



Georgia  
Department of  
Behavioral Health  
& Developmental  
Disabilities



GEORGIA DEPARTMENT  
OF COMMUNITY HEALTH

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:**

Thursday, July 11, 2024

## **DBHDD, DCH Announce Approval of Historic Medicaid Provider Rate Increases Under NOW & COMP Waiver Amendments**

ATLANTA – The Georgia Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Disabilities (DBHDD) today announced that the New Options Waiver (NOW) and Comprehensive Supports (COMP) waivers amendments have been approved by the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services. The approval of these amendments will allow DBHDD to provide historic Medicaid provider rate increases to serve individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities.

“The approval of the NOW and COMP waivers amendments is a crucial step in enhancing the support and services available to individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities in Georgia,” said DBHDD Commissioner Kevin Tanner. “This collaborative effort with the Department of Community Health underscores our commitment to improving the quality of care and expanding access to essential resources for our community.”

“This is a significant win for the state of Georgia and our continued efforts to strengthen the healthcare infrastructure,” said DCH Commissioner Russel Carlson. “The rate increases will empower providers to enhance quality of services, recruit and retain skilled staff, and ultimately improve the quality of life for those DBHDD and DCH serve.”

Work to actualize these amendments is currently underway. The rate increases will be retroactive to July 1, 2024. More information about the implementation of the rate increases is forthcoming.

The agencies thank Governor Brian Kemp and the General Assembly for their support and investment in these critical services. The agencies also commend the provider network,

advocacy community, individuals and families for their unwavering partnership and dedication to this important initiative.

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