

RESULTS OF SURVEYING PROVIDER ASSOCIATIONS
N= 8 provider associations responding

1. Name _____

2. Title _____

3. Telephone _____ 4. E-mail _____

5. Approximately what share of your association's members provide services to Minnesotans using the Mental Retardation or Related Conditions (MR/RC) waiver? (Mark one.)

<u>Number</u>	<u>Percent</u>	<u>N=8</u>
4	50%	a. All or nearly all
0	0	b. Most
4	50	c. Some
0	0	d. None or very little (If "none or very little," you may choose to stop here and return the questionnaire.)

6. Please briefly describe the types of services your members provide to MR/RC waiver recipients. N=8 responses

7. Where in the state do your members provide MR/RC waiver services? (Mark one.)

<u>Number</u>	<u>Percent</u>	<u>N=8</u>
2	25%	a. Largely in the seven-county metropolitan area (Anoka, Carver, Dakota, Hennepin, Ramsey, Scott, and Washington counties)
1	13	b. Largely outside the seven-county metropolitan area
5	63	c. Nearly evenly split among counties within and outside the metropolitan area
0	0	d. In select counties around the state (Please specify.)

8. In your opinion, how well does Minnesota's MR/RC waiver program achieve the following goals for persons currently receiving services through the waiver? (Mark one in each row.)

	Well		Somewhat Well		Somewhat Poorly		Poorly		Don't Know	
	<u>Number</u>	<u>Percent</u>	<u>Number</u>	<u>Percent</u>	<u>Number</u>	<u>Percent</u>	<u>Number</u>	<u>Percent</u>	<u>Number</u>	<u>Percent</u>
a. Support children and their families so that children with disabilities have a stable, nurturing environment in their communities N=8	1	13	6	75%	0	0%	0	0%	1	13%
b. Increase noninstitutional alternatives N=8	6	75	2	25	0	0	0	0	0	0
c. Support the needs of persons in living arrangements that are otherwise unstable due to the age or incapacity of the primary caregiver N=8	2	25	5	63	1	13	0	0	0	0

8. (CONTINUED) In your opinion, how well does Minnesota's MR/RC waiver program achieve the following goals for persons currently receiving services through the waiver? (Mark one in each row.)

	Well		Somewhat Well		Somewhat Poorly		Poorly		Don't Know	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
d. Build the capacity of local communities to support persons with disabilities N=8	1	13	6	75	0	0	1	13	0	0
e. Provide 24-hour care sufficient to keep recipients in the home or community and out of institutions N=8	1	13	6	75	0	0	0	0	1	13
f. Offer services and support that are meaningful to waiver recipients N=8	6	75	1	13	0	0	1	13	0	0
g. Provide services that recognize recipients' history, dignity, and cultural background N=8	1	13	4	50	1	13	1	13	1	13
h. Provide cost-effective waiver services N=8	3	38	3	38	1	13	1	13	0	0

MR/RC SERVICES, MANAGEMENT, AND COSTS

9. Considering how the MR/RC waiver program generally operates in counties today, please indicate whether you agree or disagree with the following statements. (Mark one in each row.)

	Agree		Somewhat Agree		Somewhat Disagree		Disagree		Don't Know	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
a. The stability of the waiver program from year to year is sufficient to allow effective ongoing provision of services. N=8	0	0%	5	63%	1	13%	2	25%	0	0%
b. There is adequate communication among the Department of Human Services, county staff administering the waiver, and service providers. N=8	0	0	1	13	3	38	4	50	0	0
c. Besides people on MR/RC waiting lists, there are many individuals who currently need MR/RC waiver services but do not receive them. N=8	4	50	2	25	1	13	0	0	1	13

9. (CONTINUED) Considering how the MR/RC waiver program generally operates in counties today, please indicate whether you agree or disagree with the following statements. (Mark one in each row.)

	Agree		Somewhat Agree		Somewhat Disagree		Disagree		Don't Know	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
d. The MR/RC waiver program targets resources to those who most need them. <i>N=8</i>	0	0	5	63	1	13	1	13	1	13
e. The MR/RC waiver serves current recipients well. <i>N=8</i>	3	38	5	63	0	0	0	0	0	0
f. Counties generally do a good job of managing spending for the MR/RC waiver. <i>N=8</i>	1	13	4	50	3	38	0	0	0	0

10. Do you have information on payment rates for providers in your association? (Mark one.)

Number Percent *N=8*

- | | | |
|---|-----|--|
| 3 | 38% | a. Yes, we have data specific to individual providers in the association |
| 2 | 25 | b. Yes, we have data but only in the aggregate |
| 3 | 38 | c. No (Skip to Question 12.) |

11. If you answered “Yes” to Question 10, how have payment rates for MR/RC waiver services changed on the average for the providers in your association over the past three years? (Mark one. Exclude housing costs from your estimate, and exclude the one-percent reductions in provider payment rates enacted by the 2003 Legislature.)

Number Percent *N=5*

- | | | |
|---|----|-------------------------------------|
| 0 | 0% | a. Increased by 25 percent or more |
| 0 | 0 | b. Increased by 10 to 24 percent |
| 4 | 80 | c. Increased by 2 to 9 percent |
| 1 | 20 | d. Stayed about the same |
| 0 | 0 | e. Decreased by 2 to 5 percent |
| 0 | 0 | f. Decreased by more than 5 percent |
| 0 | 0 | g. Don't know |

12. Please describe in what ways, if any, the one-percent reductions in provider payment rates enacted by the 2003 Legislature are affecting members of your association. *N=8* responses

13. Based on the experiences of your members, to what extent do the following factors affect the costs for MR/RC services in Minnesota? (Mark one in each row.)

	Greatly Affect		Affects		Somewhat Affects		Does Not Affect		Don't Know	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
a. Whether recipients are served in their families' homes or elsewhere N=8	2	25%	4	50%	1	13%	0	0%	1	13%
b. Changes in waiver recipients' needs for services after graduating from high school N=8	2	25	5	63	0	0	0	0	1	13
c. Unmet demand for certain services that waiver recipients need N=8	2	25	3	38	1	13	1	13	1	13
d. The severity of MR/RC waiver recipients' needs N=8	3	38	3	38	1	13	0	0	1	13
e. Advances in technology used to provide services N=8	2	25	0	0	6	75	0	0	0	0
f. Other factors that affect the cost of MR/RC waiver services (<i>Specify.</i>) N=4	0	0	1	25	0	0	0	0	3	75

14. In your opinion, do counties and waiver recipients have sufficient incentives to use waiver funds efficiently?
N=8 responses

15. From your association's perspective, do you agree or disagree with the following statements about the process counties use to negotiate price rates for MR/RC services? (Mark one in each row.)

	Agree		Somewhat Agree		Somewhat Disagree		Disagree		Don't Know		Not Applicable	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
a. Counties typically do not actively negotiate price rates. N=8	0	0%	3	38%	3	38%	2	25%	0	0%	0	0%
b. Counties' methods for negotiating prices for MR/RC services are generally fair. N=8	0	0	4	50	3	38	0	0	1	13	0	0
c. Counties use ways to try to control rate increases, such as comparing rates of multiple providers to encourage competition. N=8	1	13%	6	75%	0	0%	0	0%	1	13%	0	0%
d. Counties consider the need for providers' economic viability when negotiating rates. N=8	0	0	1	13	3	38	3	38	1	13	0	0

16. Generally speaking, how adequate are the state-set rates or caps for the following services? (Mark one for each row. If your providers do not offer the service, please mark "Not applicable.")

State-Set Rates Are:

	Too High		Adequate		Too Low		Don't Know		Not Applicable	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
a. Day training and habilitation N=7	0	0%	1	14%	3	43%	1	14%	2	29%
b. Homemaker services N=7	0	0	1	14	2	29	2	29	2	29

17. Regarding communications between providers and counties, what share of your association's providers routinely take the following steps? (Mark one in each row.)

	All or Nearly All		Most		Some		Few, If Any		Don't Know		Not Applicable	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
a. Provide reports to counties at least quarterly on services provided N=8	4	50%	1	13%	1	13%	0	0%	2	25%	0	0%
b. When services are provided on-site at recipients' residences, require employees to verify that services were provided N=8	5	63	0	0	1	13	0	0	1	13	1	13
c. Communicate with counties on an exception basis when problems arise N=8	4	50	4	50	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

CONSUMER-DIRECTED COMMUNITY SUPPORTS

Consumer-directed community supports allow MR/RC waiver recipients to decide what services to purchase, who will provide them, and whether to use informal supports such as neighbors or family.

18. Are consumer-directed community supports available in the counties in which your members provide services? (Mark one.)

Number	Percent	N=8
0	0%	a. In all or nearly all counties
4	50	b. In most counties
4	50	c. In some counties
0	0	d. In no counties (Skip to Question 24.)

19. How many of the providers in your association provide services through consumer-directed community supports? (Mark one.)Number Percent N=8

- | | | |
|---|----|--|
| 0 | 0% | a. All or nearly all |
| 0 | 0 | b. Most |
| 7 | 88 | c. Some |
| 1 | 13 | d. None or very few (Skip to Question 24.) |

20. In your opinion, how important is it for MR/RC recipients to have consumer-directed supports available? (Mark one.)Number Percent N=7

- | | | |
|---|----|-------------------------|
| 1 | 14 | a. Very important |
| 5 | 71 | b. Somewhat important |
| 0 | 0 | c. Somewhat unimportant |
| 1 | 14 | d. Not important |
| 0 | 0 | e. Don't know |
| 0 | 0 | f. Not applicable |

21. Please indicate whether you agree or disagree with the following statements regarding consumer-directed community supports (CDCS). (Mark one in each row.)

	Agree		Somewhat Agree		Somewhat Disagree		Disagree		Don't Know		Not Applicable	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
a. CDCS offers MR/RC waiver recipients an opportunity for self-reliance. N=7	1	14%	4	57%	1	14%	1	14%	0	0%	0	0%
b. CDCS generally improves consumer satisfaction. N=7	0	0	5	71	0	0	1	14	1	14	0	0
c. MR/RC waiver recipients receive adequate information to effectively use CDCS. N=7	0	0	1	14	3	43	1	14	2	29	0	0
d. Counties that offer CDCS typically provide sufficient guidance on what expenses may or may not be funded through CDCS. N=7	0	0	2	29	3	43	0	0	2	29	0	0
e. Generally, CDCS is administered consistently from county to county. N=7	0	0	0	0	1	14	5	71	1	14	0	0

21. (CONTINUED) Please indicate whether you agree or disagree with the following statements regarding consumer-directed community supports (CDCS).

	Agree		Somewhat Agree		Somewhat Disagree		Disagree		Don't Know		Not Applicable	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
f. CDCS generally offers more value for the money than traditional MR/RC waiver services. N=7	0	0	2	29	1	14	1	14	3	43	0	0
g. CDCS provides waiver recipients with a genuine choice of the supports they need. N=7	0	0	4	57	1	14	1	14	1	14	0	0
h. The CDCS program has sufficient safeguards to ensure appropriate use of the money. N=7	0	0	3	43	2	29	1	14	1	14	0	0
i. One can be reasonably confident that services billed through CDCS are actually provided. N=7	1	14	2	29	2	29	1	14	1	14	0	0

22. How well do you believe the program of consumer-directed community supports is working for the MR/RC recipients now using it? (Mark one.)

N=7

Well		Somewhat Well		Somewhat Poorly		Poorly		Don't Know	
Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
0	0%	4	57%	0	0%	1	14%	2	29%

23. Based on the experiences of your members, is there anything about Consumer-Directed Community Supports that needs to change? N=7 respondents

24. Although much uncertainty remains about rebasing due to pending court cases, how would you describe the effects of the department's rebasing on the ability of providers in your association to offer MR/RC services to either new or existing MR/RC Waiver recipients? N=8 respondents

25. From your perspective, how much have the effects of rebasing varied from county to county? *(Mark one.)*
N=7

Substantial Variation		Some Variation		Little or No Variation		Don't Know	
Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
3	43%	2	29%	0	0%	2	29%

26. Do you have further comments or concerns about the MR/RC waiver? N=6 responses