

# The Division of Developmental Disabilities



# Mission Statement

- The Department of Economic Security, Division of Developmental Disabilities, in partnership with individuals with developmental disabilities, their families, advocates, community members and service providers, will develop, enhance and support environments which will enable individuals with developmental disabilities to achieve and maintain physical well-being, personal and professional satisfaction, participation as family and community members and safety from abuse and exploitation

Today's goal is to acquaint you with the Division of Developmental Disabilities and the individuals that we serve. In addition, we will familiarize you with the Office of Consumer and Family Support (OCFS)

## This will be accomplished by providing:

- Information on who is eligible for services
- Basic information on the four (4) qualifying diagnoses
- Information on what the staff of the OCFS can do when a problem occurs
- You with an understanding of how services are determined

# Who is eligible for services?

- Anyone with one of the four (4) Eligible diagnosis
- The Four Diagnoses
  - Autism
  - Epilepsy
  - Cerebral Palsy
  - Cognitive Disability



- The disability must be documented in medical or school records
- The disability must have been determined prior to age eighteen (18)
- The diagnosis must be determined by a Developmental Pediatrician or Psychiatrist

The disability must also result in substantial functional limitations in three (3) or more of the following areas of major life activities:

- ✓ Self care: needing help with eating, hygiene, etc.
- ✓ Receptive and expressive language: needing help with communicating with others.
- ✓ Learning: needing help with acquiring and processing new information.
- ✓ Mobility: needing help with moving from place to place.
- ✓ Self direction: needing help with managing personal finances or making decisions.
- ✓ Capacity for independent living: needing supervision or assistance on a daily basis.
- ✓ Economic self sufficiency: not being financially independent.

# Why do we have eligibility restrictions?



- **DDD Eligibility is legislatively mandated**
- **Nearly all services are based on AHCCCS (Medicaid) eligibility**

# What must the Division do?

- Determine the eligible disability
- Refer to AHCCCS to determine Arizona Long Term Care (Title XIX) eligibility
- Determine what services are medically necessary

# When and where are services provided?

- Services vary by the funding
- Service may vary by age
- Birth to age three (3)
- Over age three (3)
- Over age fifty (50)
- Birth to Death

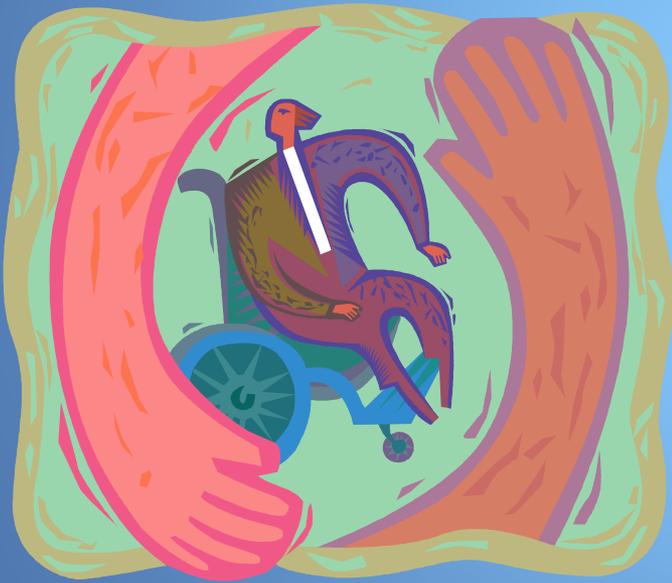


# Re-Determination

- Legislation requires redetermination at various life stages
- Must have an actual disability, it can not be “at risk of” after age six (6)
- Eligibility must be re-determined at six (6) and eighteen (18)
- Eligibility can be re-determined at any time



# Service Areas



- Home
- Community
- Early Intervention
- Foster Care
- Behavioral Health
- Premiere (age 50 and over)
- State Operated Services
- ICF/ID

# How are services provided?

- A Support Coordinator is assigned
- Team conference is held - ISP/CFT/IFSP
- Services are determined by the team
- Family chooses the providers
- Services are provided through qualified vendors/independent providers

# Office of Consumer and Family Support Services

- Receives issues/complaints statewide from Individuals, families, the community, etc.
- Assigns, researches, and resolve, all from one office
- Sends resolved concerns to the Divisions Quality Assurance Unit for further review, tracking and trending
- Provides advocacy for individuals and families, as well as resource information assistance to callers
- Makes various informational presentations to a vast array of audiences across the state



# Questions



# Contact information

- Al Nieto

[anieto@azdes.gov](mailto:anieto@azdes.gov) – 602-364- 1096

- Carol S Sherer

[cssherer@azdes.gov](mailto:cssherer@azdes.gov) – 602-542-6826

- Kaleb Martinez

[kjmartinez@azdes.gov](mailto:kjmartinez@azdes.gov) – 602-542-6838

- Patricia Talcott

[ptalbot@azdes.gov](mailto:ptalbot@azdes.gov) – 602- 542-6835

- Nicolina Chavez

[nchavez@azdes.gov](mailto:nchavez@azdes.gov) – 602-542-6850



**Toll free Number – 1-866-229-5553**