

In 2014, the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services' Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) released new guidelines to enhance the quality of life and services for beneficiaries of Medicaid Home and Community-Based Services (HCBS). Over the next four years, states must comply with new rules to ensure person-centered planning, full community integration, choices regarding services and lifestyle, and maximum independence. The Association of University Centers on Disability's (AUCD) Council on Research and Evaluation (CORE) has begun a long-term assessment of the implementation and impact of these important policy changes for intellectually and developmentally disabled populations. We constructed measures of the quality of states' existing (baseline) policies using approved HCBS Medicaid waiver applications, and correlated these measures with beneficiaries' levels of satisfaction based on the National Core Indicator survey.