

We wanted to provide you with an update on implementation of the Michelle P. Medicaid waiver. As you know, this waiver has been developed under supervision of the U.S. Circuit Court, as part of the settlement of a civil lawsuit between Protection and Advocacy and the Cabinet for Health and Family Services. We are very pleased that the court approved our plans to implement the waiver earlier this week.

Michelle P. is designed for people with mental retardation or a developmental disability, who meet Intermediate Care Facility for individuals with mental retardation, or developmental disabilities (ICF/MR) or Nursing Facility level of care. Waiver slots will be filled initially from the SCL waiting list, beginning with those in urgent status (including those who meet SCL urgent status criteria but are not on the SCL waiting list) and then based on the date the individual was placed on the SCL waiting list. After that, other eligible individuals may be served.

The services are a combination of Home and Community Based (HCB) and Supports for Community Living (SCL) waiver services. No residential services are available through Michelle P.—it is designed to serve individuals who live in their own or a family member's home and need non-residential, community-based supports to continue living in the community. Since Michelle P. is a non-residential waiver, individuals served through Michelle P. may retain their place on the SCL waiting list.

The following traditional waiver services will be available through Michelle P.:

1. Case Management
2. Homemaker
3. Personal Care
4. Adult Day Health Care
5. Adult Day Training
6. Supported Employment
7. Respite
8. Attendant Care
9. Environmental and Minor Home Adaptations
10. Behavioral Supports
11. Community Living Supports
12. Occupational Therapy
13. Physical Therapy
14. Speech Therapy

Assessment and reassessment services will be provided as an administrative function, through contracts with Community Mental Health Centers.

Services are limited to a total of 40 hours per week, with the exception of respite, assessment/reassessment, case management and minor home and environmental modifications.

The Consumer Directed Option (CDO) will be available through Michelle P., as it is with other Medicaid waiver programs. Services that will be offered through CDO are:

1. Support Broker
2. Community Day Supports
3. Home and Community Supports
4. Goods and Services
5. Financial Management

Provider letters have been sent to SCL, HCB, and ADHC providers, notifying them that Michelle P. waiver services are beginning and inviting them to provider training sessions scheduled for late July. In addition, letters have been sent to individuals in urgent status on the SCL waiting list, inviting them to apply for Michelle P. services.