

Veteran Directed Care (VDC) Office Hour Session Four: Peer Engagement, Fiscal Year 2022 Case Mix Rates, Global Budgets, and Goods and Services Approval

October 13, 2021, 2:00 – 3:00 PM EST

Key Takeaways

- ✓ **Participants engaged in meaningful discussion as well as question and answer in the VDC Office Hour Session, *Peer Engagement, Fiscal Year 2022 Case Mix Rates, Global Budgets, and Goods and Services Approval*, to facilitate sharing of best practices across the VDC Network!**

Over 150 individuals, representing Aging and Disability Network Agencies (ADNAs) and Veteran Affairs Medical Centers (VAMCs), attended to hear tips and strategies on increasing peer engagement and received information on fiscal year 2022 case mix rates, global budgets, and goods and services approval.

- ✓ **A helpful tip for increasing peer engagement amongst VDC providers is to register for the [VDC Community](#) on the ACL TA-Community platform.**

VDC providers may email the [VDC Technical Assistance Team](#) to request an email invitation to join and access the VDC Community. Providers can receive updates on upcoming events, share and access peer-created resources, and join discussion boards with other VDC providers.

- ✓ **VDC providers will use the fiscal year 2022 case mix rates for new and updated VDC authorizations beginning on October 1, 2021.**

VDC providers should review new VDC authorizations to verify case mix rate changes have been applied and submit updated Veteran spending plans to partnering VAMC(s) for approval. VDC providers can access the [FY2022 Case Mix Rate Calculator](#) on the NWD VDC webpage.

- ✓ **Practical takeaways and actionable next steps were reported by participants!**

Participants said that they would:

- ✓ Use the [VDC Spending Plan Template](#) to support development of VDC Spending Plans based on “global budgets;”
- ✓ Review the [criteria](#) for the purchase of goods and services;
- ✓ Review information on global budgets and work with the Veteran to develop/update VDC Spending Plan based on global budget guidance;
- ✓ Continue the discussion on the [VDC TA Community](#);
- ✓ Visit the [NWD VDC webpage](#) for VDC Office Hour Series resources; and
- ✓ Email the VDC Technical Assistance Team with any questions.

Appendix A: Veteran Directed Care (VDC) Goods and Services Criteria

The purchase of goods and services must meet all the following criteria:

1. Meet the identified needs, goals, and outcomes in the Veteran's spending plan; AND
2. Improve the Veteran's ability to remain safely in their home; AND
3. Address activities of daily living or instrumental activities of daily living needs of the Veteran; AND
4. Be the least costly alternative that reasonably meets the Veteran's identified needs; AND
5. Not be provided or paid for by VA, Medicare, Medicaid, TRICARE, or other agency, organization, program, service, or insurance; AND
6. Not be the responsibility of the Veteran as a homeowner to maintain, repair, or replace; AND
7. Must meet one or more of the following goals:
 - i. Enhance community inclusion and support the Veteran's ability to remain in their home and access their community resources and network;
 - ii. Increase the Veteran's independence;
 - iii. Develop, maintain, or improve personal, social, physical, and/or work-related skills;
 - iv. Decrease dependency on formal support services (i.e., reduce the need for human assistance);
 - v. Increase Veteran's safety in their home and community; and/or
 - vi. Enhance family involvement by increasing the ability of direct care workers and caregivers including family members and friends to receive education and skills training needed to provide support to the Veteran.

AND;

8. Be for the Veteran.