

Information Sheet:

Division of Developmental Disabilities

Caseload Forecasting

BACKGROUND

Revenue and expenditure forecasting are an integral part of the government budget process and play an important role in public budgeting and financial management. While the great majority of public budget forecasting is for revenue taken in by taxes and other sources, forecasting is also used to determine what government expenditures may occur. Forecasting is common for government entitlement programs, such as public assistance, and typically includes both a projection of the numbers of people who may be eligible for the entitlement – *forecasting the caseload* – and a projection of the costs of supporting those individuals – *forecasting per capita*. Both caseload and per capita forecast are combined to form an expenditure forecast.

The Washington State Caseload Forecast Council (CFC) is charged with forecasting the entitlement caseloads for our state. The Council meets several times a year to adopt official forecasts. The adopted forecasts are the basis of the Governor's budget proposal and utilized by the Legislature in the development of biennial and supplemental appropriations. Currently there are two types of forecasted developmental disabilities services:

- The DDD Personal Care Services (budget unit H52) caseload is a federal entitlement program including In-Home Individual Providers, In-home Agency Providers, Assisted Living Facilities, and Adult Family Homes that is part of the Medicaid Personal Care (MPC) and Waiver Personal Care (WPC) programs. The CFC is forecasting caseloads for these services.
- The DDD Community Residential Services (budget unit H51) caseload includes Adult Supported Living, Community Protection, Group Home, Companion Home, Child Staffed Residential, Child Foster Group Home, and Community ICF/ID. While these programs are not entitlements, the forecasted caseloads are used for budget planning purposes.

The appropriations for Medicaid funded Personal Care and Community Residential services are increased or reduced depending on the forecasted caseload and per capita costs for these services. If the caseloads and/or per capita costs decline, the corresponding state and federal amounts from reduced caseloads are decreased in the Department of Social and Human Services' (DSHS) budget. Likewise, if caseload and/or per capita costs increase, an additional funding will be appropriated.

Official forecasting is not done for any other DDD service.

EXAMPLE SCENARIO - No Paid Services Caseload

Client acuity matters in determining individual client per-capita costs for more specific budget analysis. For instance, in-home personal care services client acuity determines the amount of hours they would receive, and as service is paid on mostly a per-hour basis, the higher acuity will determine the higher per capita. Meanwhile, in residential setting, client acuity is also a major determinant of rate setting process to the service providers.

If it is assumed that the current DDD No Paid Service clients who are Medicaid eligible, on average, have the same acuity level to those who are currently receiving services; we could use forecasted per capita costs for clients who are receiving service to estimate probable costs for No Paid Services clients, should they start to receive services.

Current department data analysis shows that about 9,700 (adults and children combined) individuals are already eligible and enrolled for Medicaid services provided by a different Medicaid program.

As of June 2012, the forecasted per capita costs were:

DDD Personal Care (H52) Per-capita, June 2012		DDD Community Residential (H51) Per-capita, June 2012	
<i>Forecast Charges are per month per caseload within each setting</i>			
MPC Children – IP	\$ 1,097	Group Homes	\$ 5,578
MPC Children – AP	\$ 1,279	Companion Home	\$ 5,315
MPC Adult and WPC IP*	\$ 1,762	Alternative Living	\$ 419
MPC Adult & WPC Agency *	\$ 1,562	Adult Supported Living	\$ 6,672
Adult Family Home	\$ 1,723	Child Staffed Residential	\$ 10,510
Adult Residential Care/ EARC	\$ 1,217	Child Foster Group Home	\$ 2,880
		Community ICF-ID	\$ 8,512
		Community Protection	\$ 9,301
Total Average	\$ 1,651	Total Average	\$ 6,619

** In-home Waiver Personal Care (WPC) contains children caseload.*

IP – Individual Providers

AP – Agency Providers

If eligible No Paid Services clients requested and received the average Personal Care service, the approximate cost would be:

**9700 individuals X \$1,651 average per capita monthly cost = \$160,147 per month expenditure
x 12 = \$1,921,764 per year of personal care services**

This very simplistic analysis is based on averages for the entire caseload within the support setting. It does not take into consideration the total funds that may be spent on Medicaid eligible clients.

More information can be found at: http://www.cfc.wa.gov/HumanServices_DDD_ADU_Total.htm