

**Behavioral Health Severe and Disabling Mental Illness (SDMI) Home and Community Based Services – Renewal (MT 0455)  
Comments and Responses**

**Summary of Comments on Renewal and Waiver-Specific Transition Plan, and Department Responses**

The Addictive and Mental Disorders Division received 11 comments using the online comment form, 4 comments via email, 1 comment via mail, and 1 comment via phone, totaling 17 written comments. The February 26, 2015 public meeting was attended by 8 individuals either on phone or in person.

Comments requesting clarification on the public notice letter sent by Addictive and Mental Disorders Division (AMDD) were addressed as AMDD received them.

AMDD received 3 comments that did not pertain directly to the SDMI Home and Community Based Services renewal and proposed transition plan. AMDD values the commenters' questions and concerns.

**Comments:** 6 comments strongly supported the utilization of Peer Support Services in the waiver.

**Response:** Peer Support Services were added as a service in the SDMI Waiver renewal.

**Comments:** 3 comments requested the continuation of Day Health Services. This is seen as a valuable service to prevent isolation in the community.

**Response:** The AMDD will continue Day Health as a service in the SDMI Waiver renewal.

**Comments:** 2 comments supported the inclusion of Environmental Accessibility Adaptations.

**Response:** This will be a valuable service for many of the individuals who have a physical disability and are being added to the waiver.

**Comment:** 1 comment was received that Respite Per Diem is needed as the Life Span Respite Coalition builds a statewide respite program.

**Response:** The Respite Per Diem is included as a service for the SDMI Waiver renewal.

**Comment:** 1 comment was that the funding of the slots is inadequate to provide adequate Environmental Accessibility Adaptations.

**Response:** AMDD appreciates the concern regarding the adequacy of budget. AMDD will monitor the amount of funds needed for this service in the first year of the renewal.

**Comments:** 2 comments would like AMDD to separate slots between Specialized Residential Habilitation, Assisted Living and Basic.

**Response:** AMDD had a meeting with the commenters to discuss their concerns. AMDD is investigating the feasibility of the request.

**Comment:** 1 comment was concern for guidelines for individuals who choose to self-direct.

**Response:** Mountain Pacific Quality Health determines capacity for self-direction of personal assistance services. In addition, the SDMI Waiver renewal has included additional guidelines for self-direction.

**Comment:** 1 comment requesting adding a county to the Butte Silver Bow geographic service area.

**Response:** The possibility of this will be investigated, based on the budget and number of slots available.