

List of Acronyms and Abbreviations Used in Our Industry

Still a work in Progress

January 1, 2021

I Funding Agencies and types of Funding:

- * County Human Services Departments (Stearn's, Benton, Sherburne and Todd)
- * DHS - State of Minnesota Dept. of Human Services (DHS)
 - * RSB - Rehabilitation Services Branch of the Dept. of Employment & Economic Development (DEED) We also call this DRS sometimes. DRS is the old name.
- * Private Business
 - * CCSA: This stands for "Children & Community Services Act". This money is considered County money and usually funds those clients that live at home with a parent or relative.
 - * Title XIX this is Medicaid funding. This funding has many rules attached to it and is quite medical in nature.
 - * MA Waiver or Waiver this is Medicaid funding with some of the medically oriented rules "waived" so that it will cost less than Title XIX.
 - * CADI Waiver This is a special waiver called "Community Alternatives for Disabled Individuals"
- * TBI Waiver This is a special waiver for the "Traumatic Brain Injured"
 - * Supported Employment Waiver - A special waiver to promote supported employment for persons with disabilities.
 - * CDCS Consumer Directed Community Supports is a method of funding services through the MA Waiver that provides families with a budget that they can direct and utilizes an agency to provide the administration of the funds.
 - * EE - Stands for Extended Employment. This is the primary funding for the Long term Employment that we provide for workers in our sheltered workshop. This is money from a program funded by the State Legislature and administered by RSB.
 - * VR or Case Service Dollars - This money is Federal money from the Federal Office of Rehabilitation Services and is administered by the Minnesota Department of Employment & Economic Development (DEED) Rehabilitation Services Branch. (RSB)
 - * DWRS – This stands for Disability Waiver Rate Setting. Historically (before 2015), WACOSA and programs providing similar services were paid per client based upon a full day, partial day and transportation. After 2016, WACOSA is now reimbursed for each client we serve based upon an individualized rate generated for each client, based upon their assessed needs.
 - * WIOA – This stands for Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act. This was signed in to law in 2014 and was put fully implemented on July 22, 2016. This prevents school districts from contracting with any provider like WACOSA that holds a special minimum wage certificate, allowing less than the minimum wage to be paid to an individual. This act also requires new school graduates to receive career counseling before being permitted to work for less than the minimum wage, as well as, offering adults over 25 years of age currently being paid less than minimum wage to take part in career counseling at least annually.

* Section 14(c) of the Fair Labor and Standards Act (FLSA) – allows programs like WACOSA to pay less than the state or federal minimum wage, provided time studies and performance measurements are kept current that compare the productivity of individuals with disabilities to individuals who are not disabled for the work being performed and then compared to the prevailing wage for like work being performed in standard industry. This is referred to as paying a “commensurate wage” and is subject to audit.

II Regulatory Agencies

- State Legislature
- CMS – Center for Medicaid Services of the Federal Government
- DHS - MN Department of Human Services
- RSB - Rehabilitation Services Branch (Part of DEED)
- DEED – MN Department of Employment and Economic Development
- Dept. of Labor, Wage & Hour Division
- CARF – Commission on the Accreditation of Rehabilitation Facilities
- Stearn’s, Benton, Sherburne and Todd counties via our Contracts

III Referral Agencies

- Stearn’s, Benton, Sherburne and Todd Counties (primarily)
- RSB – Rehab Services Branch of the Department of Employment and Economic Development (DEED)
- School systems

IV Consumer/Advocacy Agencies

- ARC - The new name for the Association for Retarded Citizens (Sometimes considered a parent driven advocacy group)
- AUSM - Autism Society of Minnesota
- Mental Health Coalition
- National Head Injury Foundation
- ACT – Advocating Change Together, a consumer driven (rather than a parent driven) advocacy group

V Industry Associations / Lobbying Agencies (WACOSA is a member of MOHR)

- MOHR – Minnesota Organization for Habilitation & Rehabilitation

VI Residential Types

- Independent
- Family home
- Adult Foster Care – Licensed by counties rather than the State.

- ICF/MR – Intermediate Care Facility for persons with Mental Retardation funded by Title XIX
- Waiver – Funded like an ICF/MR with some rules waived. Allows for creative residential programming but is also supposed to save money compared to the ICF/MR system, as well as divert individuals from being institutionalized.
- Nursing home - Hardly ever used anymore for our clients.

VII Case Management

- * County Social Workers/Case Managers
- * RS (Rehabilitation Services) Counselors

VIII Initials used to indicate types of Disabilities

Note: We don't want to use these terms often or publicly as they do not usually exist with "Person First Language", but I put these here because we all make mistakes and I still want you to know what is being discussed.

- DD - Means Developmental Disabilities and includes the conditions of mental retardation, cerebral palsy, epilepsy and autism
- MI - Mental Illness
- SPMI - Severe and persistent mental illness
- BI - (formally known as TBI) – Brain Injury (Traumatic Brain Injury”
- Dual Diagnosis – Both mental retardation and mental illness
- ASD – Autism Spectrum Disorder

IX Other Acronyms

- VA - Vulnerable Adults
- DNR/DNI - Do Not Resuscitate/Do Not Intubate – medical orders sometimes in place for our clients.
- SE - Supported Employment
- Self Determination – A term used to indicate a power shift towards the locus of control for a persons program being with the person themselves and their family rather than a government or provider agency.
- Person First Language – This might be the most important piece of information on this document. Person first Language is what we strive for in our communications regarding persons with disabilities. So a couple of examples are needed:

Bad: A retarded person.

Good: A person with cognitive challenges.

Bad: A disabled person.

Good: A person with a disability.