



Waiver Reimagine Advisory Committee

Meeting 4: August 25, 2022

Welcome!

Facilitator Lea

Meeting practices

- When speaking, re-introduce yourself (and who you represent)
- Speak slowly so the captioner can accurately capture what you share
- Stay present giving your full attention to this discussion; let us know via chat if you need to leave the discussion and when you are back
- Please stay focused on the agenda item being discussed (Jot out note for reference later) (chat guidance)
- Share your main thoughts/key points early when speaking
- All members have the right to share their ideas and all ideas are valuable

Meeting practices (continued)

- Be respectful of the process and other participants - including privacy (avoid names)
- Listen to other members and DHS with an open mind
- Focus on the issue, not the person giving feedback
- Assume positive intent – embracing a mindset that will lead to something good
- Advocate for all, not individual situations - stories are shared to inform the policy
- Summarize what you heard to ensure understanding before reacting to another's comment

Agenda

Agenda	Time(total time: 3.5 hours)
Welcome/Roll Call	10 minutes
June meeting recap/DHS updates	5 minutes
Guiding principles	15 minutes
Break	10 minutes
Group discussion- History of reshaping waivers	60 minutes
Break	10 minutes
Group discussion- Policy Development	65 minutes
Meeting Wrap up	5 minutes

Captions and meeting objectives

Live captions: <https://www.streamtext.net/player?event=WRAC>

For WRAC members:

- ✓ Learn and understand the history of reshaping the waivers
- ✓ Discuss and recommend policy options within the scope of a 2-waiver system

✓ For DHS staff:

- ✓ Provide context on topics for discussion
- ✓ Listen to responses
- ✓ Answer questions and note follow up

June Meeting Recap

- Major policy themes of discussion and questions
 - Proposed budget amounts
 - MnCHOICES and individual budgets
 - Self-direction
 - Budget exceptions
 - Lead agency consistency
 - Performance measures
- DHS will:
 - ✓ Update FAQs
 - ✓ Use the major themes to direct meeting topics



- WR communication and engagement
 - FAQs: [Waiver Reimagine FAQ / Minnesota Department of Human Services \(mn.gov\)](#)
 - July 2022 Survey
 - People/family focus groups
 - April - Habilitation
 - Fall 2022- ??
- Equity plan- status update

Member discussion and feedback

Waiver policy team

Guiding principles for reshaping the waivers

Simplify the System

Guiding principles:

- ❖ Create a waiver system that is easier for all to use
- ❖ Expand service options
- ❖ Improve access to services, including accessibility and usability
- ❖ Develop policies/programs that people with disabilities can understand and navigate
- ❖ Create uniform policies/processes that are administered consistently across the state

Outcomes:

- ❖ Create resources for people receiving services that describe waiver programs, services and related policy in a simple way, so they can make more informed choices when planning their services and supports
- ❖ Train/educate case managers on waiver programs, services and related policy as a result of waiver reimagine changes to assure more consistency with implementation

Increase Choice and Control

Guiding principles:

- ❖ Empower people with information, so they have more choice and control over their services
- ❖ Create clear pathways to options for people receiving services
- ❖ Shift power from the lead agencies to people receiving services
- ❖ Keep person-centered practices at the forefront
- ❖ **Less focus on independence and more focus on interdependence**

Outcomes:

- ❖ Develop resources to educate people on waiver service options, informed choice and self-determination
- ❖ Reduce administrative work to build case manager capacity to educate themselves and people receiving services on their options
- ❖ Maintain current self-directed service policy
- ❖ **Define interdependence for people with disabilities (e.g. supported decision making concepts)**

Equal Access to Services

Guiding principles:

- ❖ Create a system that provides equal access to services, regardless of disability and in which county or tribal nation a person lives.
- ❖ **Recognize barriers to service access due to work force** and housing shortages
- ❖ Create a process that will enable lead agencies and residential providers to respond effectively to change in need and change in demographics

Outcomes:

- ❖ Conduct an assessment of gaps in service access
- ❖ **Define what "equal access" means (consider demographics, geography, workforce and housing shortages)**
- ❖ Increase cultural awareness and capacity to support people with different cultural backgrounds/needs

Flexible and self-directed service options

Guiding principles:

- ❖ Create processes that lead to a variety of service options, including expanding self-direction regardless of waiver type/living arrangement
- ❖ Create flexible service policy to allow alternative support options such as remote support/assistive technology
- ❖ Assure **CDCS self-direction** is individualized, not requiring people to fit into a specific category of service
- ❖ Shift emphasis on congregate living by incenting flexible service options and self-directed services

Outcomes:

- ❖ Create a liaison position in each county to work between case managers and client (out of scope)
- ❖ Create equal access to technology funding and training
- ❖ **Define different levels of self-direction**
 - CDCS/Federal definition of self-direction
 - Individual budgeting only
 - Hybrid
- ❖ **Define flexible- related to service options**

Guiding principles for reshaping waivers- cont...

Share feedback from 1:1 meetings

- Additional principles/outcomes
- Using the principles and outcomes going forward

2-waiver system - History

- Brief history
- In/out of scope
- Share feedback from 1:1 meetings

Stay tuned.... The WRAC is taking a 10 minute break.

When we come back, the WRAC will have an opportunity to share their thoughts/recommendations related to implementing a 2-waiver system.

Group feedback- 2-waiver system

Question: What are your final thoughts related to how the 2 waiver structure came to be?

- Round robin style discussion: facilitator will call on WRAC members
- If you prefer to type your thoughts in chat, please have that prepared for when you are called on
- You can choose to pass or echo another member's input

Summary of group feedback

PLACEHOLDER: Notes will be shared from verbal input/chat on the history of the 2-waiver system

Summary of group feedback—Cont..

PLACEHOLDER: Notes will be shared from verbal input/chat on the history of the 2-waiver system

Next steps:

- DHS will add WRAC feedback to meeting notes and the legislative report, including alternatives and concerns with implementing a 2-waiver system
- WRAC members will be invited to review and draft language for the report.

Policy discussion

Waiver Policy Team

Transition to 2-waivers: Policy Discussion

Waiver 1: Waiver for people that live in their own home or family home (placeholder name “Individual Supports”)

- Living with family and receiving CDCS, individualized home supports without training, or individualized home supports with family training
- Living independently and receiving individualized home supports without training or individualized home supports with training
- Living with a roommate and receiving individualized home supports without training or individualized home supports with training
- Living with a caregiver (e.g., non-related individual) and receiving individualized home supports without training or individualized home supports with training

Waiver 2: Waiver for people that live in residential settings or commonly referred to as group homes, foster care or assisted living (placeholder name “Residential Supports”)

- Living in a family foster care and receiving family residential services
- Living in a foster care or community residential setting and receiving community residential services
- Living in assisted living and receiving customized living services
- Living in an integrated community supports setting

Stay tuned.... The WRAC is taking a 10 minute break.

When we come back, the WRAC will have an opportunity to provide input on the names of the 2 new waivers, including examples of living/service arrangements by waiver.

Transition to 2-waivers: Policy Discussion

WRAC Open Discussion

- Does the name “Individual Supports” (Waiver 1) sufficiently describe the waiver for people that live in their own home or family home? If not, please recommend alternatives.
- Are there examples of living/service arrangements missing from Waiver 1? If so, please recommend alternatives.
- Does the name “Residential Supports” (Waiver 2) sufficiently describe the waiver for people that live in residential settings? If not, please recommend alternatives.
- Are there examples of living/ service arrangements missing from Waiver 2?

Summary of group feedback

PLACEHOLDER: Notes will be shared from verbal input/chat on policy recommendations for new waiver names and living/service arrangements

Summary of group feedback- Cont..

PLACEHOLDER: Notes will be shared from verbal input/chat on policy recommendations for new waiver names and living/service arrangements

Next steps

- Member feedback will be added to notes. DHS will summarize and send to the WRAC for review/additional feedback.
- The WRAC will finalize recommendations during December meeting.

Future policy/operational topics

- Habilitation requirement
- Moving between waivers
- Services by waiver (including self-directed services)
- Resources for people and families

- Questions that came in via chat will be captured from today's meeting and responded to individually and to the WRAC in summary (via email and FAQs)
- WRAC members can also submit questions via email to: waiver.reimagine@state.mn.us
- There will be an evaluation survey sent out shortly after the meeting, which will have space to capture questions

Reminders and future meeting

Reminders:

- Reimbursement form
- Some members will receive email notifications to re-apply – please let us know if you have any questions!

Future meetings (2022):

- Thursday, October 27, 2022
 - Topic: Individual Budgets: deep dive into the support range budget methodology
 - Meeting time: 10:00 am-12:00 pm
- Thursday, December 15, 2022
 - Topic: Reshaping Waivers
 - Meeting time: 10:00 am - 1:30 pm

Thank You!

Waiver.reimagine@state.mn.us