

Coordinating Medicaid Services and Supports for Individuals with Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities

December 2020



OVERVIEW

Medicaid managed care organizations (MCOs) can be valuable partners for states in building sustainable, high-quality service systems that meet the needs and preferences of individuals with intellectual and/or developmental disabilities (I/DD). MCOs also deliver an integrated approach that addresses barriers often encountered by individuals with I/DD.

Constraints in the Medicaid fee-for-service system limit access to individualized, high-quality services and supports for individuals with I/DD. Consequently, states are increasingly moving towards MCOs to address these challenges. MCOs engage in a person-centered approach that addresses the needs and preferences of beneficiaries and increases opportunities for self-direction and informed decision-making. MCOs' whole person approach connects individuals to services and supports that help them go to work, attend school, and participate in other community activities.

This paper describes how partnering with an MCO can improve outcomes for beneficiaries—including greater independence, reduction in service gaps, attainment of individual goals, and better quality of life.

Topics

- Understanding the needs of individuals with I/DD
- Medicaid's role funding services and supports
- Enhancing independence, self-direction, and beneficiary experience through managed care

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