

**Date:** 08/15/2023

**DDSD-SW Numbered Memo 2023-03**

**To:** All Supports Waiver Providers and Interested Parties

**From:** Christina Hill , Deputy Bureau Chief Community Programs Bureau

**Re:** Supports Waiver Status and Resuming Offers

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The Supports Waiver was approved by Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) effective July 1, 2020. The Supports Waiver is an option for individuals who are on the Home and Community Based Waivers, Developmental Disabilities (DD) Waiver Wait List.

A look back at the early Supports Waiver implementation showed that most people offered the Supports Waiver declined because they had access to other benefit programs or were not interested. For those who did enroll in the Supports Waiver, nearly all have transitioned to Developmental Disabilities or Mi Via Waivers during the initiative to eliminate the waitlist.

However, DDSD receives new applications for the DD Waiver weekly. In order to provide an option for those who may not have access to any other program immediately, DDSD, in partnership with HSD, decided to resume Supports Waiver offers. The Supports Waiver will continue to be an option. People accepting Supports Waiver will not lose their place on the DD Waiver waitlist.

Thank you to the variety of stakeholder groups who contributed discussions and feedback about a re-design to the Supports Waiver over the past year. Ideas included a look at expanding the eligibility definition to children at risk, expanding the service array and increasing the budget. Upon further study, these considerations would make the Supports Waiver less and less distinct from comprehensive waiver programs and could unintentionally take place of other benefit programs already established and available.

The Supports Waiver is approved to operate through June 2025. Supports Waiver offers will resume in Fall 2023. Redesign efforts will not be pursued at this time.

To learn more about the visit the Supports Waiver Website:

<https://nmhealth.org/about/ddsd/pgsv/csw/> or contact the Supports Waiver Program Manager, Anysia Fernandez at [anysia.fernandez@doh.nm.gov](mailto:anysia.fernandez@doh.nm.gov) or 505-629-7476.

**DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES SUPPORTS DIVISION**