

Transportation and Rate Evaluation

September 9, 2013 at 10:00 a.m.

THEMES/CONCERNS

- Low provider rates.
- Difficult to retain providers with low rates.
- Increasing transportation costs coupled with low rates.
- Lack of uniformity with transportation rates.
- Statewide transportation contract with Florida Commission for the Transportation Disadvantaged (TD Commission).

RECOMMENDATIONS

- Cost of Living Adjustments for provider rates to keep up with cost increases.
- Reinstatement of services to those who lost services are have reductions due to the implementation of iBudget.
- Issue transportation vouchers.
- Create a system of zones to determine transportation rates.

FACTORS TO CONSIDER

- Increasing provider rates without increasing cost plan amounts would be counterproductive for the clients.
- Need to survey providers, families and agencies before implementing a statewide contract with the TD Commission.
- A statewide contract would potentially reduce the number of transportation providers. Transportation is an important revenue stream for many providers such as group homes and ADT.
- A statewide contract would likely require legislative approval and funding.
- Reinstatement of services or reductions due to iBudget would seem unreasonable given the program's budget allocations are based on an approved formula, designed to be equitable and sustainable. In addition, all reductions are reviewed to ensure health and safety are not compromised.