



## Heightened Scrutiny

### What is the Home and Community Based Services (HCBS) Rule?

In January 2014 the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) announced a Final Rule on HCBS. HCBS are Medicaid services for people with disabilities. The Home and Community Based Services rule (HCBS) requires that individuals have equal access to the community, the opportunity for independence in making life decisions, and ensures that their rights are respected.

### What is Heightened Scrutiny?

Heightened Scrutiny (HS) is a review process required by CMS for services that *may not* be Home and Community Based (HCB). The purpose of this review is to find out if the services can become HCB.

### Why is the Heightened Scrutiny needed?

If a service is on Heightened Scrutiny (HS), the provider will need to change how it provides service in your home or community. Services must be Home and Community Based (HCB). The Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS) is collecting information about Michigan's services on HS. MDHHS will give this information to the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS). CMS will decide if a services is HCB.

### What does Heightened Scrutiny mean to my services?

You can make decisions about your services and who provides them at any time. During Heightened Scrutiny (HS), providers will work to make the changes on how a service is provided. You will continue to receive services from your current provider if that is your choice. If your provider is not able to deliver HCB then the service provider will need to change. Some HS providers may not be able to become HCB. If you are receiving services from a provider that *cannot* become HCB, you will get help from your Community Mental Health (CMH). The CMH will help you find providers delivering HCB services and help you transition to the HCB services.



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### What will happen next?

Your support coordinator will ask if you want to keep receiving services from the provider who is on Heightened Scrutiny. If you say **yes**, the provider will make changes so the provider can keep providing your services. If you say **no**, then your supports coordinator will work with you to find services that are Home and Community Based.

### What do I need to do?

Your support coordinator will help you answer the Heightened Scrutiny survey. Your survey answers will tell the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS) what you want to do. You can have a person centered planning at any time to talk about your services and make changes if you want. If you have questions or concerns, talk with your supports coordinator who can answer questions and provide more information.

#### FOR MORE INFORMATION

Michigan Department of Health and Human Services, Home and Community Based Services Program Transition:  
[http://www.michigan.gov/mdhhs/0,5885,7-339-71547\\_2943-334724--,00.html](http://www.michigan.gov/mdhhs/0,5885,7-339-71547_2943-334724--,00.html)

Michigan Developmental Disabilities Institute, Wayne State University – Michigan Home and Community Based Services Transition Project:  
<http://ddi.wayne.edu/hcbs>