# Public Health Emergency 'Unwind' and 2024 Waiver Transition Plan

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Transition Approach for 2024 and beyond

## Public Health Emergency

In 2020, Indiana along with the rest of the country, enacted several service system flexibilities in response to the COVID-19 pandemic.

For Home and Community Based waivers, you may have heard this referred to as 'Appendix K flexibilities.'

The federal government recently announced the end of the federal public health emergency which means the allowable flexibilities (or temporary service allowances or modifications) will have to end.

The date established by the federal government by which existing waiver flexibilities will end is Nov. 11, 2023.

## Parents as Paid Caregivers & Appendix K's

Two waivers are impacted by the PHE unwind as it relates to parents as paid caregivers of their minor dependents.

- Family Supports Waiver (FSW)
- Community Integration and Habilitation (CIH) Waiver

These two waivers will discontinue temporary allowances for parents and legal guardians to be paid for care and support provided to a minor dependent.

FSSA offered a limited flexibility for parents and legal guardians of minor dependent children enrolled in the FSW and CIH Waiver to be compensated for support provided to their dependent for up to 30-days when the minor child or direct support professional has tested positive for COVID-19.

Services impacted:

Participant assistance and care services

Community-based habilitation services

Residential habilitation services

\*These temporary flexibilities for parents as paid caregivers of minor children on the FSW and CIH Waiver are discontinuing because of the end of the federal public health emergency, not because of the planned waiver transition in 2024.

# Waivers <u>not impacted</u> by the end of PHE flexibilities for parents as paid caregivers of minor, dependent children

- Aged & Disabled (A&D) Waiver
- Traumatic Brain Injury (TBI) Waiver

Parents and legal guardians may be paid caregivers of minor, dependent children through two A&D and TBI Waiver services in approved waiver service plans:

- Attendant care
- Home and community assistance services

<sup>\*</sup>Parents of minors may be hired by an agency to perform the attendant care or home and community assistance service as long as they do not have ownership in the agency. Some stakeholders may be familiar with this guidance as "medically complex warriors" guidance.

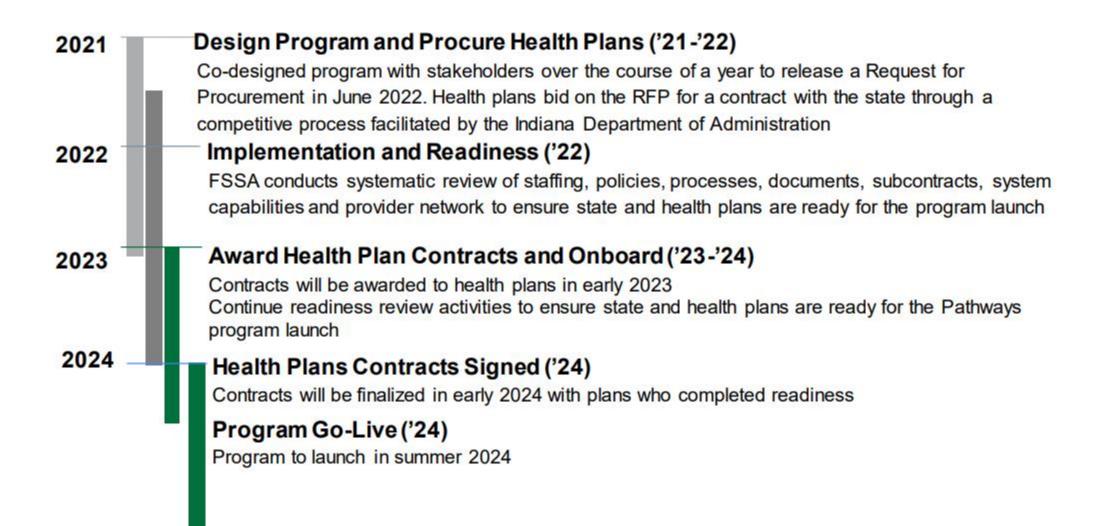
<sup>\*</sup>Options for paid parents and legal guardians only apply to attendant care and home and community assistance services. <u>These</u> <u>are not PHE flexibilities</u>. The availability of these service options on the A&D and TBI Waivers <u>will not change</u> as a result of the federal PHE ending in November.

## Important Dates & Timelines

What's Happening When?

- The Waiver flexibilities related to the federal public health emergecy will end by Nov. 11, 2023
- The waiver transition of the A&D population (59 and under, renamed Health & Wellness waiver) and TBI Waivers from Division of Aging to the Division of Disability and Rehabilitative Services will occur in July 2024

### Indiana Pathways for Aging Milestones



#### Aged & Disabled & Traumatic Brain Injury HCBS Waiver Oversight Transition

#### **Current A&D Waiver Ages 59 & Under**

Transition oversight to DDRS. Focus on those with disabilities in A&D waiver, particularly those under age 60.

#### New Waiver A&D Ages 60+ (MLTSS)

Transition oversight to OMPP. As announced previously, creation of new waiver and administration for A&D waiver recipients 60+. This is our new MLTSS program.

#### **Current TBI Waiver**

Transition oversight to DDRS.

#### **DDRS' Current CIH & FSW Waivers**

DDRS will continue existing redesign activities as previously announced in the Path Forward document this summer.

#### **Non-Waiver Programs for Older Adults**

Division of Aging will continue to focus efforts on operating other existing programs such as CHOICE, Older Americans Act programs, ADRC support, and Adult Protective Services

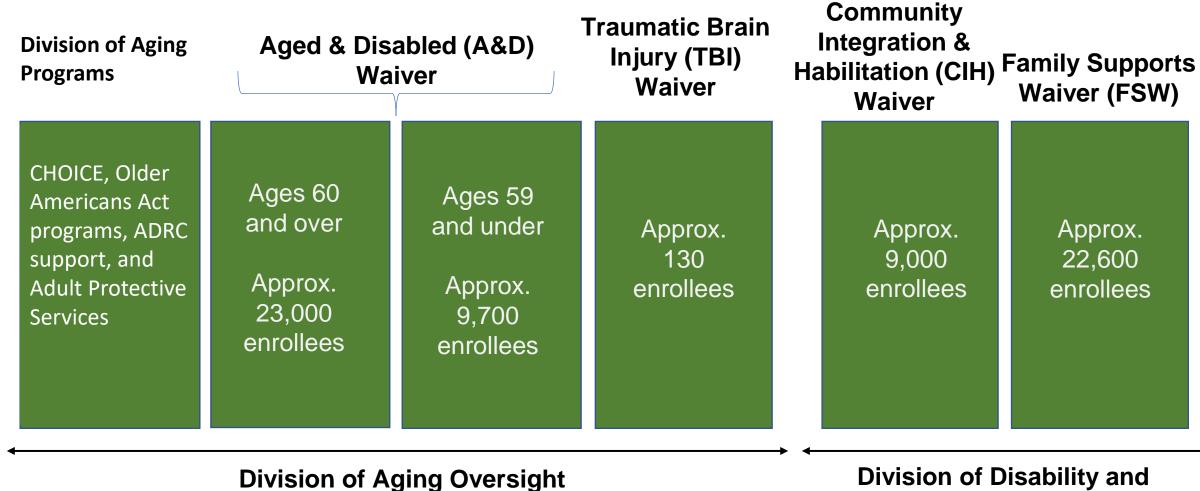
Objective: Foster a positive and smooth experience for HCBS waiver recipients and providers by enhancing the A&D and TBI waiver administration through the transition across FSSA divisions.

#### **Assurances**:

- Engage stakeholders, leveraging some existing engagement venues
- Ensure continuity of services and preserve the maintenance of effort in place for the enhance HCBS funds
- Communicate transparently
- Reduce member and provider abrasion
- Share a timeline as more details are developed



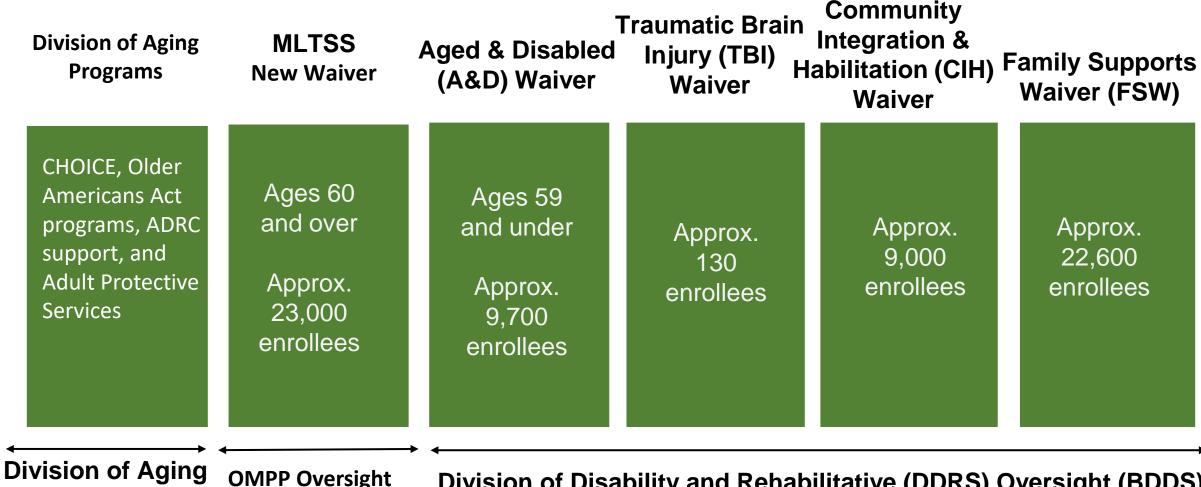
## Current FSSA HCBS Programs\*





**Division of Disability and** Rehabilitative (DDRS) Oversight

## Future FSSA HCBS Programs\* (Waiver Transition)





Division of Disability and Rehabilitative (DDRS) Oversight (BDDS)

## **Waiver Transition – Step 1**

#### **BDDS Waivers**

## Family Support Waiver

1915 (c)

All ages w/ IDD LOC: ICF/ID

Community
Integration and
Hab Waiver

1915 (c)

All ages w/ IDD LOC: ICF/ID

'Disability Waiver' (A&D)

1915 (c)

0-59 w/ disability LOC: NF

Traumatic Brain Injury Waiver

1915 (c)

All ages w/TBI LOC: NF or ICF/ID **OMPP Waiver** 

**Aging Waiver** 

1915 (b/c)

60+ LOC: NF

Target Date: March 2024

## Waiver Transition Stakeholder Engagement Opportunities

- Virtual listening sessions will be scheduled ongoing
- BDDS Waiver Redesign and LTSS Reform for Older Adults webpages will be maintained
- Current Building Bridges quarterly meetings will continue and expand to include Aged & Disabled Waiver and Traumatic Brain Injury Waiver participants
- Many MLTSS Implementation (for 60+ only) conversations will continue, including:
  - MLTSS Codesign Meetings
  - Community Conversations with ADvancing States

