

Frequently Asked Questions and Answers for PARENTS & FAMILY MEMBERS

The following questions were compiled as a result of meetings held with parents/family members who have loved ones attending the Adult Activities Center and Superintendent Kelly Petty in September 2018. Responses are provided below based on information available at this time.



Why do the Adult Activities Centers (AACs) have to transition to a private provider?

In 2014, the federal Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) created a rule known as conflict-free case management. This rule states that the same entity, like a county Board of DD, cannot be both a provider of direct services and a provider of case management (also called support administration). This is viewed as a conflict of interest. The OH Dept. of Developmental Disabilities entered into an agreement with CMS to become compliant with this rule, which created the need for county boards of DD to phase completely out of their role providing adult services, employment services and transportation.

When will the Adult Activities Centers transition to the private provider?

Monday, January 6, 2020. This is the first official date all eight AACs will be operated by a private provider.

How many private providers will be in each Adult Activities Center?

There will be only one provider agency in each AAC.

How will the private provider be chosen for the Adult Activities Centers?

CCBDD will use a competitive bid process to identify a potential private provider for each AAC. A three step review process will be utilized and includes: an initial screening of the proposal; a paper scoring based on responses; and an in person interview. Recommendations on the selected private provider(s) will be presented to the CCBDD Board for its approval on June 27, 2019. CCBDD will then enter into a contract with the selected private provider(s) for a three-year period, beginning on January 6, 2020.

Will the private provider be required to serve all individuals in the AACs when the transition occurs?

Yes. CCBDD will include language in the contract that the private provider cannot decline serving anyone for at least 90 days. (Current state policies allow a provider to give 30 days notice.)

Will the private provider be able to bring new individuals into the Adult Activities Center?

Yes. There will be space for some/minimal expansion. CCBDD will set a maximum capacity number for each AAC.

Will CCBDD still own the buildings (Adult Activities Centers)?

Yes. CCBDD (Cuyahoga County) will continue to own the buildings and will also continue to use some space in each AAC for CCBDD staff offices.

Will the private provider be required to provide nursing services?

Yes. The competitive bid process will state that the private provider must offer nursing services.

What services will the private provider offer?

Depending on the AAC, the private provider will offer either Adult Day Supports (activities) or both Adult Day Supports (activities) and Vocational Habilitation (piece work). Below shows which services will be offered at each AAC:

Activities Only:

- Euclid
- Maple Heights
- Parma
- Southwest

Activities Only, Piece Work Only or Both:

- Beachwood
- Brooklyn
- East Cleveland
- Rocky River

Will people be able to transition to another Adult Activities Center?

Yes. Free choice of provider allows people to change their provider at any time. If someone is interested in attending a different AAC, we are recommending that this conversation begin in June/July of 2019 once the private provider at each AAC has been selected. This will allow for plenty of transition time before the end of the year.

How will CCBDD transition people currently attending the AACs to the private provider?

There will be six months of transition planning, starting in July 2019. Open houses, meet and greets, and other opportunities to get to know the private provider will be available.

Will transportation be impacted?

No. Transportation will remain the same. However, people attending the AACs always have the option to change their transportation provider if that is something they desire. Some private providers do offer their own transportation services. Depending on which private provider is selected for an AAC, a person may want to change his/her transportation provider.

What is the status of SAW, Inc.?

SAW, Inc. is in the process of becoming a Medicaid provider of both Adult Day Services (activities) and Vocational Habilitation (piece work) and intends to respond to the competitive bid process for the four sites that will offer both Adult Day Services and Vocational Habilitation. (These include Beachwood, Brooklyn, East Cleveland, and Rocky River.)

Will CCBDD still have Support Administrators?

Yes. Support Administrators (SAs) will continue to be vital part of CCBDD. They will be responsible for planning through the Individual Service Plan (ISP), authorizing services, monitoring services and connecting people to community resources.

What role will the Cuyahoga County Board of DD have in monitoring the services of the private provider?

CCBDD will continue to have a role in monitoring services. This will be done through the Support Administrator (SA) role and technical assistance/training. We will also continue to have a presence in all of the AACs as we will continue to have office space in these Centers for staff, such as therapists, behavioral health professionals, and others.

What are the certification requirements and standards for private providers?

Private providers are required to be certified by the Ohio Department of Developmental Disabilities and follow all requirements- like county boards of DD. All of the provider certification rules and standards are available [HERE](#).

Will current CCBDD staff at the Adult Activities Centers be able to work for the private provider?

The private provider will need good, qualified staff. CCBDD plans to include an incentive as a part of the competitive bid process so the private provider is able to pay a higher than normal wage in order to attract CCBDD staff.

Will CCBDD still need levy funds?

Yes! CCBDD will continue its vital role as a funder of services. Even when CCBDD is no longer a provider of direct services, it will need to fund these and other services. For waiver services, Medicaid pays 60% and CCBDD uses local levy funds to pay the required 40% match. Levy funds are also used to pay for non-AAC services, such as the early intervention program for children ages birth to three and behavioral health services.

How can I learn more about DD provider agencies?

You can learn more about provider agencies and read their reviews at www.ProviderGuidePlus.com

Who can I contact if I have questions?

For questions about the AAC transition timeline and/or programs at the AACs, contact Janet Keeler at (216) 736-4518 or Keeler.Janet@cuyahogabdd.org

For questions about your waiver or waiver services, contact your Support Administrator or Jo Elle Barath at (216) 736-3396 or Barath.Joelle@cuyahogabdd.org

For all other questions or if you're not sure who to ask, contact Jacquie Kasprisin at (216) 736-2709 or Kasprisin.Jacquelyn@cuyahogabdd.org

