

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

The two waiver programs for people with developmental disabilities, the New Options Waiver Program (NOW) and the Comprehensive Supports Waiver Program (COMP), 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 or monthly basis. In its waiver application to CMS, the Department of Community Health stated that an independent cost study would be performed by the third year of waiver operation to confirm rates originally developed using historical waiver expenditures.

The purpose of this notice is to publish the proposed rates for the NOW and COMP Waiver Programs developed through that independent cost study. If approved, the rates will become effective as of 10/1/12. Proposed rates for the NOW and COMP Waiver Programs can be accessed via internet at <http://dch.georgia.gov/nowcompnotice>.

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 **January 26, 2012**, 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 **February 2, 2012**, 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 4053, 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 **February 9, 2012** Board meeting 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 12 DAY OF JANUARY, 2012

David A. Cook, Commissioner