

# NEWS

## about your developmental disability services

Big changes are coming to the Idaho Medicaid program for adults with developmental and intellectual disabilities.

Now is the time to make sure your voice is heard.

Read this letter to learn more.

**ACLU**

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Idaho

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# What is going to change?

This letter is about the Idaho Medicaid program for adults with developmental disabilities. There is a class action lawsuit about that program. Every person in the program is part of the lawsuit. Every person who applies for the program is part of the lawsuit, too. The ACLU of Idaho represents everyone who is part of the lawsuit. The ACLU of Idaho wrote this letter to make it easy for you to learn more about the lawsuit.

In the lawsuit, the court said that Idaho would have to make big changes. From 2016 through about 2018, the Idaho Department of Health and Welfare will be deciding on permanent changes. Everybody in the program should be a part of deciding on the changes. This letter will help you have a voice in those changes.

## There are 5 main things that are going to change:



### 1. New Model

The Idaho Department of Health and Welfare will develop a new model for setting personal supports budgets. The Department will work with participants and an outside expert to do this. You get to be involved in deciding how the new model will work.



### 2. Bridge Period

While we work on the new model, the Department has to make other changes. This is called the “Bridge Period.” It is the “Bridge” between the old system and the new model. During the Bridge Period, you will have better rights than before:

- You will be allowed to appeal your budget amount when you get your budget notice or when you submit your plan.
- Everybody who wants someone to help them with an appeal will get someone.
- Your Service Coordinators or Support Broker can be paid to help you with an appeal.
- Anyone can get free training about how to do an appeal. The last page of this letter tells you how to sign up.
- Your budget during the Bridge Period will continue to be the highest budget you have ever had since July 2011.



### **3. Health and Safety Standard**

There will be a new written standard that defines what you need to show to get a higher budget. This standard is called the “health and safety” standard. The standard spells out what documents you need to have to get a higher budget.



### **4. SIB-R Information**

You will be allowed to make copies of all the SIB-R information about you. That includes the scoring book that the assessor fills out. You will have to sign a form to get these copies.



### **5. New Budget Notice**

The notice you get each year about your budget amount will change. It will better explain changes in your budget. If you want to appeal your budget, the notice will let you choose to represent yourself or have someone help you in your appeal.

**B**

# Learn more. Speak up!

**We all need to be a part of deciding on these changes.  
There are many ways you can learn more and speak up.**

The ACLU of Idaho represents everyone who is part of the lawsuit. Every person in the Idaho adult DD program is part of the lawsuit. Every person who applies for the program is part of the lawsuit, too.

The ACLU of Idaho can keep you up to date about the changes and make sure your voice is heard:

**Phone**

208-344-9750 extension 1202  
ACLU lawyer Ritchie Eppink

**Email**

mkafka@acluidaho.org  
ACLU organizer Molly Kafka

**Website**

[www.OurHealthandWelfare.org](http://www.OurHealthandWelfare.org)

**Facebook**

[www.facebook.com/OurHealthandWelfare](http://www.facebook.com/OurHealthandWelfare)

**The Jack Hansen Show video series**

ACLU Idaho

**Another place that can help you learn more and speak out is the Idaho Council on Developmental Disabilities.**

The Council helps adults with intellectual and developmental disabilities and their families advocate for themselves.



**Phone**

1-800-544-2433 or 208-334-2178



**Email**

[info@icdd.idaho.gov](mailto:info@icdd.idaho.gov)



**Website**

[www.icdd.idaho.gov](http://www.icdd.idaho.gov)



**Facebook**

Idaho Council on Developmental Disabilities



**YouTube**

Idaho DD Council

## **You should also keep up to date with the Idaho Department of Health and Welfare.**

The Idaho Department of Health and Welfare has a special website, email address, and telephone hotline about the changes that are coming. You can use them to learn more and speak up.

If you have something to say about the changes, make sure Medicaid knows by telling the Department:



### **Phone**

844-793-1286



### **Email**

[KW@dhw.idaho.gov](mailto:KW@dhw.idaho.gov)



### **Website**

[MyChoiceMatters.idaho.gov](http://MyChoiceMatters.idaho.gov)



# Free training.

**You can get free training to help you advocate for adults in the Idaho DD program.**

The free training focuses on appealing your budget. The training covers the assessment and budgeting process, and the process for informal and formal appeals of budget determinations and support plan denials.

Targeted Service Coordinators and Support Brokers who complete the training will qualify to be reimbursed for time they spend helping with budget appeals.

Herzfeld & Piotrowski LLP, a law firm who represents everyone who is part of the class action lawsuit, runs the free training.

The register for the training, visit [www.OurHealthandWelfare.org/tsc-training](http://www.OurHealthandWelfare.org/tsc-training)



**There is also a free hotline if you have questions about how to handle an appeal.**

Call the hotline at **1-877-287-0984**.