



Division of Developmental Disabilities: Analysis of How Services Are Prioritized

Proposed Final Report to the
Joint Legislative Audit & Review Committee

July 31, 2007

Cynthia L. Forland



Presentation Overview

- Study Mandate
- What JLARC found and recommends:
 - Limited legislative direction
 - Primary Division initiatives scheduled to be implemented soon
 - Shortcomings in assessing clients not receiving paid services

Study Mandated by 2006 Supplemental Operating Budget



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JLARC “to conduct a review of how the Department of Social and Health Services Division of Developmental Disabilities prioritizes and allocates services.”

Limited Legislative Direction for Prioritizing Services



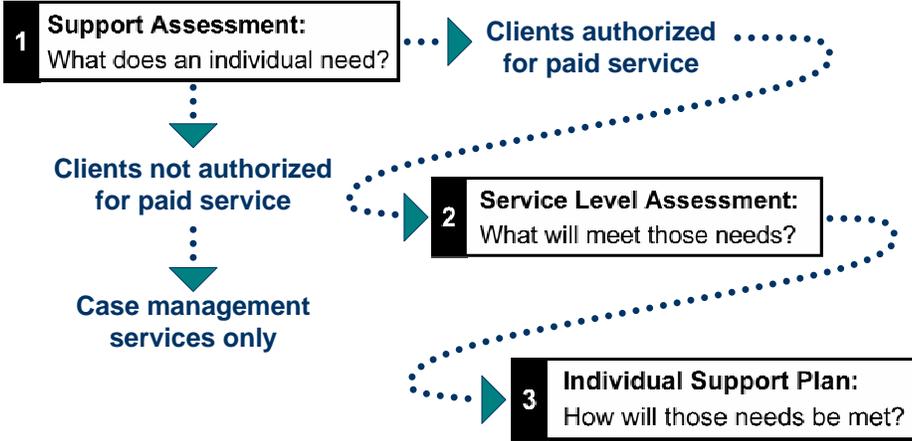
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- No clear priorities in permanent state law
- Specific entitlement services establish a type of priority (MPC, institutions)
- Priorities attached to particular allocations of funding for specific types of services in State Operating Budgets

Full Assessment Being Implemented Last Month



Information System Planned To Be Implemented in March 2008



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Case Management Information System (CMIS) is planned to:

- Provide centralized information system to help staff assist clients and plan for future needs
- Combine functions of several current separate information systems

Primary Initiatives To Be Implemented Soon



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Recommendation 1:

The Department of Social and Health Services should provide a report to the Legislature by January 2009 on implementation of its two primary initiatives.

DSHS and OFM concur

Mini-Assessments of 34% of Clients Not Receiving Paid Services



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- Division changed its priorities for completing assessments to address backlog in its system
- Division did not set up mechanism for tracking priorities
- Division will be continuing to assess remaining clients not receiving paid services

Division Ineffectively Managing Client Mini-Assessment Process



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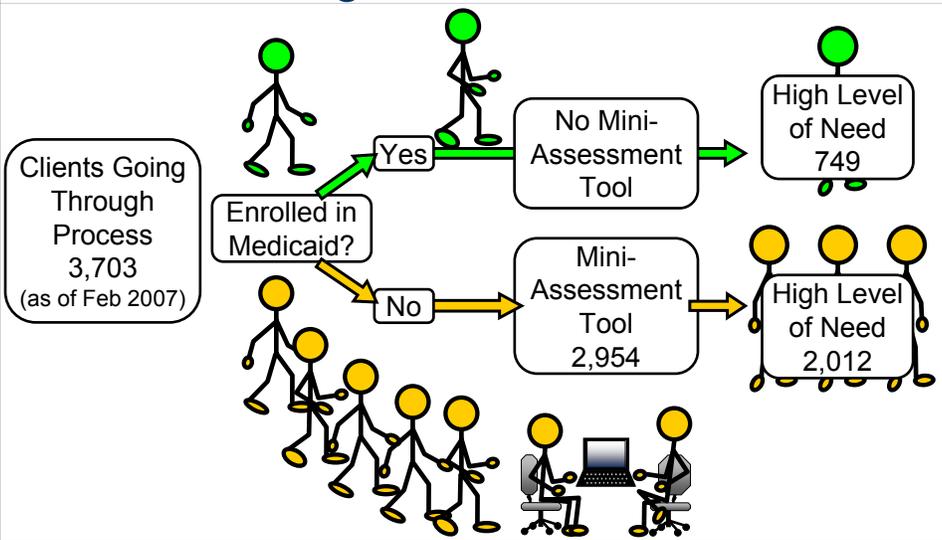
Recommendation 2:

The Division of Developmental Disabilities should:

- Establish a clear set of priorities for case managers to follow in assessing the remaining clients; and
- Track which of the specific priorities apply to each client.

DSSHS and OFM concur

Division Combines Two Definitions of "High Level of Need"



Client Assessment Results Are Not Clearly Identified



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Recommendation 3:

The Division of Developmental Disabilities should clearly distinguish clients who are likely eligible for the Medicaid Personal Care program from clients whose Mini-Assessment score identifies their high level of need.

OFM concurs

DSHS partially concurs

Contact Information



Cynthia L. Forland

360-786-5178

Forland.Cynthia@leg.wa.gov

<http://www.leg.wa.gov/jlarc>