



**APPENDIX C**  
**Waiver Amendment Public Forum Meeting**  
**Agenda and Slides**





# Parents as Paid Caregivers

## Waiver Amendment

Shreya Arakere, Federal Waiver and Evaluation Administrator  
Division of Community Advocacy and Intergovernmental Relations

# Introduction & Welcoming Remarks

# Section 1115 of the Social Security Act

- Allows states flexibility to design Demonstration projects that promote the objectives of the Medicaid program,
- Demonstration projects are typically approved for a five-year period and can be renewed every five years, and
- Must be budget neutral, meaning that federal spending under the waiver cannot exceed what it would have been in absence of the waiver,
- Must undergo extension evaluations with an independent evaluator.

# 1115 Waiver Renewal Approval

- On Oct.14, 2022 CMS approved Arizona's request for a five-year extension of its 1115 Waiver
  - October 14, 2022 through Sept. 30, 2027
- Continues:
  - Retroactive Eligibility
  - HCBS
  - Managed Care
    - ACC
    - ALTCS
    - CHP
    - ACC-RBHA



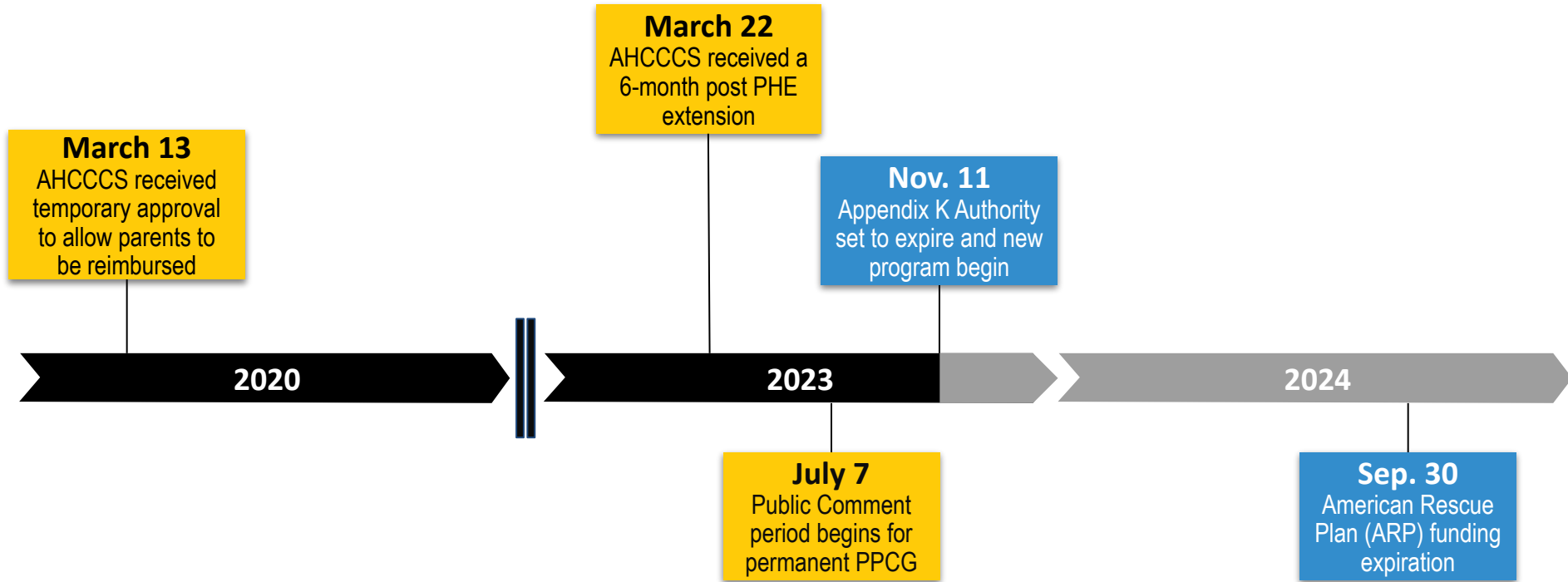
# Parents as Paid Caregivers Waiver Amendment

# Parents as Paid Caregivers Overview



Pre-PHE (1988-2020)	During-PHE (2020-2023)	After-PHE (2023- →)
<p>No ability for parents to be paid as caregivers for their minor children</p> <p>Ability for parents of adult children (and other family members) to provide care has been a long standing feature of the ALTCS program</p>	<p>Parents as Paid Caregivers of their Minor Children- Temporary flexibility offered by CMS to address challenges presented by PHE. Includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Paying parents for services such as attendant care and habilitation</li> <li>- No hourly limitations</li> </ul> <p>Parents of adult children (and other family members) remained in place</p>	<p>Proposal looks to continue aspects of the program including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Paying parents for attendant care</li> <li>- 40 hour limitation for parents</li> <li>- Inclusion of family support services for ALTCS members and families</li> </ul> <p>Parents of adult children (and other family members) will remain in place</p>

# Parents as Paid Caregivers - Timelines





# Parents as Paid Caregivers

- **Eligible Individuals:** Eligible minor Arizona Long-Term Care (ALTCS) members who require home and community-based services (HCBS).
- **Benefits:**
  - Allows legally responsible parents to receive payment for “extraordinary” direct care services (attendant care, personal care, and homemaker services) approved under the 1115 demonstration waiver, and
  - Parents would be limited to 40 hours of paid care, per child, in a given week and cannot exceed more than 16 hours in a single day.

# Parents as Paid Caregivers

- Parents who do provide these services must meet all direct care worker requirements as established by AHCCCS policy including:
  - Being employed/contracted by an AHCCCS Registered Direct Care Service Agency,
  - Passing specific direct care worker competency tests, and
  - Demonstrating compliance with Electronic Visit Verification (EVV) per the 21st Century Cures Act.
- Parents who provide these services must also maintain quarterly in-person case management visits as well as agency supervisory visits.

# Extended Family Support & Home Care Maintenance

- As an auxiliary support to the PPCG proposal, the Agency is proposing to establish a home care training family support (family support) service for the long-term care population.
- Currently, a comparable service is available to AHCCCS members with a behavioral health need under the rehabilitation benefit in the agency's State Plan.

# Extended Family Support & Home Care Maintenance

- **Eligible Individuals:** Primary caregivers of children and adults enrolled in the Arizona Long Term Care System who are residing at home.
- **Benefits:** Family supports may involve activities such as:
  - Assisting the family to learn skills related to adjustment to the member's disability or aging process or significant life events or transitions,
  - Enhancing and improving the health and wellbeing of the member and family unit,
  - Navigating the healthcare system,
  - Self-advocacy, and more.

# Parents as Paid Caregivers - Goals

- Mitigate DCW shortage and other access to care challenges by allowing payments to parents who serve as paid caregivers for their minor children,
- Increase member satisfaction and promote positive health and well-being outcomes for the target population,
- Extend an additional support service to restore, enhance, and maintain family functioning to preserve effective care for the member in the home and community, and
- Ensure that members receive high-quality care while increasing timely accessibility to care providers.

# Parents as Paid Caregivers - Future Steps

- Upon CMS approval, the following operational and system modifications will be implemented:
  - Policy Revisions
  - MCO network development for the family support service
  - Case Manager Training
  - Member and family member education and outreach

# Data Snapshot

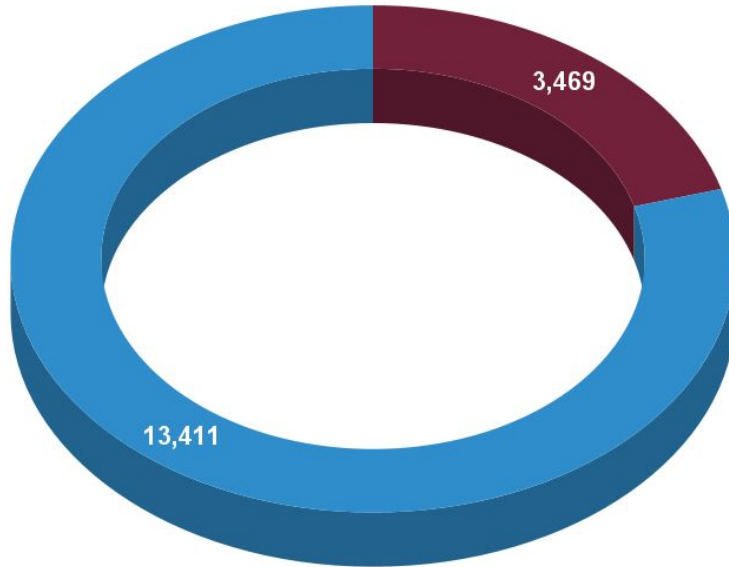
# Data Caveats

- Based on EVV data from January - March 2023 for attendant care and habilitation services
- Reflects members under the age of 18 at the time of service
- Currently, there is no identifier to indicate if the person delivering the service is a parent
- Involved manual process to produce the data
- Does not include EPD data
  - AHCCCS is currently working with the EPD MCOs to obtain data for EPD members
  - As of July 2023, there are 417 members under the age of 18 in the EPD program
- Does not include respite, IDLA habilitation (daily), group home, or day program workforces.



# Number of Minor Children Served by Parent

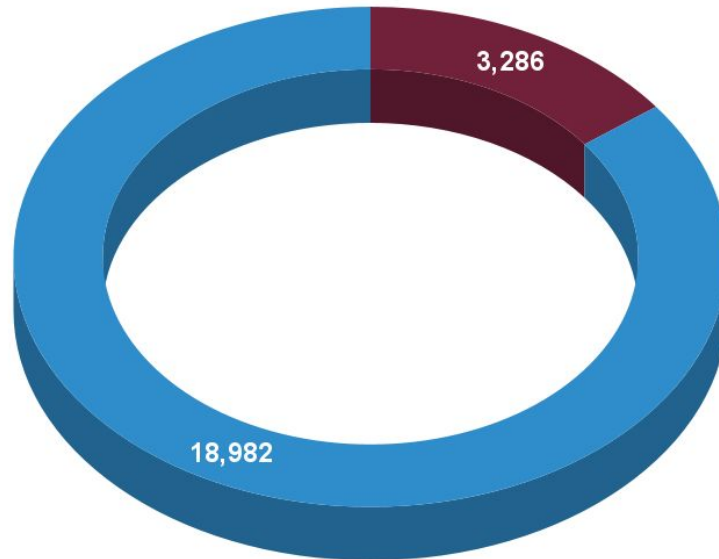
● Minor children served by parent   ● Minor children living at home receiving HCBS



# of minor children served by parent	3,469
#of minor children living at home receiving HCBS	16,880

# Direct Service Provider Comparison

● Parents as Paid Caregiver   ● Other Direct Service Providers



Total # of <b>parent</b> DCWs	3,286
Total # of <b>other</b> DCWs	18,982
Total # of DCWs	22,268

# Resources

# Parents as Paid Caregivers Resources

- More information on the Parents as Paid Caregivers Waiver Amendment can be found at [www.azahcccs.gov/Resources/Federal/PendingWaivers/ParentCareGivers.html](http://www.azahcccs.gov/Resources/Federal/PendingWaivers/ParentCareGivers.html).
- The web page includes a summary of Arizona's Demonstration amendment request & the schedule (dates and times) of public forums across the state.

# Public Comments

Public comments or written testimony may be submitted to AHCCCS via:

[waiverpublicinput@azahcccs.gov](mailto:waiverpublicinput@azahcccs.gov)

AHCCCS, c/o Division of Community Advocacy and  
Intergovernmental Relations,  
801 E. Jefferson Street, MD 4200  
Phoenix, AZ 85034

Comments are received through 08/21/2023

# Quality of Care Resources

- More information on the AHCCCS Quality Strategy can be found here: [www.azahcccs.gov/PlansProviders/HealthPlans/strategy.html](http://www.azahcccs.gov/PlansProviders/HealthPlans/strategy.html).
- Information on the ongoing monitoring related to Home and Community Based Services can be found here: [www.azahcccs.gov/HCBS](http://www.azahcccs.gov/HCBS)
- DDD Office of Individual and Family Affairs (OIFA): <https://des.az.gov/services/disabilities/developmental-disabilities/individuals-and-families/oifa>



## Parents as Paid Caregivers

## Waiver Amendment - Post Public Comment Period

Shreya Arakere, Federal Waiver and Evaluation Administrator  
Division of Community Advocacy and Intergovernmental Relations

# Section 1115 of the Social Security Act

- Allows states flexibility to design Demonstration projects that promote the objectives of the Medicaid program,
- Demonstration projects are typically approved for a five-year period and can be renewed every five years,
- Must be budget neutral, meaning that federal spending under the waiver cannot exceed what it would have been in absence of the waiver, and
- Must undergo extension evaluations with an independent evaluator.



# Parents as Paid Caregivers Waiver Amendment


# Parents as Paid Caregivers

- **Eligible Individuals:** Eligible minor Arizona Long-Term Care (ALTCS) members who require home and community-based services (HCBS).
- **Benefits:**
  - Allows legally responsible parents to receive payment for “extraordinary” direct care services (attendant care, habilitation, personal care, and homemaker services) approved under the 1115 demonstration waiver, and
  - Parents would be limited to 40 hours of paid care, per child, in a given week and cannot exceed more than 16 hours in a single day.

# Public Comment Review

- AHCCCS formally concluded the public comment period on 8/21/23 and throughout the process AHCCCS:
  - Engaged over 1,700 stakeholders through community forums and other stakeholder meetings.
  - Received over 2,100 total pieces of feedback through verbal, chat, and email responses with the most common themes:
    - Adding habilitation as a covered service,
    - Concern with the 40 hour limitation and date of implementation,
    - Inability to find habilitation providers,
    - Countless valuable personal experiences, and many more.

# Parents as Paid Caregivers Overview



Pre-PHE (1988-2020)	During-PHE (2020-2023)	After-PHE (2023- →)
<p>No ability for parents to be paid as caregivers for their minor children</p> <p>Ability for parents of adult children (and other family members) to provide care has been a long standing feature of the ALTCS program</p>	<p>Parents as Paid Caregivers of their Minor Children- Temporary flexibility offered by CMS to address challenges presented by PHE.</p> <p>Includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Paying parents for services such as attendant care and habilitation</li> <li>- No hourly limitations</li> </ul> <p>Parents of adult children (and other family members) remained in place</p>	<p>Proposal looks to continue aspects of the program including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Paying parents for attendant care <b>and habilitation</b></li> <li>- 40 hour limitation for parents <b>with a phase down approach</b></li> <li>- Inclusion of family support services for ALTCS members and families</li> </ul> <p>Parents of adult children (and other family members) will remain in place</p>

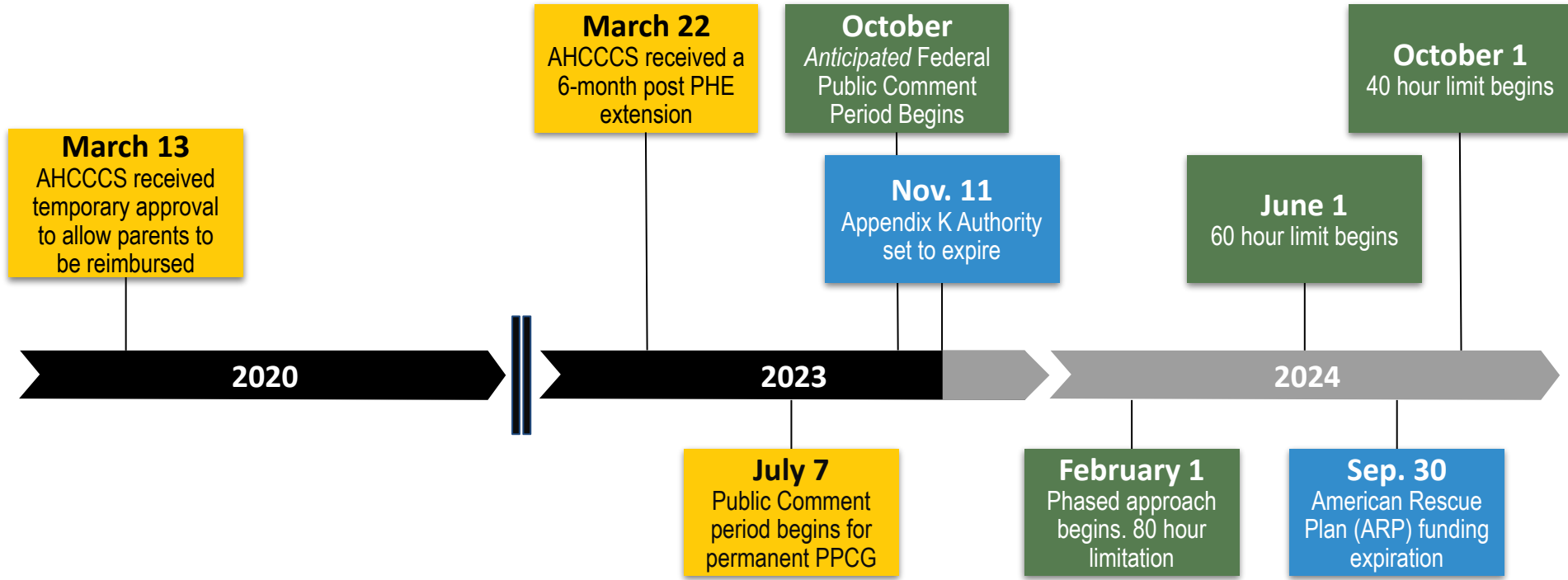
# Proposed Phased Approach

- Currently, in Arizona, there are 277 (8%) members receiving over 40 hours of paid care from their parent providers out of the total 3,454 members with parent DCWs.
- AHCCCS is proposing a phased-in approach for these families currently over the 40 hour limitation:
  - Until January 31, 2024: No hourly limitation
  - 2/1/2024 to 5/31/24: 80 hour per week limitation
  - 6/1/24 to 9/30/24: 60 hour per week limitation
  - 10/1/2024 and thereafter: 40 hour per week limitation
- Note: Recent CMS guidance allows for the automatic extension of certain PHE HCBS programs past November 11 to allow for negotiations to make programs permanent, if applicable.

# Next Steps

- AHCCCS will finalize the public comment review and submit the formal proposal to CMS within the coming weeks
- Following submission of the proposal, CMS will then undergo a federal comment period where additional comments can be submitted
- Negotiations will then begin following the federal public comment period

# Parents as Paid Caregivers - Proposed Timelines



# Operational/Policy Improvements

- Upon CMS approval, the following operational and policy modifications will be implemented:
  - Maintenance of effort for providers on workforce planning, recruitment, and retention,
  - Update to Habilitation policy including demonstrated competency requirements,
  - Focus on Respite recruitment and retention,
  - Incorporate an extraordinary care assessment into service planning, and
  - More clear definitions and guidance for “legally responsible parent.”



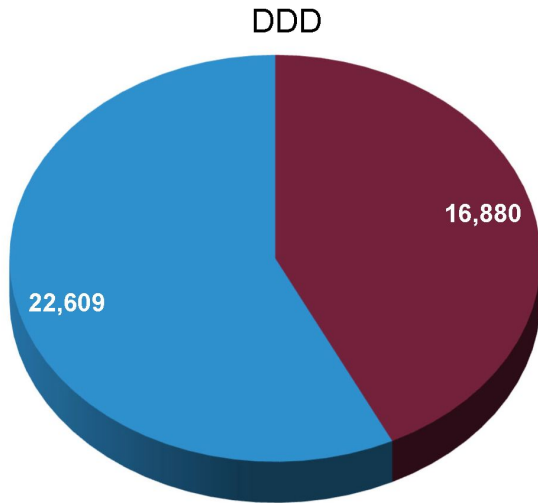
# Data Snapshot

# Data Caveats

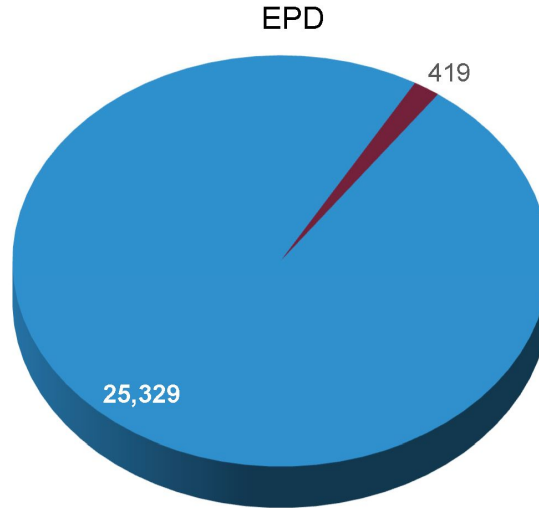
- Based on EVV data from January - March 2023 for attendant care and habilitation services,
- Reflects members under the age of 18 at the time of service,
- Currently, there is no identifier to indicate if the person delivering the in-home care service is a parent, and
- Does not include respite, IDLA habilitation (daily), group home, or day program workforces.

# Total # of Minors vs. Total Enrollment

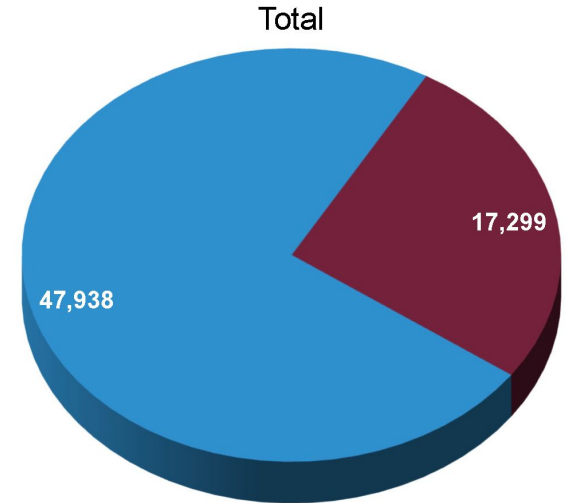
■ # of minor children living at home receiving HCBS\*   ■ Other Members



Total: 39,489



Total: 25,748



Total: 65,237

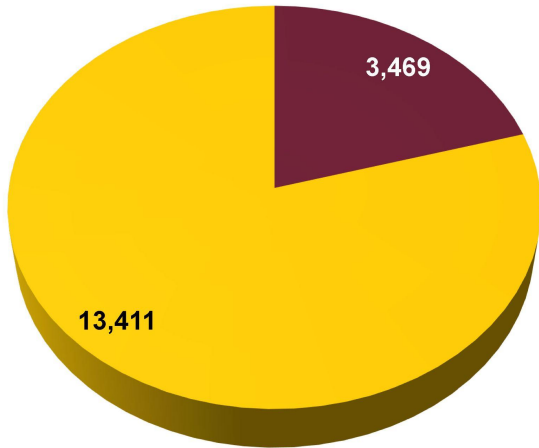
\*Data represents both parent and non-parent providers

# Number of Minor Children Served by Parent

■ #of minor children served by parent

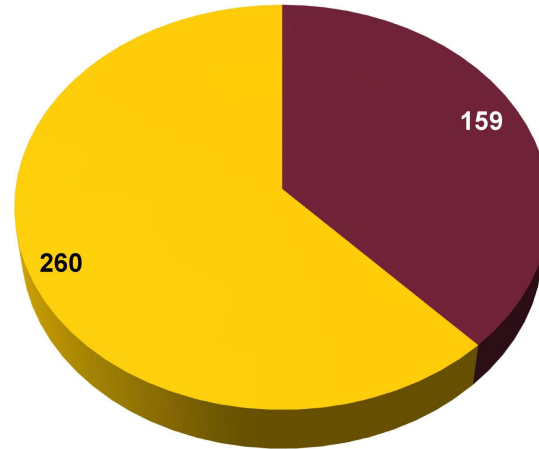
■ Minor members not served by parents

DDD



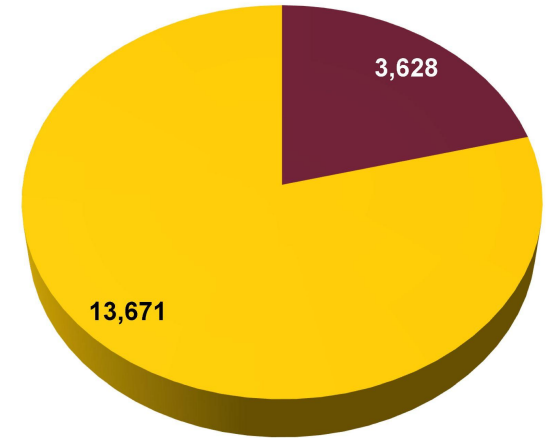
Total: 16,880

EPD



Total: 419

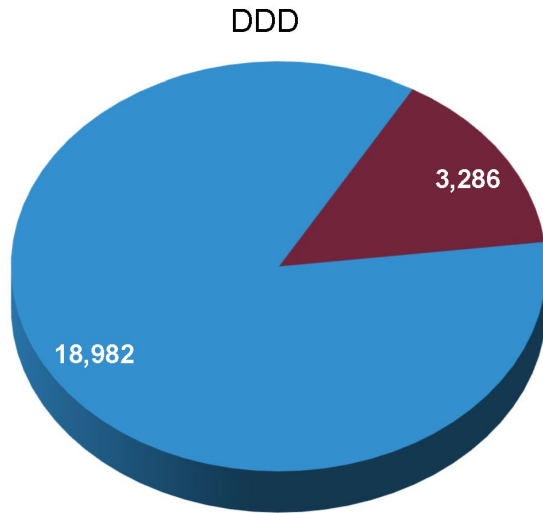
Total



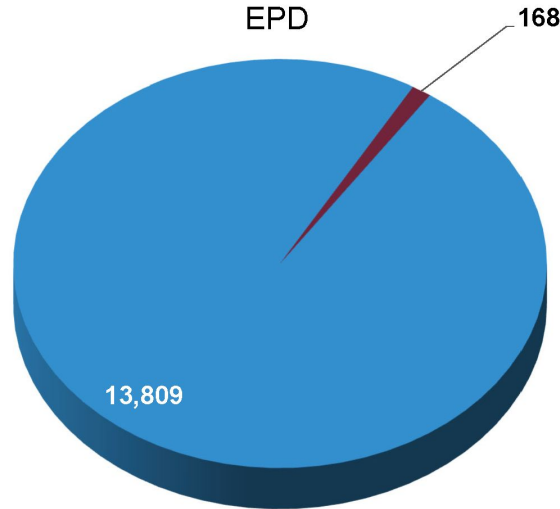
Total: 17,299

# Direct Care Worker Provider Comparison

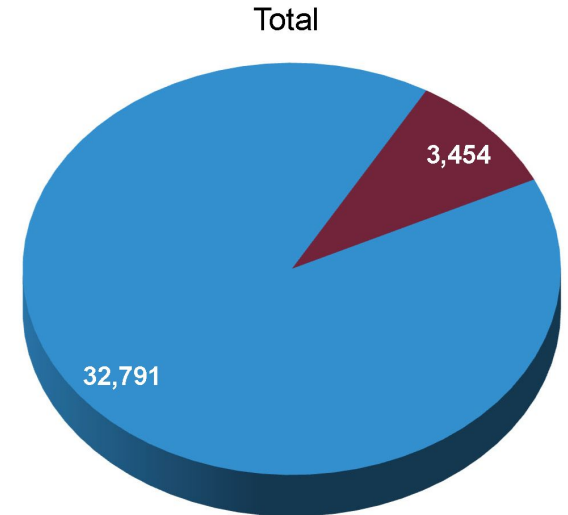
■ Total # of parent DCWs   ■ Total # of other DCWs\*



Total: 22,268



Total: 13,977

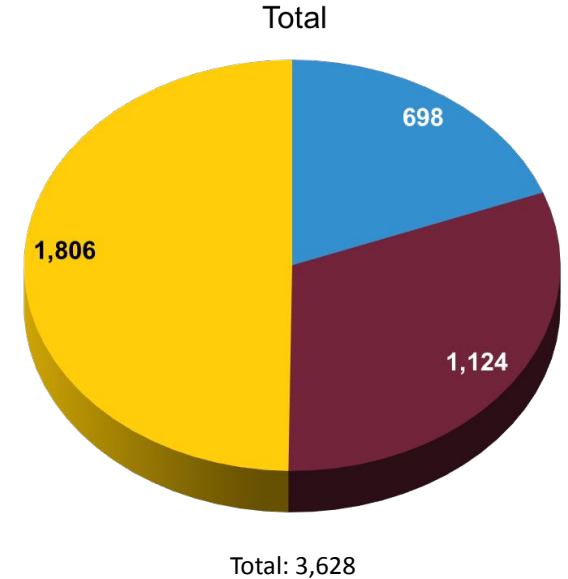
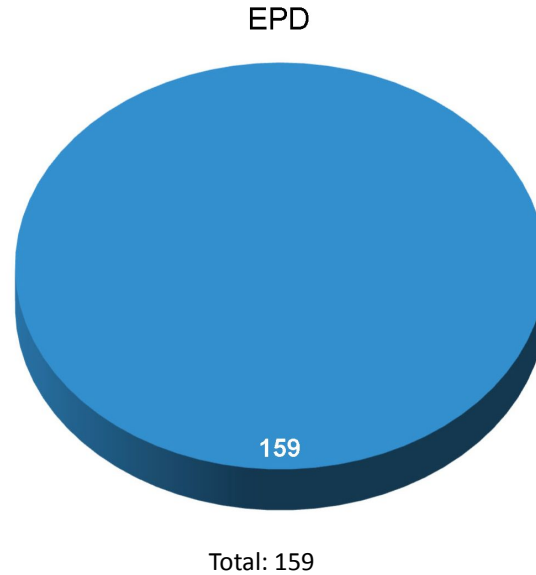
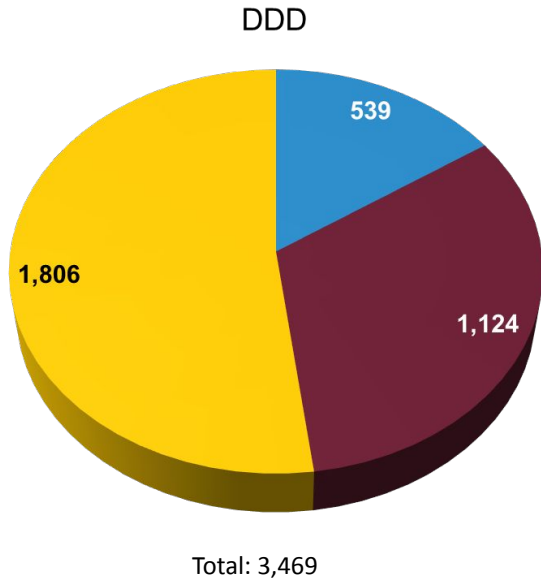


Total: 36,245

\*Total representing only those who provide ATC or HAH services ; some DCWs may serve both EPD and DDD members

# Services Provided to Minor Members by Parents

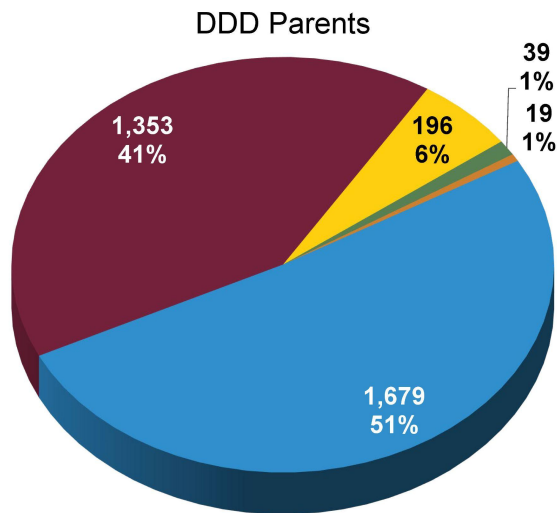
■ Attendant Care   ■ Attendant Care and Habilitation   ■ Habilitation



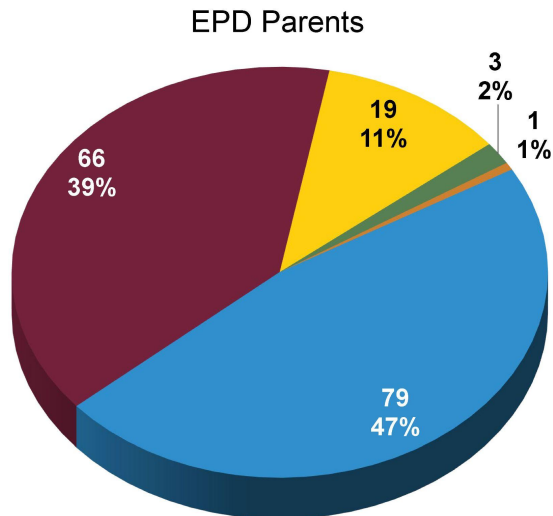
Note: The graphs represent the number of members receiving each service (or combination of services) by their parents.

# Weekly Paid Hours by Parents to their Child

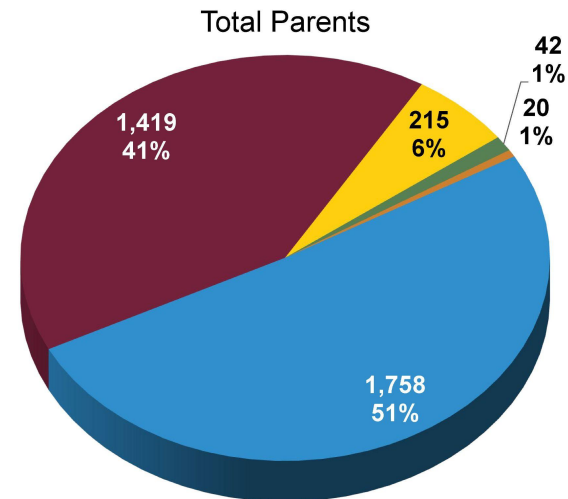
■ 0-20 ■ 21-40 ■ 41-60 ■ 61-80 ■ 80+



Total: 3,286



Total: 168



Total: 3,454

# Discussion & Questions



# Resources

# Parents as Paid Caregivers Resources

- More information on the Parents as Paid Caregivers Waiver Amendment can be found at [www.azahcccs.gov/Resources/Federal/PendingWaivers/ParentCareGivers.html](http://www.azahcccs.gov/Resources/Federal/PendingWaivers/ParentCareGivers.html).
- The web page includes a summary of Arizona's Demonstration amendment request.



## AHCCCS QUARTERLY TRIBAL CONSULTATION MEETING AGENDA

With Tribal Leaders, Tribal Members, Indian Health Services, Tribal Health Programs Operated under P.L. 93-638 and Urban Indian Health Programs

**Date and Time:** June 22, 2023 from 1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. (MST)

**Location:** San Carlos Apache Healthcare, 103 Medicine Way, Peridot, AZ / Virtual

**Webinar Registration Link:** [https://ahcccs.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN\\_Sx0UgZq-T\\_W\\_xlNkTo8qAg](https://ahcccs.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_Sx0UgZq-T_W_xlNkTo8qAg) (You will receive call-in information after registering for this meeting)

**In-Person Registration Link:** <https://forms.gle/8oCqvnqcSYNPZia66>

TIME	TOPIC	Presenter(s)	Reference Documents (please review ahead of TC)
1:00 PM – 1:20 PM	Announcements, Agenda Review & Introductions	<b>Christine Holden</b> <i>AHCCCS Tribal Liaison</i>	
1:20 PM – 1:35 PM	Welcome and Opening Prayer	<b>Victoria Began</b> <i>Chief Executive Officer</i> <i>San Carlos Apache Health Care</i>  <b>Steve Titla</b> <i>President of the Board of Directors</i> <i>San Carlos Apache Health Care</i>	
1:35 PM – 2:40 PM	AHCCCS Director Updates <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● BHRF/SLH Updates</li> <li>● PHE Unwinding</li> <li>● Legislative Updates</li> </ul>	<b>Carmen Heredia</b> <i>AHCCCS Director</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● <a href="#">List of Suspended Providers</a></li> <li>● <a href="#">Fact Sheet</a></li> <li>● <a href="#">Press Release</a></li> </ul>
<b>OPEN DISCUSSION</b>			

TIME	TOPIC	Presenter(s)	Reference Documents (please review ahead of TC)
<b>DIVISION OF FEE FOR SERVICE MANAGEMENT (DFSM)</b>			
2:40 PM – 3:15 PM	DFSM General Updates	<p><b>Ewaryst Jedrasik</b> <i>AHCCCS Assistant Director</i></p> <p><b>Leslie Short</b> <i>AHCCCS Deputy Assistant Director</i></p>	
		<b>OPEN DISCUSSION</b>	
<b>10 MIN BREAK</b>			
<b>DIVISION OF COMMUNITY ADVOCACY AND INTERGOVERNMENTAL RELATIONS (DCAIR)</b>			
3:25 PM – 3:45 PM	State Plan Amendment (SPA) Updates	<p><b>Ruben Soliz</b> <i>AHCCCS State Plan Manager</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <a href="#">Public Notices Webpage</a></li> </ul>
		<b>OPEN DISCUSSION</b>	
3:45 PM – 4:10 PM	1115 Waiver Updates	<p><b>Maxwell Seifer</b> <i>AHCCCS Data Coordinator</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <a href="#">Parents as Paid Caregivers</a></li> </ul>
		<b>OPEN DISCUSSION</b>	
4:10 PM - 4:30 PM	H2O Updates & Other Initiatives	<p><b>Alex Demyan</b> <i>AHCCCS Assistant Director</i></p>	
		<b>OPEN DISCUSSION</b>	



4:30 PM - 4:35 PM	Policy Preview	<p><b>Elizabeth Da Costa</b> <i>AHCCCS Housing Administrator</i></p> <p><b>Katelyn Murphy</b> <i>AHCCCS Clinical Program Manager</i></p>	
4:35 PM - 4:50 PM	Policies Open for Comment & Tribal Relations Update	<p><b>Christine Holden</b> <i>AHCCCS Tribal Liaison</i></p>	
4:50 PM – 4:55 PM	Closing Remarks	<p><b>Carmen Heredia</b> <i>AHCCCS Director</i></p>	
4:55 PM – 5:00 PM	Announcements & Adjourn	<p><b>Christine Holden</b> <i>AHCCCS Tribal Liaison</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <a href="#">AHCCCS Tribal Consultation Calendar</a></li> </ul>



**State Medicaid Advisory Committee (SMAC)**

Quarterly Meeting  
Wednesday, July 12, 2023  
(VIRTUAL MEETING)  
**1:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.**

(To Join by Web)  
[SMAC Meeting Link](#)  
Password: SMAC2023!

After you click the SMAC Meeting link, at the bottom of the landing page, it will say "I'm not the meeting host, Join Meeting as an Attendee;" please click that language to register.

(To Join by Phone)  
877 853 5257 (Toll Free)  
**Meeting ID:** 895 9391 5466 **Passcode:** 777510703

**Agenda**

<b>I. Attendance and Quorum Confirmation</b>	<b>Desiree Greene, Division Project Manager and SMAC Liaison</b>
<b>II. Welcome</b>	<b>Carmen Heredia, AHCCCS Director</b>
<b>III. AHCCCS Updates</b>	<b>Carmen Heredia, AHCCCS Director</b>
<b>IV. State Plan Amendments</b>	<b>Ruben Soliz, Federal Relations and Health Policy Advisor</b>
<b>V. 1115 Waiver Update</b>	<b>Shreya Arakere, Federal Waiver and Evaluation Administrator</b>
<b>VI. Targeted Investments Update</b>	<b>Cameron Adams, Program Administrator</b>
<b>VII. SMAC Updates</b>	<b>Desiree Greene, Division Project Manager and SMAC Liaison</b>
<b>VIII. SMAC Membership Assignments &amp; Voting Session</b>	<b>Vincent Torres, Associate Director Customer &amp; Community Success, Unite Us</b>
<b>IX. Call to the Public</b>	<b>Carmen Heredia, AHCCCS Director</b>
<b>X. Adjourn at 3:00 pm</b>	<b>All</b>

**SMAC Meetings**

Per SMAC Bylaws, meetings are to be held the 2nd Wednesday of January, April, July and October.  
All meetings will be held from 1:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m. unless otherwise deemed necessary by the Director.  
ASL interpretation and CART captioning services are available upon request. If you require these or other types of accommodations pursuant to the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), please contact the SMAC Liaison, Desiree Greene at [Desiree.Greene@azahcccs.gov](mailto:Desiree.Greene@azahcccs.gov) or 480-714-3596.



## OIFA Advisory Council Agenda

Tuesday, July 18, 2023 10:30 AM - 12:00 PM

### Zoom Link

<https://ahcccs.zoom.us/j/88141179476?pwd=LzhhcmxqaUpzZ3Q3bmdiSkZieGZCdz09>

### **Purpose:**

OIFA Advisory Council purpose is to bring together leadership of peer and family behavioral health service providers and peer and family advocacy groups to influence system structures and policies and to benefit from regular contact with each other and with AHCCCS Leadership.

### **Note:**

Reminder, this meeting will be focused on your recommendations for gathering your input on the OIFA 2024 Strategic Plan.

Introductions of first time attendees	10:30 - 10:33
Approve June Minutes	10:33 - 10:35
OIFA Updates	10:35 - 10:40
Peer Support Updates - Chaz Longwell	
OIFA 3.0 Summit - Jamie Green	
Pipeline AZ, Rabbani FurQuan	10:40 - 11:00
Solari SMI/SED Determination, Jennifer Janzen	11:00 - 11:15
Community Updates:	11:15 - 11:30
PFCA, Hayley Winterberg	
AZPFC, Kathy Bashor	
NAPFC, Laurie Verdier	
NAMI, Vicki Johnson	
Parents as Paid Caregivers Presentation	
Shreya Arakere & Maxwell Seifer	11:30 - 12:00

**Next Meeting August 15, 2023**

## Parents as Paid Caregivers Public Comment Tracker with Theme Breakdown

The following table showcases all public comments received broken down by the subject of the letter/comment and the method it was received. Comments found within the following breakdown may be counted multiple times if they address several different subject matters. For example, an email received that provided recommendations on the 40-hour limitation and habilitation was counted once in the 40-hour limitation section and once again in the habilitation section.

COUNTA of Feedback Type (Please denote the following: Question, Comment, Recon Type of Feedback)																	
Type of Meeting	40 Hour Limit	Eligibility	Family Supports	General	Geographic Concern	Grievance	Habilitation	Income	Patient Engagement	Service Description	Technology	Timeline	Training	Unrelated Question About Adult Children	Unrelated to PPCG	Grand Total	
7/12 Contractor Meeting													1			2	3
7/12 SMAC Meeting Chat Response		1		3	2												6
7/12 SMAC Meeting Verbal Response		1		1	1						1						6
7/17 Community Forum		7	2		22			14	1		4		2		2	2	56
7/18 OIFA Advisory				1	1			1			6						9
7/18 Waiver Forum Chat Response		9	23	2	87			82	18	3	10		8	2			244
7/18 Waiver Forum Verbal Response		4	1	2	15			7	2		3		2	2			40
8/2 Waiver Forum Chat Response		18	24	12	181			133	16	23	10		27	7			451
8/2 Waiver Forum Verbal Response		2	1		16	1		5	4	1			3	1			34
Emails	206	22	13	317		15	63	447	5		104		35	115	3		1345
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>248</b>	<b>73</b>	<b>34</b>	<b>642</b>		<b>16</b>	<b>63</b>	<b>690</b>	<b>46</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>138</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>78</b>	<b>129</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>2194</b>

COUNTA of Feedback Type (Please denote the following: Question, Comment, Recon Type of Feedback)				
Type of Meeting	Comment	Question	Recommendation	Grand Total
7/12 Contractor Meeting			3	3
7/12 SMAC Meeting Chat Response		5	1	6
7/12 SMAC Meeting Verbal Response		1	4	6
7/17 Community Forum		10	43	56
7/18 OIFA Advisory		2	7	9
7/18 Waiver Forum Chat Response		147	97	244
7/18 Waiver Forum Verbal Response		13	26	40
8/2 Waiver Forum Chat Response		188	220	451
8/2 Waiver Forum Verbal Response		2	31	34
Emails	1201	19	125	1345
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>1569</b>	<b>451</b>	<b>174</b>	<b>2194</b>