

Community Forum Listening Log March 5, 2018

1 How do I know if someone qualifies as a Denver resident? An individual is a Denver resident if he or she lives within the boundaries of the City and County of Denver. It is possible for someone to have a Denver mailing address and not live in the City and County of Denver. It is also possible to have a non-Denver mailing address and live in the City and County of Denver.

If you're not sure if an address is within Denver, click <u>here</u> to get to the Denver Assessor's Office website, and Search Property Records. Enter the address. If the property is in Denver, ownership information will come up. If it is outside Denver, you'll get a response saying, "No properties found."

Please note that this reflects updated information from Denver Human Services received March 6, 2018.

When will RMHS be accepting proposals for next year? RMHS currently has a contract with Denver Human Services (DHS) through June 30, 2018. RMHS and DHS are working diligently on a contract renewal. RMHS recognizes that community agencies are anxiously awaiting news regarding the availability of funding, and we will provide communication on our website once the contract details are finalized. We are eager to accept proposals very soon!

3 Does RMHS have a sense of the Mill Levy dollars spent on I/DD individuals that are not in services with RMHS?

RMHS has reached out to other area CCBs to let them know about funding availability for Denver residents. Additionally, we have spread the word through our newsletter, neighborhood meetings and other agencies supporting individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities. A number of individuals who do not receive services from RMHS have requested and received mill levy funding, and we are working to expand in this area.

4 Is it fair to assume that there is a process in place for those individuals with I/DD living in Denver to access Mill Levy funding? Absolutely! For information on how to request Mill Levy funding, please visit our website here.

What is RMHS doing to provide services to individuals with I/DD on the wait list?

Thanks to mill levy funding, RMHS has no wait list for Family Support services. Of the 1,298 families receiving Family Support services from RMHS, more than 1,000 receive their services due to mill levy funding.

Additionally, there is no wait list for Early Intervention Services or Supported Living Services.

A statewide wait list exists for adults seeking residential services (known as the HCBS-DD "comp" waiver) because the number of eligible persons exceeds the funding determined by the Colorado General Assembly. The wait list is managed by the Colorado Department of Health Care Policy and Financing (HCPF). HCPF has sole authority for determining who and when an individual on the wait list can be enrolled into HCBS-DD. There is currently no mechanism by which RMHS can enroll someone onto the HCBS-DD waiver without authorization by HCPF.

RMHS enthusiastically endorses the use of mill levy funding to take people off the HCBS-DD wait list. RMHS, HCPF and Denver Human Services have been working collaboratively to address this issue. There are many details to be resolved in order for HCPF to pursue an agreement with the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS), and we are told it will take time to accomplish.

While we are working through this process, RMHS is taking steps to support individuals on the wait list. Of the 282 Denver adult residents on the statewide wait list, 266 (94%) are enrolled in other services (primarily Supported Living Services). The remaining 16 have been offered immediate enrollment into Supported Living Services and are eligible for other mill levy-funded services. Mill levy-funded services have been provided to individuals on the wait list, and we continue to reach out to these individuals to address needs.

6 How do you advertise the programs you fund through Mill Levy to Denver residents?

RMHS has used a variety of approaches to let people know about mill levy funding, including the following:

- Monthly e-newsletter stories about mill levy services. Click here to subscribe in English or Spanish.
- Information on our website about <u>programs</u> funded with mill levy dollars.
- Information on our website about how to submit a <u>request</u> for client funding.
- Meetings with neighborhood organizations throughout Denver (more than 25 so far this year!).
- Outreach to other Community Centered Boards in the Denver area.
- Outreach to other organizations serving individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities.
- Hosted a Mill Levy Day in September 2017 at RMHS featuring every agency contracted to receive mill levy funding.

We welcome your ideas on other ways we can spread information about this incredible resource!