individuals dually diagnosed with an intellectual/developmental disability (IDD) and a behavioral health disorder, Developmental Services is expanding support efforts statewide targeted to this population.
    - ADSD received budget approval in the 82<sup>nd</sup> Legislative session to expand the Youth Intensive Support Services (YISS) program statewide in Fiscal Year 2024. The YISS

program has been operating at Desert Regional Center in Las Vegas for several years and it focuses on youth up to the age of 22 who need intensive support due to dual diagnosis. Service Coordinators working in YISS carry a lower caseload of 1:15 so they can successfully coordinate all specialized services needed for the youth to successfully gain needed skills, reduce difficult behaviors, and remain living in the family home or an appropriate community-based residential setting. With the approved Developmental Services budgets, there will soon be YISS Service Coordinators serving all areas of Nevada, as well as a statewide Program Manager responsible for YISS program planning and development, as well as needed collaboration with child welfare agencies and numerous other stakeholders.

- Developmental Services received ARPA funding to establish Intensive Behavioral Support Homes in Nevada. This will be a new type of community-based residential service designed to support intensive needs with specially trained direct support staff and needed professional services to avoid institutionalization. ADSD is working with a national consultant with expertise in this area to help develop a Request for Proposals to ensure a provider with the needed skills and service model for this population is obtained.
- **HCBS Rule Implementation Analysis**
  - ADSD has contracted with a national consultant with expertise in the Medicaid HCBS Rule to assess existing efforts to comply with the HCBS Final Rule, specific to person-centered practices within the operational activities of the waivers under ADSD. These efforts will include research and analysis, stakeholder engagement, technical assistance and program design.
- **Community Engagement Team**
  - ADSD has utilized federal funding to develop a Community Engagement Team within our agency. This team will be responsible for coordinating outreach efforts, bringing forth policy recommendations from regions throughout the state, and increasing stakeholder engagement efforts throughout ADSD programs. This team will help support cross-coordination efforts among community partners, as well as among various advocacy bodies. This team was approved for state general funding in the Legislative session, making them permanent positions within the agency.
- **Public Health Literacy Project**
  - ADSD has received ARPA funding to support effort to modernize the agency's website, enhancing the content and organization of the website while also ensuring access by the general public. This project will also provide an opportunity for ADSD to increase awareness of programs and services through re-branding and enhancement of existing outreach materials. Finally, funding under this project will be used to support expanded outreach opportunities that have not historically been available to the agency due to resource limitations as well as a plan for continuing efforts.
- **Lifespan Respite Projects**
  - ADSD has three federal grants under the Lifespan Respite Care Act to expand access to respite services for Nevada's family caregivers. Existing efforts are focused on standardized data collection, increased recruitment of respite workers, expanding respite opportunities, and promoting respite as a service for family caregivers. The most recent grant is targeting these

efforts specifically for families of children with disabilities, in particular children who have a dual-diagnosis of intellectual/developmental disability and behavioral health needs.

- These grant will also support implementation of AB100 passed during the 82<sup>nd</sup> legislative session enabling ADSD to develop and administer evidence based and culturally sensitive caregiver assessment program to family caregivers and provide an annual progress report.
- **Technology Enhancements**
  - ADSD is partnering with the Division of Welfare and Supportive Services and the Division of Healthcare Financing and Policy on two technology projects to help facilitate access to the state's long term services and supports. The first project is focused on the utilization of technology to streamline the eligibility determination process for the state's three HCBS waivers. This project is expected to shorten the amount of time that it takes to determine someone eligible for a HCBS waiver. The second project is a technology solution under our state's existing No Wrong Door efforts that will help individuals who are applying for public programs connect with multiple programs that they may be eligible for, while reducing the duplication of information that must be provided each time.
- **Autism Treatment Assistance Program (ATAP)**
  - A Psychological Development Counselor position was added to this team to increase access to services. This position will complete clinical diagnostic assessments to for eligibility and to ensure that services can start timely.
- **Community Based Care Capacity Project**
  - ADSD received approval of ARPA funding for expansion of community-based care beds in residential facilities for groups. These one-time funds will be granted to community providers to pay for upgrades needed to meet licensure requirements or to expand the number of beds in a current home.
- **Personal Care Workforce Impact Project**
  - ADSD was approved use one time ARPA funding to create a consensus curriculum to train professional caregivers. This project is targeting underemployed or unemployed individuals including disproportionately underserved individual with the goal of expanding the personal care workforce. Supportive Services for People with Disabilities - In state fiscal year 24 ADSD applied for Title XX grant funds for services to individuals with physical disabilities. This is a transition from using these funds for Developmental Services to Disability Services to address funding gaps for Services for this population.
- **Senior Rx/Disability Rx Program**
  - Legislative approval (SB4 - 2023) was received to make changes to this program which will allow ADSD greater flexibility to address the out-of-pocket prescription medication expenses of the populations served by our agency. The agency now can adapt to federal and state policy changes and more effectively address the needs of a broader population of Nevadans, while increasing equity in access to prescription medications for those Nevadans most in need.
- **Addressing Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorders**
  - AB422 passed during the 82<sup>nd</sup> legislative session. Enabling ADSD to identify available funding to create a pilot program that will provide training in evidence-base models of treatment for fetal alcohol spectrum disorders.

- **Medicaid Rate Study**
  - The Division of Health Care Financing and Policy (Medicaid) has contracted a vendor to conduct a comprehensive rate study of the Frail Elderly and Physically Disabled Waiver as well as 1915(I) home and community-based state plan services.
- **Additional Legislation from the 82<sup>nd</sup> Session to Note**
  - AB78 – Exempts certain providers of jobs and day training services from licensure as nurses. This allows jobs and day training (JDT) providers for Developmental Services to perform limited nursing functions, such as medication administration, with required training allowing people in need of this type of medical support during the day to participate in JDT services.
  - AB208 – Establishes a program to provide structured family caregiving to certain recipients of Medicaid.
  - AB 259 – Revises provisions governing wages for persons with disabilities. The payment of subminimum wages to people with disabilities in Nevada under federal 14(c) certificates will be illegal in Nevada as of January 1, 2028 and no new individuals may begin to be paid subminimum wages as of January 1, 2025.
  - AB 130 – Revises provisions related to grants available for assisted living facilities, funds may now be used for both the expansion of an assisted living facility or the operation of an assisted living facility.
  - SB 298 - Revises provisions governing the involuntary discharge of a resident from a residential facility for groups.
  - AJR1 - Proposes to amend the Nevada Constitution to add and revise terms relating to persons with certain conditions for whose benefit certain public entities are supported by the State. (BDR C-477)