

Information about the new federal Home and Community Based Services (HCBS) rule

Services for older adults

Many older adults may need support to remain in their home and community as they age. There are programs such as Elderly Waiver (EW) and Alternative Care (AC) that can help pay for these services and supports. These are called home and community-based services (HCBS). The services are meant to help people live where they want to live, be a part of their community and enjoy a high quality of life.

What is the Home and Community Based Services rule?

The Home and Community Based Services (HCBS) rule is a federal rule that further supports people's rights to make informed choices and decide what is important both *to* and *for* them when applying for and receiving HCBS.

The principles of person-centeredness are the foundation of the HCBS rule

The rule supports people having:

- Control
- Goals
- Choices
- Opportunities to participate in and access to the community through meaningful activities
- Support to ensure these rights.

What the rule means for you

The rule means older adults who receive home and community-based services can and should:

- Decide what is important to them
- Decide what services to receive
- Choose their providers and where to receive services
- Talk about what's meaningful to them and what they want to achieve
- Be in charge of their lives
- Know that their ideas are important and that there is value in talking about their likes and wants
- Thrive in the community
- Receive desired support to ensure their rights.

Why am I receiving this information?

You are receiving this information because the Department of Human Services (DHS) wants all people receiving or applying for HCBS services to:

- Understand how the HCBS Rule applies to people receiving or applying for home and community based services, including Elderly Waiver (EW), Alternative Care (AC) and other programs that serve people under age 65.
- Tell people who receive services about the comment period for the HCBS statewide transition plan. We want to hear from people who receive services. The comment period is from Oct. 4, 2016, to Nov. 3, 2016. The statewide transition plan is the way Minnesota proposes to put the HCBS rule into effect and improve the quality of people's lives and services.

How can you provide input on the HCBS rule?

DHS would like people receiving services and family members to provide input on what is called the "transition plan." To comment on the plan, email hcbs.settings@state.mn.us. We want to hear from

people about how services can encourage community participation, increased choice about how to spend time, increased independence and recognition of individual rights.

The transition plan is available for public comment from Oct. 5, 2016, to Nov. 3, 2016. View the transition plan online at <http://mn.gov/dhs/hcbs/> or send a written request to:

ATTN: HCBS Statewide Transition Plan
Minnesota Department of Human Services
Disability Services Division
P.O. Box 6496
St. Paul, MN 55164-0967

[What if the people served have questions about the rule or comments about their services?](#)

People receiving services can:

- Bring questions to case managers, care coordinators or providers
- Call the Senior LinkAge Line at: (800) 333-2433
- Email DHS at hcbs.settings@state.mn.us.

[How can I learn more?](#)

To learn more about the HCBS rule please visit <http://mn.gov/dhs/hcbs/> or read the [Revised HCBS Final Rule Statewide Transition Plan \(PDF\)](#)