AUDIENCE: All interested parties

PURPOSE: The Consolidated and Person/Family Directed Support waivers are scheduled to be renewed effective July 1, 2017. ODP is drafting both waiver applications, with the plan of releasing Appendices A through H for the official public comment period from November through December.

This announcement describes the process ODP will use to communicate the proposed changes to both waiver programs and how we intend to engage stakeholders so everyone can learn about the changes and provide comment.

DISCUSSION:
Foundation for the changes:

The waiver changes are based on years of dialogue with people who receive services, their family members, advocates, providers, supports coordinators, Administrative Entities and other stakeholders, as well as analysis of data. ODP reached out to a variety of stakeholders starting in 2013 with ODP Futures Planning. ODP also held ten in-person public forums and two webinars in the fall of 2015 to solicit public input on the waivers. The need to articulate common values was identified, leading to the new Everyday Lives value statements from individuals and families. The Information Sharing and Advisory Committee (ISAC) made 13 recommendations for system change based on these values. In addition, ODP reviewed multiple
data sources indicating anticipated demand for services for people with intellectual disability (ID) and/or autism spectrum disorder (ASD).

**Planned Waiver Changes:**

Some of the planned changes to the waivers include:

- Expand eligibility to people with ASD regardless of a co-occurring ID diagnosis and to children at birth (currently eligibility begins at age 3);
- Implement a new Community Participation Supports service;
- Enhance support for families by establishing services that provide more flexibility for people who live with family members and by allowing family members to provide Life Sharing; and
- Expand residential options by establishing a new Supported Living service for people living in private apartments and/or homes.

These and other changes will be further described when the draft waivers are provided for the official public input period from November through December.

**Opportunities to Learn about the Waiver Applications and Provide Input:**

ODP will hold three introductory webinars in October 2016 prior to the start of the official public comment period to summarize planned changes and allow time for questions and answers.

**Webinar: Preview of the Proposed Changes to the Consolidated and Person/Family Directed Support (P/FDS) Waivers**

October 24, 2016 1:00-2:30pm  
October 25, 2016 6:00-7:30pm  
October 27, 2016 10:00–11:30am

*These sessions are only available remotely; there is no in-person meeting site.* To register for the webinar, go to the below link and use the drop down to select the session you wish to attend:

https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/rt/4654263884299621889

Participants are able to attend the webinar by phone, but will need a computer to provide comments during the webinar.
During the formal public comment period, ODP will hold another three webinars to provide an opportunity to learn more about the planned changes, ask questions and provide comments to ODP.

**Webinar: Consolidated and P/FDS Waiver Renewals Overview and Public Comment**

November 18, 2016 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.
November 30, 2016 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.
December 1, 2016 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.

The following link must be used to register for any of the public comment webinars. Select the session you wish to attend from the drop down box.


Participants are able to attend the webinar by phone, but will need a computer to provide comments during the webinar.

Additional webinars will be held with partners that will work with ODP to implement these changes—Administrative Entities, Supports Coordination Organizations, Prevocational and Day Habilitation Providers, and Residential Service Providers—to answer technical questions regarding how partners can implement the waiver changes.

As always, at any time people may ask questions or provide feedback to ODP at RA-odpcomment@pa.gov or 1-888-565-9435