#### Wyoming Department of Health Behavioral Health Division

# Waiver Redesign overview

### Our goal

In partnership with stakeholders, we will identify services that support independence and enhance the quality of life for people served on the waivers and realign the distribution of resources to serve more people in need of services.

This overview offers a short summary of the waiver redesign purpose and main changes.

For more information visit our project website at <a href="http://health.wyo.gov/ddd/index.html">http://health.wyo.gov/ddd/index.html</a> or contact us at the Behavioral Health Division (BHD) to have more information sent to you. Our main line is 307.777.6494 or toll free at 1.800.510.0280. You can also email us at <a href="https://hh

#### Reason for the changes

With the rising cost of Medicaid and the Adult Developmental Disabilities (DD), Child DD and Acquired Brain Injury Waivers, the 2013 Wyoming Legislature passed Senate Enrolled Act 82 (SEA 82). Medicaid Reform in an effort to better manage costs for long term sustainability of the Medicaid system. This law requires the Wyoming Department of Health to begin implementing changes to the Medicaid state plan and the Medicaid waiver programs by January 2014.

## Purpose of the new waivers

SEA 82 requires the Department of Health, Behavioral Health Division to develop two new waivers, **a capped Support Waiver and a Comprehensive Waiver.** These two waivers will replace the three higher cost WDH waivers (Adult DD, Child DD, and ABI Waivers) by June 30, 2015.

Using a new resource allocation model and revised services, the new Support Waiver and Comprehensive Waiver will:

- ✓ Provide a wide array of services and flexibility to meet an individual's needs and to promote and support independence;
- ✓ Increase employment support and career development options; and
- ✓ Focus on outcomes for people served.

Chris Newman, Senior Administrator WDH-Behavioral Health Division 6101 Yellowstone Road, Suite 220 Cheyenne, Wyoming 82002 The law also requires a move to a case management system that is free from conflicts of interest, which will not allow a case manager to be employed by any provider on a person's plan or financially benefit from providing other services on one's plan.

Finally, as the state incurs savings from the new waiver design over time, the Division will be able to begin funding people from the waiting lists onto the new waivers.

The current waivers will continue through June 30, 2015, and there will be a transition process for participants to switch to the new waivers through a phase in process after January 1, 2014.



The legislation requires two rounds of informational meetings with the people currently served and guardians. We are excited to talk to people about the new waivers and we will hold informational public forums in mid-April to inform people about the legislation and the new waiver design, answer questions, and gather input on waiver services and preferences. In mid-summer, we will have another round of forums, to give more details about the new waiver services, budgets and the transition process. We will send out dates and times for these forums to participants, guardians, providers, and publicize the date on our website and in newspapers.

