

- As a provider I am very supportive of the tier rate system as long as the tiers will allow providers to provide the care necessary for each member. The decision to remove transportation to and from work and to or to or from a day program and ass those costs into supported living is a significant detrimental impact

Provider's rates were historically based under the direction of Chapter 441-78.41 249A HCBS ID Disability waiver section of the Iowa Code code. In this code it reads -

Provider budgets shall reflect all staff to member ratios and shall reflect costs associated with members specific support needs for travel and transportation, counseling, instruction and environmental modifications and repairs, as determined necessary by the interdisciplinary team for each member. The specific support needs shall not exceed \$1570 per member per year, and the provider must maintain records to support the expenditures.

To break that down, that is only \$138/month to cover all of these costs.

Prior to 12/1/17 transportation to and from work and to and from Day programs have been funded under the transportation waiver.

- We were informed, mind you this is the first that we are hearing of this, by Debbie Johnson at the IACP meeting on 10/18/17 that people now living in SCL will no longer be eligible for the transportation waiver and transportation costs are now part of the tiered rates that are going into effect 12/1/17.
- As of 12/1/17 the SCL provider will be responsible to cover the cost of the transportation that was previously funded in the transportation waiver. This is virtually impossible. Despite the fact that SCL rates were bumped up slightly it will in no way come close to covering transportation costs for the people we support.
- When Iowa started the transportation waiver Link developed the service and offers it to all area members served in the ID Waiver. As providers we know we can do things such as transportation cheaper and more efficient by removing duplication.

Despite the fact that we are the least expensive - I can't afford to hire my own transportation services. Moving that to my residential rate will take \$310,000 from my residential service budget. Our cost is \$16.50/trip. We provide transportation for 16 other providers and they all have indicated that they cannot fund this.

So what will happen?

- We have been given less than one month - providers can't purchase vehicles, license and insure them and hire drivers. Even if they could they could not afford to pay the driver or put fuel into the vehicles.
- Members will be negatively be impacted by this - some may not be able to go to and from work or day programs, consumer choice and community integration will not be able to be honored to the same degree that it is today,
- many residential providers will not have enough resources - financial (to cover the transportation costs - internal or external) and/or from a staff perspective (to cover the people staying home and that additional cost was also not built into their budgets pre-MCO / within their rate floor).
- Earlier you heard Mikki say that DHS wants to keep members in their community - this is going to be very difficult to accomplish given this change

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