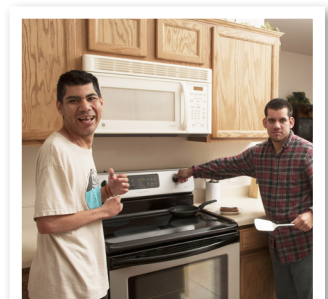
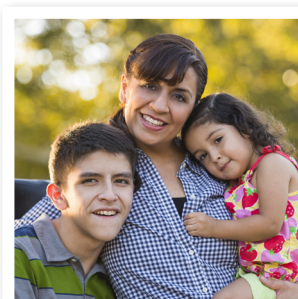




MAKING INFORMED CHOICES



**Community Living Options
Information Process for Legally
Authorized Representatives of
Residents in State Supported
Living Centers**



Introduction



Where we live matters. Most of us take for granted the choices we have in making this life-altering decision. For those with an intellectual or developmental disability, the opportunity to determine where and with whom they live may have been limited in the past.

The purpose of this booklet is to annually remind the residents of Texas state supported living centers (SSLCs) that they have choices about where to live.

As required by Texas Government Code §531.02443, certain local intellectual and developmental disability authorities (LIDDAs) provide SSLC residents and their legally authorized representatives (LARs) with information about community alternatives. LIDDA staff meet once a year with residents and their LAR (if any) before the SSLC's annual planning meeting to discuss possible living options available to the resident. Family members and others involved in the resident's life may also find this discussion of interest.

This booklet compares two programs administered by the Texas Health and Human Services (HHS): Home and Community-based Services (HCS) and Intermediate Care Facility for Individuals with an Intellectual Disability (ICF/IID). More information about community-based programs is available at www.hhs.texas.gov.

LIDDA staff can arrange visits to community settings for a first-hand experience.

HCS Program

The HCS program provides recipients the services they need in their own homes or, if 24-hour supervision is needed, in host homes of no more than three residents or group homes of no more than four. Those enrolling in the HCS program receive services from the HCS provider of their choice anywhere in Texas. Once enrolled, they may move from one provider to another within the same area or to another location in Texas; the HCS services will move with them. It is important to note that moving from one location to another may require them to choose a different provider, as not all providers offer services statewide.



ICF/IID Program

The community ICF/IID Program has the same basic services and rules as state supported living centers, but usually has six or more residents who live together with 24-hour staff support and supervision. Those who enroll in the community ICF/IID Program can choose to live in any ICF/IID group home in Texas that has a vacancy appropriate to meet their needs.

To be eligible for the HCS or ICF/IID program, a resident must qualify for Medicaid, have a diagnosis of intellectual disability or a related condition, and meet certain level-of-care requirements established by HHS.

LIDDA staff will contact state supported living center residents or their LARs, if any, at least 45 days before the SSLC's annual planning meeting. This will give residents or their LARs time to learn about and explore options. Residents and LARs can also request LIDDA staff assistance in exploring community options at any time.

HCS and ICF/IID comparison

Service	HCS	ICF/IID or SSLC
Residential support – 6 beds or more		✓
Residential support – 4 beds or fewer	✓	
Residential supervised living – 4 beds or fewer	✓	
Residential host home / companion care	✓	
Adaptive aids	✓	✓
Behavior support	✓	✓
Case management or service coordination	✓	✓
Day habilitation	✓	✓
Dental	✓	✓
Employment assistance (finding a job)	✓	
Minor home modifications	✓	✓
Nursing services	✓	✓
Professional therapies ²	✓	✓
Respite	✓	✓
Supported employment (keeping a job)	✓	✓
Unlimited prescription medications	✓	✓
Transportation services	✓	✓
Community First Choice personal assistance services and habilitation (CFC PAS/HAB) [†]	✓	

*Professional therapies are occupational, physical, speech, language and dietary therapies, as well as audiology and social work. Cognitive rehabilitation therapy is in HCS only.

[†]CFC PAS/HAB is a Medicaid-funded service available to HCS recipients who live in their own home or family's home.

Service Definitions

Residential support: Supervision and assistance in a group home setting from service provider staff who remain awake during normal sleeping hours. Most who receive residential support services do so to address medical conditions, maladaptive behaviors and assistance with activities of daily living.



Supervised living: Assistance to group home residents, which includes supervision and habilitation from service provider staff during normal waking hours and, if needed, during normal sleeping hours.

Host home / companion care: Provided to residents of a home with a primary caregiver.

Adaptive aids: Devices, controls or appliances that enable residents to retain or increase their ability to perform daily living activities or control their environment. Adaptive aids assist with mobility or communication, or they are used to treat, rehabilitate, prevent or compensate for conditions resulting in disability or loss of function.

Behavioral support: A licensed psychologist performs services that modify and improve a resident's cognitive and affective skills. Services include counseling residents and assessing and training direct service providers or family members with regard to a specific treatment plan.

Case management / service coordination: Assisting with eligibility; coordinating and developing a service plan; monitoring the delivery of program and non-program services; acting as an advocate; identifying resources and making community referrals; providing crisis intervention; and safeguarding individual rights.

Day habilitation: Provided in group settings and helps residents learn, retain and improve their self-help, socialization and adaptive skills so they can live successfully in the community.

Dental: Emergency, preventive and therapeutic dental treatment, including routine exams.

Employment assistance: Assistance to help the recipient locate competitive employment in the community.

Minor home modifications: Assess the need for, arrange for, and modify or improve living quarters to allow community living and ensure safety, security and accessibility.

Nursing services: Services provided by a licensed nurse, including monitoring health conditions, administering and monitoring medication, providing referrals for medical services, and training residents, their family members and support personnel.

Respite: Provides temporary relief for unpaid primary caregivers and provides care when the caregiver is absent. Respite is provided either in or out of the home.

Supported employment: Helps to sustain paid employment for residents who, because of their disability, require intensive, ongoing support to perform in a work setting.

Professional therapies:

Occupational, physical, speech, language and dietary therapies, as well as audiology and social work. Cognitive rehabilitation therapy is provided in HCS only.

CFC PAS/HAB (Community First Choice personal attendant services and habilitation):

Assistance with activities of daily living (such as grooming, dressing, bathing, eating) through hands-on assistance, supervision and cueing, and assistance with learning, retaining or improving daily living skills, self-help skills and socialization skills.



