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**An Introduction to Understanding
Colorado Home and Community Based Services (HCBS) Waivers:
*The Supported Living Services (SLS) Waiver***

For people with intellectual and developmental disabilities.



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This presentation is an introductory presentation in understanding the HCBS- Supported Living Services Waiver in Colorado. We have done our best to ensure accuracy of the information you are about to hear as of July 2016.

The Arc Arapahoe & Douglas is providing this video as a public service to families, you need to decide if this is right for you.

The Arc Arapahoe & Douglas is a private, non-profit, membership organization that exists to better the lives of people with developmental disabilities and their families. We are not a government agency. We provide advocacy, information, education and support to people with intellectual disabilities and their families.

Objectives

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- Criteria for the HCBS-SLS waiver
- Person Centered Thinking- Who Is Your Son or Daughter?
- Services available through the SLS Waiver
- How to apply?
- Funding & the Supports Intensity Scale (SIS)
- Figuring out the Budget
- Choosing a Provider Agency
- Next Steps



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Supported Living Services (SLS) Waiver

The Supported Living Services Waiver (SLS) is a program to provide supported living in the home or community to persons with developmental disabilities.

For more information, please visit:

<https://www.colorado.gov/hcpf/supported-living-services-waiver-sls>

Criteria for SLS

In order to be enrolled in SLS you must:

- Be 18 years of age and older.
- Be able to live independently with limited supports or, if you need extensive supports, are already receiving that high level of support from other sources, such as your family.
- Be currently residing in, or be at risk of being institutionalized in an Intermediate care facility.
- Have income less than 300% (3 times - 2016 - \$2,199) the Supplemental Security Income allowance per month.
- Have countable resources less than \$2,000 for a single person or \$3,000 for a couple.

Who is your son or daughter?

- What does your son or daughter want to do/accomplish?
- What services do they need to get there?
- Can they be left alone in the home?
- What will they do during the day - can they do any of this alone?
- Which services on this waiver will enhance their quality of life?

Who is your son or daughter?

- If your son or daughter cannot spend any time alone, how will they be supervised/cared for if the waiver can't cover all hours when parents or natural supports are unavailable or working?
- If your son or daughter has a hard time expressing their preferences, what experiences would be helpful for people to observe to guess on preferences?
- Think about environments-- are busy noisy environments good? bad?
- Does your son or daughter thrive with predictable routines and schedules or do they like surprises and novelty?

Who is your son or daughter?

- What about medical needs? Allergies, skilled nursing care, stamina, activity levels?
- What about sensory issues? Lighting, noise, temperature, colors, etc.
- What about mental health needs? Are behavioral services needed?
- Does your son or daughter have a strong work ethic?
- Do they like to be busy?
- Does your son or daughter like to be help other people or animals?



Services Available

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- Assistive Technology
- Behavioral Services
- Day Habilitation Services
- Dental Services
- Home Modifications
- Homemaker Services
- Mentorship
- Non-Medical Transportation
- Personal Care Services
- Personal Emergency Response System (PERS)
- Pre-vocational Services
- Professional Services
- Respite Services
- Specialized Medical Equipment & Supplies
- Supported Employment
- Vehicle Modifications
- Vision Services

How to Apply?

- To apply, families and individuals should contact their local Community Centered Board (CCB). A CCB is the single entry point for the I/DD system and all offer case management, as well as a variety of additional services. These services include: intake, eligibility determinations, enrollment, coordination, etc. For a complete list of CCBs in Colorado, please visit: <https://www.colorado.gov/pacific/hcpf/community-centered-boards>
- Once an individual has been determined eligible for the waiver based on the targeting criteria, your CCB will offer them a waiver resource and conduct an assessment known as the Supports Intensity Scale to determine the level of support needed.

Funding & the SIS

- Once your son or daughter is offered a waiver resource, they will need to go through an assessment called the Supports Intensity Scale (SIS).
- The Arc Arapahoe & Douglas Counties conducted a workshop in 2014 on this assessment and the information and recording can be found here: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KSb0un7e7_Y
- This is an evidence-based, norm referenced tool that was developed by AAIDD to measure the levels of supports that people with I/DD need to live like typical adults in the community.
- CO has chosen to use this tool to determine rates for services provided through the SLS and HCBS-DD waivers.
- CO has chosen to use this tool to determine Service Plan authorization Limits (SPAL) in the SLS waiver

Figuring out the Budget

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- What is your SIS Level?
- What is your Service Plan Authorization Limit?
- How many hours of service can you get?
- Can part of the needed services be covered through Medicaid State Plan Home Health? This is only for rehabilitation and possibly Private Duty Nursing.
 - If an individual receives skills nursing care, caregivers should seek to understand what will change after the age onto the adult waivers.
- Rates can be found online at:
<https://www.colorado.gov/hcpf/provider-rates-fee-schedule>
 - Click on the tab for HCBS Rate Schedule



Choosing a Provider Agency

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Click on this link to see the list of Approved Provider Agencies for SLS:

https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1H6wku9Zgoxov_MoX7qD0RMu2glFYy3T4b5Z2-_J0msg/edit#gid=459370783

Choosing a Provider Agency

- Go through the chart to find PASAs that provide the services you are interested in for your son or daughter.
- Are they located within a reasonable distance from where you live?
- If they have a website, take a look and think about if they would be a good match for your son or daughter.
- If your son or daughter uses a wheelchair or walker are they accessible? Can they provide accessible transportation?
- Can your son or daughter ride the bus?
- Will Access-A -Ride work?

Next Steps

- *This is an starting point.* We've intentionally presented the information in a slow, deliberate and conversational manner so that it can sink in. This is a complicated system and you are not alone in trying to understand it.
- *Sign up for our Weekly Update.* As we put more videos and presentations online, it allows us to offer more in-depth presentations in person. Check out our calendar and sign up for a workshop that can explore these waivers in a more in-depth manner and help you make decisions about which one might be best for your loved on.
- *Contact us!* We are here to help. We offer community education classes and individual advocacy for the lifespan. We want to support you and your family on this journey.