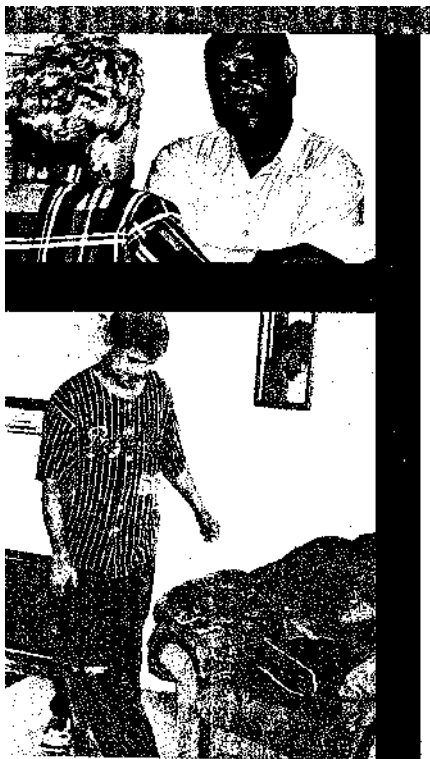


# Minnesota MR/RC Home and Community Based Services **Waiver Evaluation**



## Brief Summary

### Why Was This Study Conducted?

In April 1999, the Minnesota Department of Human Services contracted with the University of Minnesota to conduct an independent evaluation of its Medicaid Home and Community Based Services (HCBS) "waiver" program for persons with mental retardation and related conditions (MR/RC). This program is by far Minnesota's largest for persons with MR/RC. State officials commissioned this evaluation to gather information on the status of current program implementation, identify challenges in meeting program goals, and assist in strategic planning for the future. Information used in this study came from a number of sources, including: existing state data sets with information on characteristics of HCBS recipients, expenditures, and reports of maltreatment; interviews with 372 adult recipients of HCBS; written surveys of 183 families, 468 case managers, 228 direct support staff, 184 residential providers, and 82 vocational providers; telephone interviews with county HCBS coordinators in 18 counties; focus group meetings with representatives of key stakeholder groups; and reviews of relevant documents.