



HOME AND COMMUNITY BASED SERVICES FINAL RULE

Institute on Disabilities at Temple University

Empowering People with Intellectual Disabilities and Families by Making Community Inclusion Real

The Home and Community Based Settings (HCBS) Final Rule, a federal policy change announced by the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS), provides new opportunities for people with disabilities to have the kinds of community services they want.

All HCBS settings must:

- Be integrated in and facilitate access to the greater community;
- Allow individuals optimized autonomy and independence in making life choices;
- Be chosen by the individual from among residential and day options, including non-disability specific settings;
- Ensure right to privacy, dignity and respect (including no coercion or restraint);
- Provide opportunity to seek competitive employment;
- Provide for choice of roommate in a residential setting; and
- Encourage choice of services and who provides them.

Monitoring Activities and Data Collection

Independent Monitoring for Quality (IM4Q) determines a baseline for where Pennsylvania stands with the Rule. As an information-gathering method used by the Office of Developmental Programs (ODP), IM4Q reports are used to ensure that people are healthy and safe; and to offer services that promote choice and control in their everyday lives.

HCBS “Gather for Change” Learning and Advocacy Team

A program, funded by the Pennsylvania Developmental Disabilities Council, designed so people can develop advocacy skills and learn to talk with policymakers about HCBS. Teams are made up of:

- Pennsylvania residents with a disability who use waiver services
- People with lived disability experience
- Self-advocates with an intellectual or developmental disability, or autism

FOR MORE INFORMATION

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