

Summer 2007

# CDCS Changes: What We Know

In the last *Focus*, President Pam Gonnella highlighted changes in the Consumer Directed Community Supports (CDCS) option. Many changes will take effect October 1, 2004. There are still many unanswered questions, but we do know the following:

- ☐ Current CDCS recipients should receive a new budget from the Department of Human Services (DHS) state by October 1, 2004. The funding will be listed as the number of dollars per day; multiply this by 365 for the annual amount.
- ☐ If your CDCS spending exceeds this new budget, you have one year from the renewal of your next annual service plan to meet your needs within that budget or access other waiver services (e.g., if your new service plan takes effect on January 1, 2005, you must comply with the new budget by January 1, 2006).
- ☐ Day program costs for adults must be covered within the budget.
- ☐ CADI, CAC, and TBI waiver recipients and Elderly Waiver recipients can access CDCS if they live in counties where CDCS is now available to MR/RC waiver recipients.
- ☐ Parents of minor children can be paid for providing services.
- ☐ Some CDCS expenses won't be allowed after October 1, 2004.
- ☐ CDCS cannot be used for persons living in licensed residential settings (e.g., foster care, SLS).

## ♦ What You Can Do Before Oct. 1, 2004:

- ✓ Review your current Individual Service Plan; be sure it clearly identifies the support needs of your family member receiving CDCS.
- ✓ Once you get the new budget, analyze and document its impact on your family. Share your story with The Arc of Minnesota and your local chapter. Go to our web site -- [www.arcminnesota.com](http://www.arcminnesota.com) -- for tips on sharing your story and documenting changes.
- ✓ If some of your CDCS spending won't be allowed as of October 1, 2004, switch that money to allowable expenditures. (Go to our web site, [www.arcminnesota.com](http://www.arcminnesota.com), for a list of allowable and unallowable expenditures.)
- ✓ If you receive CDCS services in licensed settings, talk with your case manager and providers ASAP, and check out your options.

On July 20, 2004, The Arc of Minnesota, Arc Great Rivers, and Arc Hennepin-Carver hosted a CDCS forum for over 150 people. We presented current CDCS information, answered questions, and gathered input for a future action plan. To stay informed about further changes in CDCS, go to [www.arcminnesota.com](http://www.arcminnesota.com). Contact Katie at The Arc of Minnesota, 1-800-582-5256, ext 109, if you can't access our web site and need a printed copy of the above items.