



Division of Developmental Disabilities Services Strategic Plan 2025-2026

Vision

All Arkansans, regardless of their age, ability, or where they live, have access to a comprehensive and coordinated public health care system that provides services at the right time and right place to meet their needs. In addition, all Arkansans have the choice of where they want to receive care, including both home and community and institutional settings.

Mission

The Division of Developmental Disabilities Services empowers individuals with intellectual and/or developmental disabilities and delays to maximize their own quality of life and independence.

Objectives

Strategic Objective 1

Promote beneficiary independence and integration in the community.

Action Plan

- Through the Enabling Technology Pilot, developing a PASSE “in lieu of” service which builds training, education, and access to assistive technology for beneficiaries with functional or cognitive challenges to meet person-centered goals and increase autonomy in daily life. Continue to incorporate enabling technology as a waiver service in the Community and Employment Supports (CES) 1915c waiver during the renewal.
- Create an alternative to traditional day habilitation programs (ADDT) by partnering with a qualified institution of higher education in Arkansas. This self-determination-based pilot will target beneficiaries transitioning from high school who are looking for supports to help in their daily living, specifically vocational goals and connection to community.
- Improve eligibility and access to Autism services by transitioning Autism Waiver eligibility determinations to the DDS Psychology team, implementing the use of new technology systems, and forming an ABA Provider Stakeholder group to discuss needed programming changes.

Strategic Objective 2

Improve access for children that receive developmental disabilities (DD) services through the Medicaid State Plan.

Action Plan



- Revise manuals for specific Medicaid State Plan DD services for children to bolster the efficiency and effectiveness of services by improving the operational design of the available services.:
 - Early Intervention Day Treatment (EIDT) manual
 - Occupational Therapy, Physical Therapy, and Speech-language Pathology Services manual
 - Applied Behavior Analysis (ABA) Therapy Services manual

Strategic Objective 3

Improve access and availability of CES Waiver services under the 1915(c) to qualifying individuals.

Action Plan

- Conduct CES Waiver services rate review and implement any changes needed.
- Review and update CES Waiver 1915(c) and submit renewal for CMS approval.
- Review and update in collaboration with OSAMH, the HCBS Provider Manual.
- Review and update in collaboration with OSAMH, the CSSP Certification Provider certification Manual.
- Participate in the Business Acuity pilot to continue to develop and implement methods to increase provider capacity and access.

Strategic Objective 4

Continue to focus on process improvements and employee retention at the Human Development Centers.

Action Plan

- Continue to implement and utilize an Electronic Health Record across all five HDCs.
- Continue to support and improve employee recruitment and retention efforts that are underway through the WeHeart Program.
- Continue to improve safety and physical structures across all 5 HDC campuses.