



# MEDICAID

## Services for People with Disabilities

### Medicaid Waivers

A Medicaid **waiver** is a program that provides more-than-standard health care for people with disabilities. In New Mexico, there are 3 waivers available:

- **Developmental Disabilities (DD) Waiver.**
- **Mi Via Waiver.**
- **Medically Fragile Waiver.**

There is also a “Supports Waiver” which will be phased out in fall 2025.

Generally, the waivers cover services like:

- **living supports** that allow people to reside in their communities rather than a facility.
- round-the-clock **care**, as needed.
- person-centered **case management**.
- **therapies** such as speech, occupational, physical, and mental health services.
- **home modifications** such as ramps, grab bars, and other medically-necessary renovations.
- **assistive technology**.
- crisis intervention supports.
- transportation.
- in-home **nursing services** and **medical equipment**.

To learn about eligibility criteria and to apply for a waiver, visit:

<https://www.hca.nm.gov/eligibility-determination/>

### Community Benefit

The Community Benefit is a program available for people enrolled in **Turquoise Care**, which is the name for Medicaid in New Mexico. To qualify for the Community Benefit, you must require ongoing help with at least 2 activities of daily living, such as grooming, bathing, eating, or toileting. Community Benefit services allow participants to stay in their homes rather than reside in a facility. Generally, services include things like:

- **personal caregiving services** (for less than 24 hours a day).
- **home modifications** such as ramps, walk-in showers, and grab bars.
- an **emergency response** system.
- medical and non-medical **transportation**.
- light housekeeping and **meal prep**.
- **related goods** that are medically-necessary.

To qualify for the Community Benefit, you will need to speak with your Care Coordinator, who is your main point of contact with your chosen Managed Care Organization (MCO)—Presbyterian, Blue Cross/Blue Shield, Molina, or United. Your Care Coordinator will administer your Comprehensive Needs Assessment, which helps determine your treatment plan and services, including whether you qualify for the Community Benefit.

## 0-20 YEARS OLD

Children and youth 0 – 20 years old who are enrolled in Medicaid have protections called EPSDT: Early, Periodic, Screening, Diagnosis, and Treatment. **Any service that is needed to “treat or ameliorate” a condition for children and youth must be covered for those enrolled in Medicaid.**

Examples of services covered by EPSDT include:

- medical exams
- dental care
- vision care
- mental health therapies and supports
- hearing and auditory care
- assistive devices like wheelchairs, walkers, & communication aids
- therapies: speech, physical, occupational, and others
- immunizations
- lab tests
- medical transportation
- treatment foster care
- in-patient treatment

**If you have been denied any of these programs or services for people with disabilities, you have the right to appeal.**

**Disability Rights New Mexico provides **\*\*FREE\*\*** legal services and advocacy support.**

**Contact us for help:**

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