

# Fact Sheet



## Why the iBudget Matters

- The iBudget program, created by stakeholders and adopted by the Legislature in 2010, has been the primary source of services for Floridians with intellectual and developmental disabilities (I/DD).
- The Agency for Persons with Disabilities (APD) iBudget and Consumer Directed Care (CDC+) programs currently help over 36,000 Floridians with I/DD to live in their communities.
- In addition, approximately 20,000 individuals are eligible for iBudget services and are on a pre-enrollment list. Just over 400 of these individuals are receiving limited services and support outside of the iBudget through the Agency for Persons with Disabilities.
- Floridians with I/DD and their families must have these critical services. Without them, their ability and choice to live, work, and participate in everyday life would be limited, and possibly eliminated.
- People with I/DD and their families must have consistent and reliable choices when deciding how to receive the care and support they need.

## What's Working

- The consumer-directed care program offered through iBudget, CDC+, allows individuals to direct their own services and provides the flexibility to hire their own employees or purchase services from a vendor.
- Individuals often choose CDC+ as a more cost-effective option and because a more traditional provider network is not available in their area.
- Individuals served through iBudget also choose their own providers within the traditional Medicaid fee-for-service system, many of whom have long-standing relationships and who understand their needs.
- These trusted relationships would be difficult to replicate if the individual's providers opted not to participate in the managed care plan.

Florida Developmental Disabilities Council, Inc. (FDDC)

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## Current Challenges & Risks !

- The Legislature passed House Bill 1103 to take steps to fix the management and operational issues within the Agency for Persons with Disabilities (APD) and iBudget program.
- There is a need to update certain aspects of the iBudget program such as the algorithm.
- The CDC+ program must remain in place, as eliminating it would disrupt the lives of roughly 5,000 participants and the workforce that supports them. The participant-directed option in the managed care program is limited, offering fewer services and less flexibility than CDC+, reducing individuals' choice and control.

## What We Need From the Legislature 📝

- We ask the Legislature to ensure that individuals with I/DD always have the choice among iBudget, CDC+ and the managed care program.
- The Legislature must demand accountability and oversight of APD while supporting the new leadership efforts to address APD's challenges.
- The Legislature must be vigilant in evaluating the I/DD managed care program. The formal evaluation of the program has not yet been started and will not be finalized until 2029. We do not want managed care to be the only viable option if APD services decline or are eliminated.

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