

Adult Autism Waiver Amendment



ODP Public Comment Webinar
January 8, 2021

Agenda



- Overview of Changes
- Questions
- Public Comment

- The Office of Developmental Programs will request amendments to the Adult Autism Waiver.
- The proposed changes are considered substantive.
 - ODP will request that the amendments be effective July 1, 2021.
 - The effective date is subject to change.

Everyday Lives: Values In Action



pennsylvania
DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES

Everyday Lives

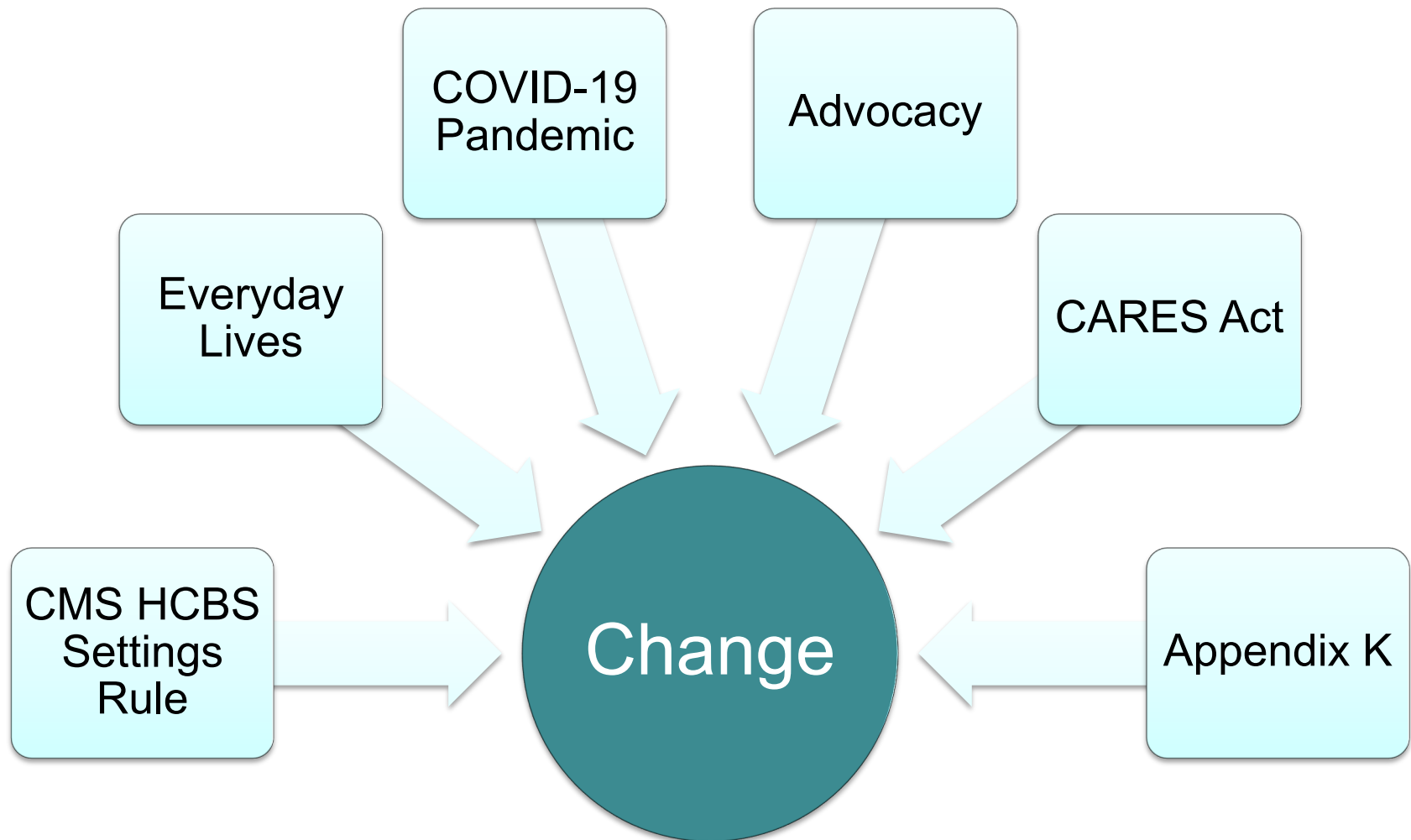
VALUES
IN
ACTION



- 1 Assure Effective Communication
- 2 Promote Self-Direction, Choice and Control
- 3 Increase Employment
- 4 Support Families throughout the Lifespan
- 5 Promote Health, Wellness, and Safety
- 6 Support People with Complex Needs
- 7 Develop and Support Qualified Staff
- 8 Simplify the System
- 9 Improve Quality
- 10 Expand Options for Community Living
- 11 Increase Community Participation
- 12 Provide Community Services to Everyone



pennsylvania
DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES



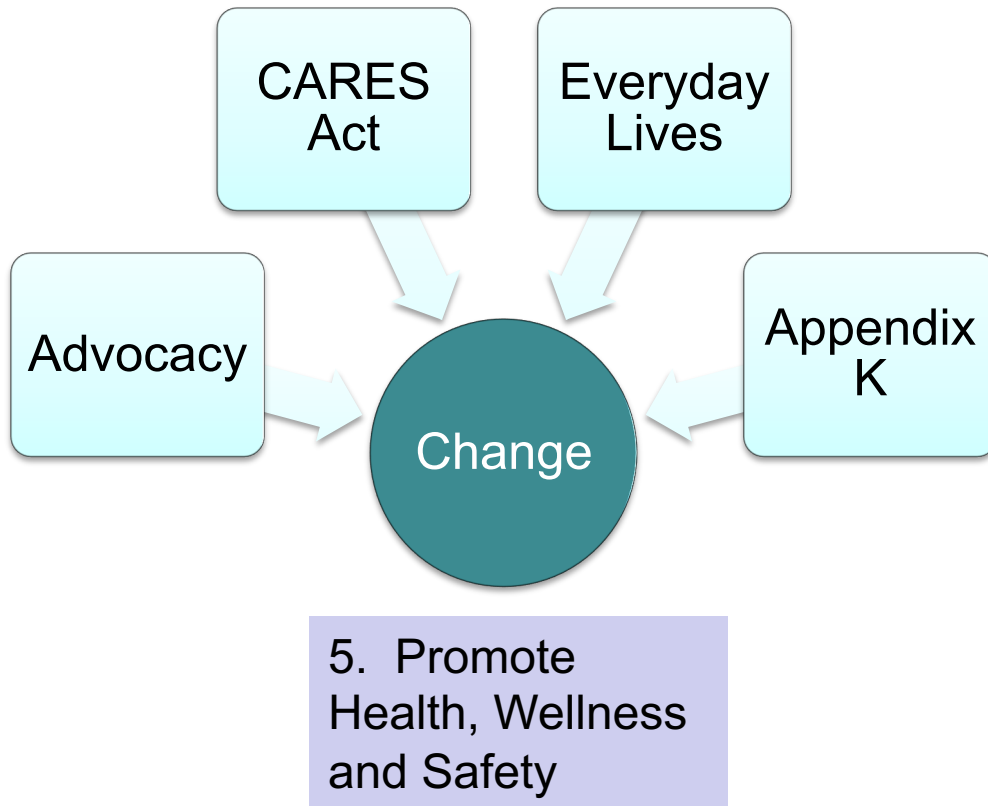
Effective Dates of Appendix K and Waiver Amendments

Appendix K and Operational Guide

- Remote Services
- Services in Hospitals
- **Will remain effective until at least 6/30/21. ODP will assess needs and CMS guidance for continued flexibility beyond 6/30/21.**

Waiver Amendments

- Remote Services
- Services in Hospitals
- **Will become effective when Appendix K flexibility ends.**
- ***Changes that do not contradict Appendix K will be effective when the waiver amendment is effective**



- Specialized Skill Development
- Temporary Supplemental Services
- Supports Coordination

ODP Announcement 20-098

- Services in a hospital can only be rendered for assisting the individual with the following:
 - Communication;
 - Intensive Personal Care; and/or
 - Behavior Support/stabilization as enumerated in the behavior support plan
- The service must be:
 - Identified in the ISP;
 - Provided to meet the needs of the individual that are not met through the provision of hospital services;
 - Designed to ensure smooth transitions between hospital and HCBS
 - Not a substitute for services that hospital is obligated to provide



**Reserved Waiver Capacity
and Disenrollment from
Waiver:**

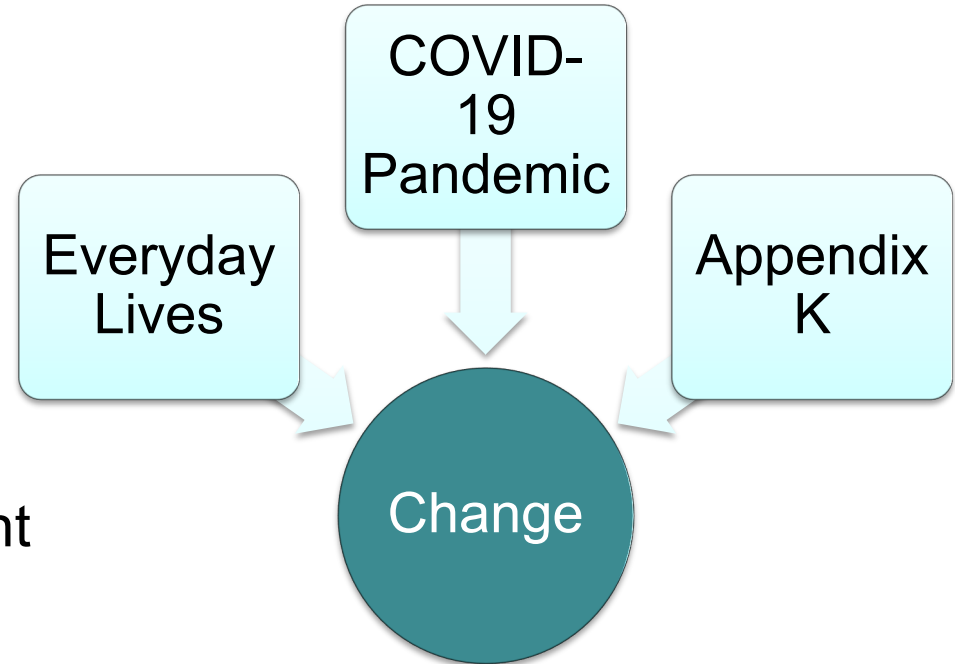
**Not for individuals who are
hospitalized and are
receiving waiver services**

**Reserved Waiver Capacity
and Disenrollment from
Waiver:**

**For individuals who are NOT
receiving waiver services
and are hospitalized or in
other settings where waiver
services cannot be delivered
(such as psychiatric hospital
settings, rehabilitation care
programs, and nursing
homes)**

Direct Services Via Remote Technology

- Day Habilitation
 - Up to 10 Hours per week
- Supported Employment
- Career Planning
- Nutritional Consultation
- Specialized Skill Development



Change to Assistive Technology:

Increasing the cost of devices that require an independent evaluation from \$500 to \$750.

3. Increase Employment

5. Promote Health, Wellness and Safety

10. Expand Options for Community Living

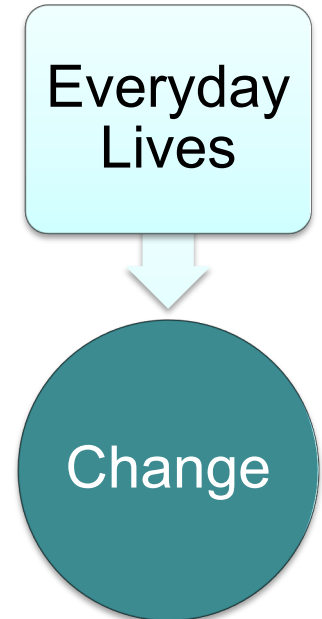
Criminal History Clearances - 1



pennsylvania
DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES

If a criminal history clearance and/or the criminal history record check identifies a criminal record, providers must make a case-by-case decision about whether to hire the person that includes consideration of the following factors:

- The nature of the crime;
- Facts surrounding the conviction;
- Time elapsed since the conviction;
- The evidence of the individual's rehabilitation;
- The nature and requirements of the job; and
- The performance of individualized risk assessments.



5. Promote Health, Wellness and Safety

Criminal History Clearances - 2



ODP is clarifying the definitions of staff and volunteer for the purposes of who must obtain a criminal history background check to promote the safety of participants:

Staff includes employees, contractors and consultants

Volunteer is defined as a person who:

1. Provides one or more direct waiver services to a participant,
2. Has unsupervised contact with the participant when providing the service(s),
3. Has freely chosen not to receive monetary compensation for provision of the service(s), and
4. Provides the service(s) on behalf of a qualified provider that has been authorized in a service plan.

Supported Employment, Career Planning and Small Group Employment

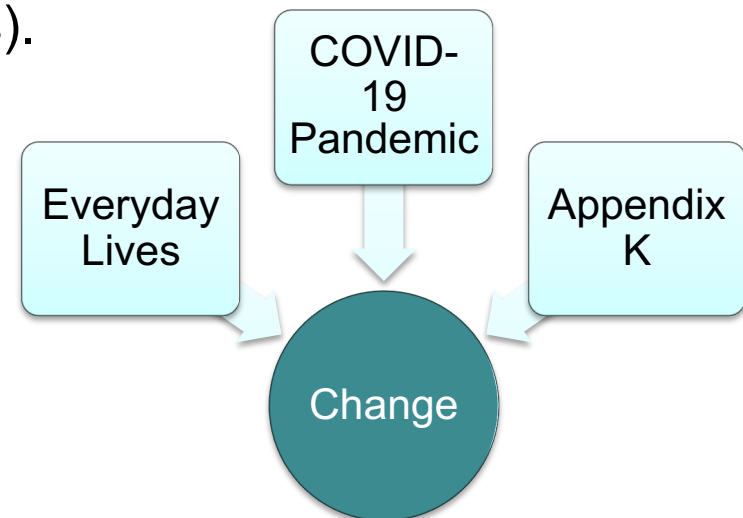
ACRE/CESP certification:

- Staff working directly with the participant must have one of these certificates by **7/1/2021** or within 6 months of hire if hired after **1/1/2021**.
- Effective **7/1/2021**, newly hired staff who do not have the required certification when hired must work under the supervision of someone with certification (no longer than 6 months).

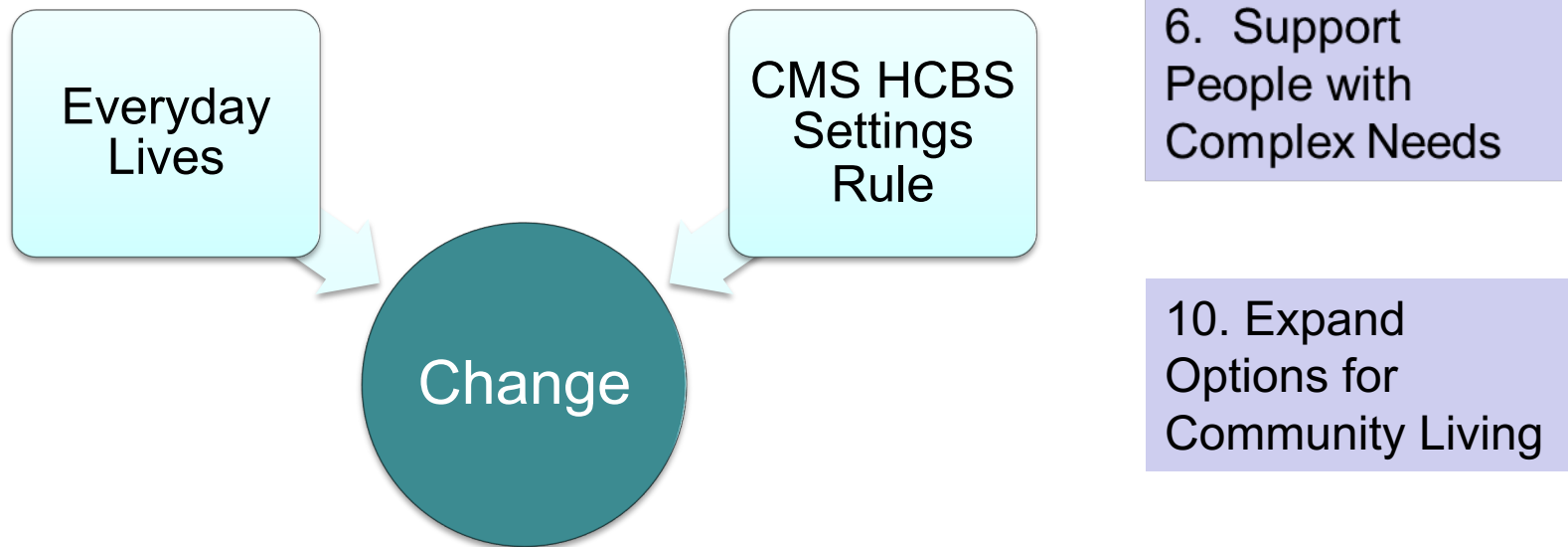
ODP Announcement 20-091

3. Increase Employment

7. Develop and Support Qualified Staff

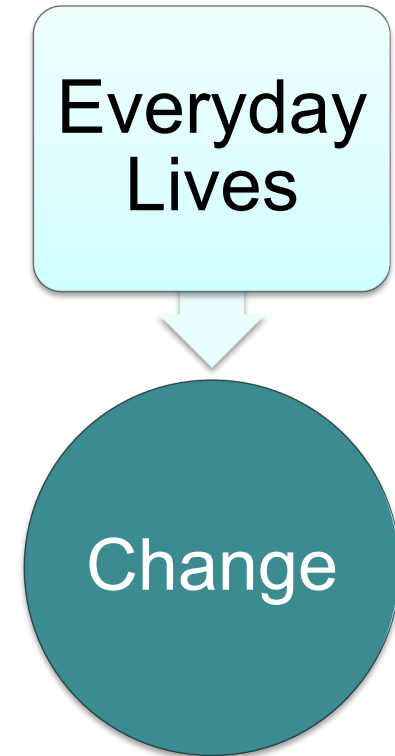


Individuals on the Priority 1 interest list who are receiving long-term support services in congregate care settings will be added to the AAW waiting list.



Level of Care Re-evaluation

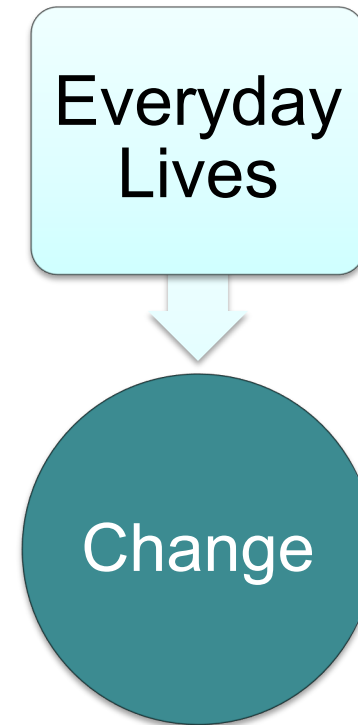
- The Medical Assistance Evaluation form (MA51) is no longer required for level of care re-evaluation
- Participants are encouraged to see their physician annually or more often as recommended by a medical professional.



8. Simplify the System

Introducing the Supports Intensity Scale as evaluation tool for individuals receiving Residential Habilitation (Community Homes and Life Sharing)

8. Simplify the System





PUBLIC INPUT

Today's Public Input Process



- We will now go over answers to some of the questions we have received regarding these waiver amendments.
- The remaining time is reserved for obtaining public input on the waiver amendments
 - 5-minute limit on comments

Written Comments



- While we will be recording this webinar we encourage you to submit your comments in writing.
- You have 2 options:
 1. Email comments to the DHS at RA-odpcomment@pa.gov.
 2. Mail comments to Julie Mochon, Department of Human Services, Office of Developmental Programs, 625 Forster Street, Room 510, Harrisburg, PA 17120
- Comments received by 11:59 PM on January 18, 2021, will be reviewed and considered for revisions to the proposed waiver amendments.

The documents regarding the Adult Autism Waiver Amendments are available at:

<https://www.dhs.pa.gov/Services/Disabilities-Aging/Pages/Proposed-Waiver-Amendments.aspx>

Public Comment



pennsylvania
DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES



5:00