



Summary of Public Comments Received During Workgroup 5 Meeting #1- Friday, September 13, 2024 11:30 a.m. – 2:30 p.m.

This summary reflects the themes and ideas received from public comments provided during the workgroup meeting's public comment period. Public participants were invited to speak and share their comments with the workgroup and to share their comments using the Zoom chat and Q&A. Themes from public comments included:

Systemic Improvements

- Consider a person-centered approach to collecting and sharing information to make sure individuals have control over their data and care delivery.
- Consider systemic changes to improve efficiency, reduce bureaucratic barriers, and better support individuals and families.
- Identify and allocate resources towards opportunities for self-advocates to work with peers in their communities.
- Enhanced case management should be made available to support individuals who may be eligible for waivers but are unable to engage with the system.
- Support education and training for service coordinators to ensure families receive the support they need.

Housing as a Priority for Individuals Receiving Services

- Housing needs to be included in the workgroup discussions as a priority.
- The interconnectedness of housing and healthcare highlights the importance of addressing both aspects to promote full community inclusion.
- Consider how to allow individuals to remain in their family home throughout their life if they choose.
- Improve the availability and quality of transportation and housing services and seek additional federal assistance to ensure dignified living conditions.

Access to Medical Services

- Prioritize access to medical services as a fundamental requirement for individuals with I/DD to live independently and participate in their communities.
- Consider addressing the healthcare needs of individuals with I/DD as part of broader community-based support initiatives.

Communication Needs

- Lack of standardized names for services across regional centers leads to confusion for families.
- Additional clarity on the entitlements granted under the Lanterman Act would help individuals and families.

Alternative Funding Streams

- Consider options for alternative funding streams to enhance services and supports for individuals.
- Be transparent about funding strategies to promote more efficient allocation and avoid returning or forfeiting of budget funds at the end of the year.

Information Sharing Between Workgroups

- Public commenters raised the importance of sharing knowledge between different Master Plan workgroups to ensure a unified approach to meeting the various needs of people with intellectual and developmental disabilities and that helpful suggestions are routed to the appropriate workgroup.

Privacy and Confidentiality Challenges

- Some public commenters expressed reservations about making public comments and the potential for retaliation against themselves or their family members if they spoke truthfully about their experiences with navigating the system and receiving services.