

September 15, 2004

POLICY MEMO

To: Developmental Disabilities State and Provider Staff

From: Jeff Sturm, Director, Developmental Disabilities Program

Re: Transition from Children's Waiver Services to Adult Waiver Services

Effective October 1, 2004 all individuals in Children's Intensive Family Education and Support Waiver Services (IFE&S) will be eligible to transition into Adult Waiver Services when they age out of IFE&S.

IFE&S children will transition to Adult Waiver Services with their contract resource allocation (RAS). Individuals will be able to choose their Adult Waiver Services and their qualified provider based on the dollars they have available to them at the time of transition.

Once the Montana Needs Assessment Protocol (MONA) is implemented into the system, the MONA- assessed dollar amount will be the dollar amount (based on their current living arrangement) that transfers with the individual into Adult Waiver Services. If the individual has not had a Montana Needs Assessment (MONA) completed in the year they are transitioning, one will need to be completed before entering into Adult Waiver Services. That dollar amount (based on their current living arrangement) will be the resource allocation that moves with the individual into Adult Waiver Services.

Individuals are eligible for Adult Waiver Services when school services are no longer available. In most situations that will be at graduation, which can be anytime between the ages of 18 thru 21 years of age. In all cases the 22 year old age limit set for IFE&S Services in the 0208 Waiver will apply.

IFE&S service providers will need to contact Adult Case Management to assist individuals transitioning into Adult Waiver Services. Advance notice of six months should be given to case management for a transition. The Adult Case Manager will assist with the selection of and transition to Qualified Adult Waiver Service providers. The individual must be served by a State Qualified Provider. A regional IFE&S screening will

be held within 30 days to fill vacancies that occur due to the transition process. **IFE&S funds that are moved into adult Waiver services due to an individual aging out of IFE&S children's services will be replaced within 30 days.**

DO NOT EXIT ANY CHILDREN FROM IFE&S SERVICES DUE TO AGING OUT!
They will be given the opportunity to transition to Adult Waiver Services utilizing this process.

Agencies may only remove individuals from the Waiver for the following reasons:

- 1). The individual does not meet Waiver eligibility i.e., financial eligibility, Developmental Disability eligibility, level of care, etc.
- 2). The State cannot assure the health and welfare of an individual.
- 3). The individual exhausts all potential providers in a specific geographic area and cannot find one that will provide the needed services. In this case the individual must be advised in writing that the provider options are limited and Waiver Services could expire if there are no other Waiver Providers available to provide care.
- 4). The individual is not utilizing services.

An individual in the Waiver must remain in the Waiver with the exception of the aforementioned reasons.

Therefore, IFE&S providers will no longer be able to use Waiver (Crisis) placements. As of October 1, 2004, no new or additional individuals can be entered into "IFE&S Crisis Slots". Any individuals in those slots on that date may continue with "Crisis Slot Funding" for the approved period before exiting. IFE&S providers with "Crisis Slot Funding" will have the option of either requesting an amendment to add another IFE&S service opportunity, utilizing the funds formerly designated for IFE&S "Crisis Slots" or having the remaining "Crisis Funds" removed from their contract.