

Family Support: In Home Supports

This Medicaid Funded program serves families who have extensive needs for their child with a disability. There are both individual and family criteria that must be met to be eligible. This program falls under the broader category of Consumer Directed Services.

The philosophy behind CDS programs has its base in an understanding that families know best what they need for their child. They understand their child's disability and how it impacts his or her development, physically, socially and emotionally. They are also the best at recognizing the stresses that raising a child with a disability places on the whole family system.

The In Home Supports (IHS) waiver allows families to put together a plan that addresses the needs of their child in different areas of care. Budgets are allotted through the State Department of Health & Human Services, and Community Partners oversees their implementation and regulation.

Again, based on the premise that families know what they need, budgets can include money for personal care, respite, recreation, therapies, consultations and environmental modifications. Some families are also able to purchase therapeutic items that benefit their child on a daily basis, that they would otherwise not be able to acquire.