

## How might this new process affect me?

*If you were already on the waiting list before September 1, 2018, you will be contacted by your county board to schedule an assessment interview. The purpose of this interview is to talk about your needs and determine if a waiver is the only way your needs can be met. This interview can take place in person or over the phone, depending on your situation.*

*If you were not on the waiting list before September 1, 2018, but you think you might need a waiver and your county does not have any waivers available, you will need to complete the assessment process to be put on the waiting list in your county.*

*If you are not on the waiting list because you already have a waiver that meets your needs, or because your needs are already being met without a waiver and you have not requested one, this process is not likely to affect you.*

## How should I use this brochure?

*This brochure was created to help people better understand the four possible outcomes of the new Waiting List Assessment process.*

*To do this, we are imagining four friends—**Jaime, Kim, Tracy, and Alex**—who all go through the Waiting List Assessment process at the same time. These four friends each receive a different outcome and can use this brochure to compare why their outcomes are different. This brochure might even be used during your assessment to explain the process.*

## Why is Ohio's DD Waiver Waiting List Changing?

*Over a 24-month period, organizations representing people with developmental disabilities, family members, guardians, county boards, private providers, and the State of Ohio worked together to come up with **a new way for Ohio to manage its waiting list as part of the "Fix The List" coalition.***

*The solution they created is outlined in this brochure. This new assessment process is designed to address many of the issues that had frustrated families over the years while also helping county boards and the State of Ohio come up with a better plan to meet people's needs when they request a DD waiver.*

*To learn more about the coalition, the new assessment process, and related topics, visit [FixTheList.info](http://FixTheList.info) or contact your local county board.*

[www.FixTheList.info](http://www.FixTheList.info)



2018FF-01

FROM  
OLD

TO  
NEW

Ohio's DD Waiver  
Waiting List  
and YOU

## What has changed about Ohio's DD Waiver Waiting List ?

*For years, people with developmental disabilities and their families knew that the way Ohio managed its waiting list for DD waivers wasn't working. The waiting list was confusing for families and did little to help people gain access to services and supports they needed to live happy, healthy, fulfilling lives. That's why, for more than two years, Ohio's DD community has been working on a new process that will help county boards fairly and accurately identify the needs of a person seeking a DD waiver. This new process, and the four possible outcomes, are outlined on the inside of this brochure.*

## Why are we conducting assessments?

*In the past, anyone could be on the waiting list for any reason—regardless of whether or not they actually needed a waiver. In fact, a person could be put on waiting lists in multiple counties, even if they didn't live there. A person could also be on multiple waiting lists for different waivers, even if the waiver they were requesting would not meet their needs. The new statewide assessment process will help to identify people's true needs and find ways to meet those needs with or without a waiver.*

## Meet Jaime

Hello! My name is Jaime. Recently, I had a conversation with my county board to talk about my needs. We completed the Waiting List Assessment, and we discovered I have "Immediate Needs." This means that I have needs right now, and if those needs are not met within 30 days, I will be at serious risk of harm.

Common examples of situations creating a serious risk of harm include, but are not limited to:

My primary caregiver is going away and nobody else is available to take their place. My behavior creates a serious risk of harm to myself or others. My level of personal or medical care needs is so high that I am at serious risk of harm.

### What happens next?

My county board will work with me to link me with services and supports to meet my "Immediate Needs." These services could be paid for by the county board, by a waiver, or through community-based alternative services, such as those offered by another government agency.

### Will I be put on the waiting list?

**NO.** I am not put on the waiting list because my county board must take action to meet my needs within 30 days. If I was on the waiting list before September 1, 2018, I will be removed, and my county board will take action to meet my needs as soon as possible.

- If I disagree with the outcome of my assessment, I have the right to appeal. My county board will give me information about how to make an appeal.
- No matter what the outcome of my assessment, if my needs change, I can ask my county board to go through the assessment process again.

## Meet Kim

Hi! My name is Kim. Recently, I had a conversation with my county board to talk about my needs. We completed the Waiting List Assessment, and we discovered I have "Current Needs." This means that I have needs right now or I will have needs some time in the next 12 months, but I am not at serious risk of harm if no action is taken within 30 days.

After talking it over with my county board, we have come up with a plan to meet all of my assessed needs without a waiver. This means I don't have to wait for services because I can have **all of my needs met without a waiver.**

### What happens next?

My county board will work with me to link me with services and supports to meet all of my "Current Needs" without a waiver. These services could be offered by the county board or be community-based alternative services, such as those offered by another government agency.

### Will I be put on the waiting list?

**NO.** I am not put on the waiting list because my needs can be met with non-waiver resources. If I was on the waiting list before September 1, 2018, I will be removed.

- If I disagree with the outcome of my assessment, I have the right to appeal. My county board will give me information about how to make an appeal.
- No matter what the outcome of my assessment, if my needs change, I can ask my county board to go through the assessment process again.

## Meet Tracy

Hey there! My name is Tracy. Recently, I had a conversation with my county board to talk about my needs. We completed the Waiting List Assessment, and we discovered I have "Current Needs." This means that I have needs right now or I will have needs at some point in the next 12 months, but I am not at serious risk of harm if no action is taken within 30 days.

After talking it over with my county board, we have come up with a plan to meet some of my assessed needs without a waiver. However, we also determined that some of my other needs cannot be met unless I get a waiver. This means I need a waiver for all of my needs to be met.

### What happens next?

My county board will work with me to link me with services and supports to meet my "Current Needs" as much as possible without a waiver. These services could be offered by the county board, or they could be community-based alternative services, such as those offered by another government agency.

### Will I be put on the waiting list?

If my county board is unable to immediately enroll me on an available waiver, then **YES**, I will be put on the waiting list. If I was already on the waiting list before September 1, 2018, I will keep my original date of request. If I was not already on the list, I will be placed on the list with a new "status date."

- If I disagree with the outcome of my assessment, I have the right to appeal. My county board will give me information about how to make an appeal.
- No matter what the outcome of my assessment, if my needs change, I can ask my county board to go through the assessment process again.

## Meet Alex

Howdy! My name is Alex. Recently, I had a conversation with my county board to talk about my needs. We completed the Waiting List Assessment and we discovered I do not have any unmet needs at this time. This means that I will not have any needs in the next 12 months, and I am not at serious risk of harm if no action is taken within 30 days.

After talking it over with my county board, we have agreed to stay in touch in the months and years ahead in case I have any unmet needs in the future. Even though I don't have any unmet needs today, my county board is always available to help me find services if that should change.

### What happens next?

If my needs change, I should contact my county board as soon as possible to discuss my situation. My county board can link me to services and supports to meet my needs, and if necessary, complete a new assessment at that time.

### Will I be put on the waiting list?

**NO.** I am not put on the waiting list because I do not have any unmet needs at this time. If I was on the waiting list before September 1, 2018, I will be removed.

- If I disagree with the outcome of my assessment, I have the right to appeal. My county board will give me information about how to make an appeal.
- No matter what the outcome of my assessment, if my needs change at any point in the future, I can ask my county board to go through the assessment process again.