



Date: March 28, 2017

To: Case Management Agencies (CMAs)
Community Living Assistance and Support Services (CLASS)
Providers
Deaf Blind Multiple Disabilities (DBMD) Providers
Home and Community-based Services (HCS) Program Providers
Intermediate Care Facilities for Individuals with an Intellectual
Disability or Related Conditions (ICF/IID)
Local Intellectual and Developmental Disability Authorities
(LIDDAs)
State Supported Living Centers (SSLCs)
Texas Home Living (TxHmL) Program Providers

Subject: Information Letter No. 17-08 — IDD Assessment Pilot Project –
Phase One Implementation

The Texas Health and Human Services Commission (HHSC) announces phase one implementation of the Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities (IDD) Assessment pilot project.

Section 3.01 of Senate Bill (S.B.) 7, 83rd Legislature, Regular Session, 2013, directs HHSC, formerly the Texas Department of Aging and Disability Services (DADS), to develop and implement a comprehensive assessment instrument and resource allocation process for individuals with IDD. HHSC must ensure each individual with IDD receives the type, intensity, and range of services that are both appropriate and available, based on the functional needs of the individual, if the individual receives services through a Medicaid waiver program, an ICF/IID program, or a state operated ICF/IID. The IDD Assessment pilot project will focus on individuals receiving services under 1915(c) waivers approved by the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS), community ICFs/IID services, and SSLCs.

IDD Assessment Project – Piloting the interRAI Assessment

DADS/HHSC has entered into a contract with FEi Systems to complete phase one of the pilot project. The vendor will use the international Resident Assessment Instrument (interRAI) Intellectual Disability (ID) Assessment for phase one of the pilot project. The project requires FEi Systems to automate and complete the interRAI ID Assessment on a sample population in an

identified geographic area. FEi Systems has subcontracted with Kepro Intelligent Value to communicate with individuals/Legally Authorized Representatives (LARs) about participating in a pilot of the InterRAI ID assessment.

Kepro will begin reaching out to individuals/LARs in the following geographical areas to ask for volunteer participation in the pilot:

- Service areas covered by Tarrant County and Lakes Regional (Camp, Delta, Ellis, Franklin, Hopkins, Hunt, Kaufman, Lamar, Morris, Navarro, Rockwall, and Titus counties) LIDDAs. These LIDDAs were identified based on the following criteria:
 - catchment areas include both urban and rural settings;
 - service provision crosses multiple waiver programs and ICF/IID; and
 - ability to focus the pilot on a more localized setting to minimize costs associated with travel and assessor accommodations, and increase productivity within limited timeframes.

The outreach to these individuals/LARs will begin on April 3, 2017. Those who volunteer to participate will schedule a time to complete the assessment with the vendor between May 1, 2017 and August 31, 2017.

Depending on the number of individuals/LARs who volunteer to participate, the request for participants may be expanded into other areas of the state to ensure an adequate sample is obtained.

The identified participants will be drawn from:

- individuals who currently receive CLASS, DBMD, HCS, or TxHmL Medicaid waiver services or services in an ICF/IID or an SSLC, including:
 - individuals who have been recently admitted into an SSLC or recently enrolled into a Medicaid waiver program;
 - including individuals transitioning from SSLCs and nursing facilities into the Medicaid waivers;
 - excluding individuals who are admitted to a SSLC under a competency restoration commitment (60 to 120 days) and;
 - individuals from both urban and rural areas of the state.

General assessment pilot project implementation information:

- Participation is voluntary and the individual or LAR may choose to opt out of having the interRAI ID assessment completed.
- The assessment must be completed in the most appropriate setting for the individual.

- The completed interRAI ID assessment will be compared to the current required assessment - Inventory for Client and Agency Planning (ICAP) or Scales for Independent Behavior – Revised (SIB-R) – for each participant that volunteers.
 - The ICAP or SIB-R will be completed by a third party vendor, which will be phase two of the project.
- Planning and resource allocation processes will remain unchanged for individuals who participate in the pilot.
- If the current assessment being used (ICAP, SIB-R) is due, either because of a change in status or regularly scheduled re-assessment, the interRAI must be completed within 30 days of the current assessment completion date.
- Statewide roll out of an assessment instrument is dependent on the outcome of a third party evaluation, phase two mentioned above.

For questions about this letter or the implementation of this project, please contact HHSC at IDD.Assessment@dads.state.tx.us.

Sincerely,

[signature on file]

Haley Turner
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IDD & Behavioral Health Services

[signature on file]

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