

Informing Families

Building Trust

A Partnership for Better Communication
on Developmental Disabilities Issues

GOOD NEWS FOR INDIVIDUALS WHO RECEIVE MEDICAID PERSONAL CARE IN THEIR OWN HOMES

The **DDD Assessment** has recently changed how it determines Medicaid Personal Care. If you or a family member receives Medicaid Personal Care and has high assistance needs for daily living activities or has behavior issues that impact the ability to receive personal care assistance you may qualify for more hours starting September 1, 2007. **If you are eligible for an increase, your case manager will contact you within the next two weeks.**

These changes are the result of the 2007-2009 Collective Bargaining Agreement between the State of Washington and the Service Employees International Union (SEIU) 775, and are expected to take effect beginning September 1, 2007.

The changes include:

- Two new CARE classification groups in the C and D levels for clients who need more hours.
- The C low base will increase by 12 hours.
- Clients will no longer need a specific diagnosis in the E level should they meet all other criteria.
- Total assistance in toileting will be added as an option to meet the Bladder/Bowel criteria for the E level.
- In the B level, a scoring mechanism for behaviors has been created based upon the frequency and severity of the behaviors.

For those individuals who need additional supports, this is very good news. Current data projections estimate that 4,486 individuals will qualify for additional hours. Additionally, no one is expected to experience any decrease in Medicaid Personal Care as a result of these changes.

If you have any questions, please call your case resource manager at DDD for additional details.

Each individual is valued as a contributing member of the community.