

MEET THE NEED NC

Changing the I/DD landscape across the state

Responses to Unanswered Questions During the June 2023 Meet the Need NC Lunch & Learn Webinar Topic: Registry of Unmet Needs

Can we request PA as a support for a child at school?

We recommend that you talk with your local school, the EC director for your school district regarding school and Department of Public Instruction policies for the use of Medicaid funding and support staff in schools. Much of this will be based on your local school's policies, your child's IEP, and other educational policies set by the Department of Public Instruction. Go to: <https://www.dpi.nc.gov/districts-schools/classroom-resources/exceptional-children>

If we are already on the wait list, how do we access the b(3) benefits available that you mentioned?

b(3) services are available for people who have Medicaid through their LME/MCO. Contact your LME/MCO and/or your Tailored Care Manager to ask about what b(3) services you or your family member may be eligible to access. You can find your LME/MCO here: <https://www.ncdhhs.gov/providers/lme-mco-directory>. Your LME/MCO is based on your Medicaid county of administration or, if you do not have Medicaid, your county of residence. 1915(i) is expected to launch soon and b(3) will be phased out over time so please also ask to learn more about the 1915(i) services options.

Where does Care Management fit in with all of this?

Your care manager should be helping you understand programs and resources you are eligible for including helping sign up for Innovations, other waiver programs, or other services.

How can families confirm other than verbally over the phone that our child is on the RUN?

Yes, if you do not have in writing; the date your loved one was added to the RUN (and you are guardian or if they are their own guardian they can ask); please ask the LME/MCO for that date in writing. Please also update the

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<https://meettheneednc.org/hsa2023/>

LME/MCO if the individual's contact information changes or their support needs change.

Is housing assistance included in the services that the Innovations Waiver provides?

The list of Innovations waiver services can be found here:

<https://medicaid.ncdhhs.gov/providers/programs-and-services/behavioral-health-idd/nc-innovations-waiver/waiver-services>. While waiver services include things that can help a person get into appropriate housing (like home modifications, transition supports including security deposits or things needed to make a home safe) it does not include money to pay rent, mortgage, or utilities. Care managers can assist in understanding programs like social security, local special assistance, or accessing employment programs which can help to pay for living expenses.

I just applied to my LME-MCO to get on the Innovations waitlist. They replied and told me to submit my psych evaluation.

Please share with your LME/MCO exactly what you currently have so they can clarify what additional information is needed. You can also ask about resources to get any additional information that you need.

How do you file for an Emergency Innovation slot?

Please ask your LME/MCO for information on the process to request an emergency Innovations slot. There are a very limited number of emergency slots per Innovations year (the Innovations year starts 7/1) and there are very specific criteria for Innovations emergency slots. We asked Jennifer Mahan at the Autism Society of North Carolina to share an advocate's perspective on this issue: "In our work with families and individuals on the spectrum we see hundreds of people experiencing crisis each year. Many are already on the RUN and waiting for services and supports. A few are fortunate to get an emergency waiver slot, usually due to the loss of family support. Given the limited numbers of ALL Innovation slots, there are those with repeated crisis situations that still are waiting. **Emergency slots are not a safety net.**

Everyone is deserving of the supports to live in the community. This is the reason we have all come together in Meet the Need - to focus on advocating for the supports those with IDD need. I encourage you to let policymakers know that 17,000 waiting is too much and too long."

If the State reduces \$50M of single stream funding from the LMEs, will this have any effect on the RUN or other programs?

The loss of 50 million in funds that support programs for those who don't have Medicaid or other health care to address their needs would likely result in LME MCOs reducing or eliminating programs that support people. Since these programs vary from LME to LME it's difficult to say *which* programs

would end but we have already heard from LMEs who say they would have no choice but to eliminate services with the loss of millions per LME.

Will there be additional providers for 1915i than (b)(3)? There are a limited number of (b)(3) providers in our area.

With 1915i services being a more extensive, robust set of services compared to the limited hours available under (b)(3), the hope is that providers will find these more financially viable services to deliver. However, this will also depend on the rates for the services, the availability of DSPs and other professionals to deliver them. There is a large pent-up demand for services and supports for people with IDD who have not had access to them before under the Medicaid state plan, so this can sometimes mean demand outstrips the number of providers and staff.

How can I access previous webinars, April and May specifically?

Check out our Meet the Need NC YouTube channel:

<https://www.youtube.com/@meettheneednc/videos>