

PUBLIC NOTICE

Pursuant to 42 C.F.R. § 447.205, the Georgia Department of Community Health is required to give public notice of any significant proposed change in its methods and standards for setting payment rates for services.

DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES WAIVER PROGRAMS

Effective for services provided on and after July 1, 2009, and subject to payment at fee-for-service rates, the Department of Community Health is proposing to make the following change to Medicaid reimbursement for Community Living Services and Respite Services under the waiver programs for individuals with developmental disabilities, the New Options Waiver (NOW) and the Comprehensive Supports Waiver (COMP).

The two waiver programs began operations on November 1, 2008 under a configuration of new services and rates created by unbundling services that had been delivered previously on a per diem basis. The unbundling of the service was supported by CMS.

	Current Rate	Current Unit Maximum	Proposed Rate	Proposed Unit Maximum
(NOW) Community Living Services	\$3.80/ 15-minute unit	6,032 annual limit	\$4.93/ 15-minute unit	4,650 annual limit
(COMP) Community Living Services	\$3.80/ 15-minute unit	11,680 annual limit	\$4.93/ 15-minute unit	9,002 annual limit
Respite	\$3.00/ 15-minute unit	1,248 annual limit	\$4.21/ 15-minute unit	889 annual limit
Respite (overnight)		13 unit limit		39 unit limit

The purpose of this change is to correct service rates set during the development of the two new waiver programs. This change is estimated to be budget neutral.

This public notice is available for review at each county Department of Family and Children Services office. An opportunity for public comment will be held on **May 26, 2009**, 1:00 p.m., at the Department of Community Health (2 Peachtree Street, N.W., Atlanta, Georgia 30303) in the Fifth Floor Board Room. Individuals who are disabled and need assistance to participate during this meeting should call (404) 656-4479. Citizens wishing to comment in writing on any of the proposed changes should do so on or before **June 4, 2009**, to the Board of Community Health, Post Office Box 1966, Atlanta, Georgia 30303.

Comments submitted will be available for review by the public at the Department of Community Health, Monday – Friday, 9:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., in Room 4074, 2 Peachtree Street, N.W., Atlanta, Georgia 30303.

Comments from written and public testimony will be summarized and provided to the Board of Community Health prior to the **June 11, 2009** Board meeting. The Board will vote on the proposed changes at the **June 11, 2009** Board meeting to be held at 10:30 a.m. at the Department of Community Health (2 Peachtree Street, N.W., Atlanta, Georgia 30303) in the Fifth Floor Board Room.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THIS 14th DAY OF May, 2009

Rhonda M. Medows, M.D., Commissioner