



## Community Waiver Program GENERAL INFORMATION

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- On November 1, 2021, the Alabama Department of Mental Health, Developmental Disabilities Division will launch a new waiver program, beginning in limited areas of the state, with a focus on serving individuals before they and/or their family are in crisis.
- The new waiver program is targeted to serve persons with intellectual disabilities **not currently** receiving services through a current Intellectual Disabilities (ID) and Living at Home (LAH) Home and Community-Based Services waivers. The new waiver program is targeted to serve persons with intellectual disabilities **currently on the waiting list** for waiver services **if** they reside in one of the 11 counties that the new waiver program is serving.
- Available counties for application are include Baldwin, Elmore, Houston, Jefferson, Limestone, Madison, Mobile, Montgomery, Morgan, Tuscaloosa, and Walker counties. The Community Waiver Program will be the option for waiver services in these counties.
- The new Community Program Waiver will serve 500 individuals in its first year, reducing the waiting list by 25%. On the current waiting list, 46% of the individuals reside in the following six counties: Baldwin, Jefferson, Madison, Mobile, Montgomery, and Tuscaloosa
- This new waiver program will offer services to persons with intellectual disabilities in five enrollment groups, based on age and relative independence, each with a set of services designed particularly to serve them:
  1. Children (ages 3-13) with intellectual disabilities who live with family or other natural supports.
  2. Transition-age youth with intellectual disabilities who (ages 14-21) live with family or other natural supports or who (ages 18-21) live independently.
  3. Working age or older adults (ages 22+) with intellectual disabilities who live with family or other natural supports or who live independently.
  4. Persons (ages 3+) with intellectual disabilities who are unable to live with family or other natural supports or to live independently.
  5. Individuals with ID, ages 22 and older, who have a minimum of one substantial functional limitation.



- The new waivers, 1915(c) and 1115, offer supports in varied forms. For example, the waiver may be available for enrollment to children (ages 3-13) with ID who live with family or other natural supports-personal assistance, independent living skills training, positive behavior supports, and assistive technology. To discover the supports available with specific waivers and enrollments groups, please speak to your Support Coordinator.
- Individuals must enroll on the waiting list to be eligible for the Community Waiver Program.
- Support Coordinators offer direct assistance in gaining access to waiver program services to enable individuals to achieve their goals and have their assessed needs met.
- Service providers in this new program will focus on important goals of Home and Community-Based Services programs such as community integration, opportunities for employment, and developing skills for independence.
- Learn more at <https://mh.alabama.gov/community-waiver-program/>.