



Department of
Developmental Disabilities

John Kasich, Governor
John L. Martin, Director

To: Ohio Providers Resource Association; Values and Faith Alliance

From: Patrick Stephan, Deputy Director
Medicaid Development and Administration

Date: May 31, 2012

Subject: SELF Waiver Trainings

The Ohio Department of Developmental Disabilities (DODD) has established trainings for providers as a means to learn more about the Self-Empowered Life Funding (SELF) Waiver, which is on-track to become effective July 1, 2012.

As a part of the SELF Waiver informational trainings that are being conducted by DODD, the Department has set aside both a statewide webinar training for June 25 & 26 as well as an on-site training on July 31 & August 1 (the latter of which will be held in Reynoldsburg, Ohio). The agenda for these trainings is attached, but in general, the first day will cover the elements of the waiver, including such topics as service definitions and specifications and providing an explanation on the participant-directed aspects of the waiver (and what that means to Ohio's Developmental Disabilities System). The second day will be about the changes to DODD's IT systems to allow for the incorporation of the SELF waiver, including the Provider Certification Wizard as well as the Payment Authorization for Waiver Services and Medicaid Billing System. In addition, this training will explain the role of the new entity of Financial Management Services, and what that means to providers. The links to register for the webinar or the on-site training in Reynoldsburg are listed in the attached document, entitled "Registration for SELF Waiver Trainings".

In addition, as part of attempting to ensure that potential providers for the SELF waiver have the opportunity to learn about some of the new aspects available as part of the waiver before the waiver's launch, DODD has also been able to obtain national Financial Management Services expert Susan Flanagan, of The Westchester Consulting Group, to present a webinar on June 18, 2012 from 1 pm – 3 pm. She will cover the topic particular to the SELF waiver that is known as the Employer Authority option of Co-Employer, or Agency with Choice. This model allows for individuals and agency providers to work together, or *Co-Employ*, a direct service worker in accordance with the individual's wishes while still adhering to all State and Federal laws and requirements. For any agency interested in learning more about the specifics of being an Agency with Choice, the link for the registration for that webinar is also provided on the list of trainings in the attached document entitled "DODD SELF Waiver 'Agency with Choice' Webinar Registration Information".

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Finally, the Department has been working with the Support Broker Training vendor, Public Partnerships Limited, to establish Support Broker trainings that will be conducted on a statewide basis. In order to become a Support Broker, all potential providers must attend this training and will be required to present documentation as proof of attendance upon applying for certification as a Support Broker through DODD's Provider Certification Wizard. More details on these trainings will be forthcoming.