



# Home and Community-Based Services 101 Under CalAIM

Presented by  
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# Medi-Cal for Housing

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- Medi-Cal Health Homes Program: Connecting health with housing services and transitioning to housing.
- Cal AIM Housing Support
- Federal Medicaid dollars cannot be used for housing

# CalAIM Goals & Eligibility:

- California Advancing and Innovating Medi-Cal (CalAIM) – implementation began in 2022 but applications to federal government for this massive waiver began earlier
- Medi-Cal’s primary delivery system is through managed care – 88% of Medi-Cal beneficiaries (compared to about 74% in Medicaid managed care nationally)
- Explicit goal of increasing equity so the program with the concept of “population health” and matching the right patients to the right services at the right time: categorization vs. individualized assessment. Other goals are payment reform and greater accountability for plans.
- Two CalAIM services of particular interest to attorneys serving people with disabilities will be delivered through Medi-Cal plans, to potentially any Medi-Cal member:
  - Enhanced Case Management
  - Community Supports

# CalAIM Housing Community Support:

- Substitute Services - least restrictive setting possible and to keep Medi-Cal beneficiaries in the community as medically appropriate.
- Medi-Cal – Managed Care Plans can choose to provide one or more of these supports:
  - Finding/transition to housing
  - Housing Deposits
  - Support in maintaining safe/stable housing
  - Recuperative Care – short-term residential care for those without housing. (Illness/injury)
  - Short-term Post-Hospitalization Housing – recovery place after institutional care (medical/behavioral)
  - Respite Services
  - Day Habilitation: Skills to live at home
  - Support: Transitioning into housing, sobering centers, medically supportive food.



# Housing Transition Navigation Services

- Tenant Screening and assessment – understanding barriers to housing and obstacles to retention.
  - Individualized housing support plan – set up goals
  - Housing search
  - Completing housing applications
  - Benefits advocacy, including SSI
  - Identifying/obtaining rental subsidy and coverage for expenses.
  - Reasonable Accommodations & Environmental Accommodations
  - Landlord engagement
  - Ensuring a safe living environment
  - Transition into housing – transportation, crisis plan.
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# Day Habilitation Programs

- Peer mentoring for self-help, socialization, and adaptive skills for a person's environment.
- Skills – using public transportation, conflict resolution, interpersonal relationships, community
- Daily Living: cooking, cleaning, money management, etc.

# Housing Tenancy and Sustaining Services

- Intervention for behaviors that risk losing housing and compliance
- Education of rights and responsibilities of tenant and landlord.
- Coaching on maintaining relationships with landlord/managers.
- Coordination with landlord
- Resolving disputes with landlord and neighbors
- Eviction prevention
- Benefits advocacy
- Help with recertification
- Housing support plan
- Health and Safety Visits
- Independent living – financial literacy, community services.





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## Eligibility

- Varies depending on the program
- Meet HUD definition of homeless
- Meet HUD definition of at risk of homelessness
- Serious mental illness
- Serious chronic conditions
- Risk of institutionalization
- Child at risk of homelessness, homeless, or Transition- Age Youth with barriers to housing.



# HCBS Waivers

- Assisted Living Waiver (ALW)
- Home and Community-Based Alternatives (HCBA) Waiver
- Home and Community-Based Services Waiver for the Developmentally Disabled (HCBS-DD)
- Multi-Purpose Senior Services Waiver (MSSP)
- Medi-Cal Waiver Program (formerly AIDS Waiver)

# Assisted Living Waiver

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- Assisted living setting as an alternative to long-term placement in a nursing facility/institution
- Facilitates the transition of seniors and disabled people from a nursing facility to a less-restrictive setting.
- Care needs equal to those of Medi-Cal-funded residents living and receiving care in Nursing Facilities
- Eligibility
  - Medi-Cal eligible
  - Age 21 or older
  - Full-scope Medi-Cal eligibility with zero share of cost
  - Able and willing to reside safely in an assisted living facility or publicly subsidized housing in one of the counties providing ALW services



# Home and Community- Based Alternatives (HCBA) Waiver

- Care management services to persons at risk for nursing home or institutional placement
- Care Management Team: Nurse and Social Worker
- Safely and sustainably receive their required care in their homes and community.
- Eligibility
  - Any age
  - Medi-Cal eligible
  - Nursing Facility Level of Care
  - Target Group – age, behavioral condition, developmental/intellectual disability
  - Financial eligibility
  - Require one or more waiver services
- Wait List initiated July 2023: 5,035 in April, 2024



## **Home and Community-Based Services Waiver for the Developmentally Disabled (HCBS-DD)**

- Allow persons with developmental disabilities to live at home or in the community rather than residing in a licensed health facility.
- Eligibility: Person or family member:
  - 1) Has a formal diagnosis of intellectual disability or developmental disability
  - 2) Regional center consumer
  - 3) Care level = licensed health care facility for people with an intellectual disability
  - 4) “Full scope” Medi-Cal eligibility
    - Under the age of 18 = “institutional deeming”

# Multi-Purpose Senior Services Waiver (MSSP)

- Alternative to nursing care facility for those with nursing home level of care
- Services:
  - Case Management, Money Management, Supervision
  - Personal Care Services and Adult Day Care
  - Respite Care (in-home and out-of-home)
  - Environmental Accessibility Adaptations and Minor Repairs
  - Transportation
  - Personal Emergency Response System
  - Meal Services - Congregate / Home Delivered
  - Social Reassurance / Therapeutic Counseling
  - Communication Services
- Eligible
  - 65 and older
  - Nursing Facility Level of Care
  - Medi-Cal eligible
  - Live in *OR* Willing to Move to one of the Counties where the Waiver is Available

# Medi-Cal Waiver Program

(formerly AIDS Waiver)

- Case management and direct care services to persons living with HIV/AIDS as an alternative to nursing facility care or hospitalization.
- Living at home instead of an institution.
- Eligibility:
  - Medi-Cal recipients eligible for nursing facility care or hospitalization, in an "Aid Code" with full benefits
  - Not enrolled in the Program of All-Inclusive Care for the Elderly (PACE)
  - HIV or AIDS with related signs, symptoms, or disabilities
  - Nursing facility level of care and score 60 or less using the Cognitive and Functional Ability Scale assessment tool.
  - Children under 13 years with HIV/AIDS symptoms
  - Health status: in-home services
  - Home setting that is safe for both the client and service providers.

# Medi-Cal Hearings

- Call member services for help.
- File a formal complaint/grievance **with your plan**
  - Response in 30 days or 3 if urgent.
- Medi-Cal Fair Hearing/State Fair Hearing
  - County or Department of Health Care Services, Covered California eligibility: File request within 90 days of receiving Notice of Action or good cause
  - Medi-Cal managed care plan: File appeal within 60 days of NOA
  - Request:  
<https://acms.dss.ca.gov/acms/login.request.do> or (800) 743-8525 or complete request for hearing on NOA

# Independent Medical Review & Complaint Process

- When your health plan denies, changes, or delays your request for medical services, denies payment for emergency treatment or refuses to cover experimental or investigational treatment for a serious medical condition.
- First file grievance (unless immediate threat to your health)
  - Response within 30 days
- File Complaint - <https://www.dmhc.ca.gov/FileaComplaint.aspx>
- 45 days to respond or 7 if expedited.



# Questions?

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