



# Family Health Care Tips

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## Mi Via Self-Directed Waiver

*Parents Reaching Out provides resources that focus on helping families make informed decisions about the care and education of their children. Keeping your family healthy means knowing how to navigate the health care system and talk with your doctor or other providers. We hope these tip sheets will give you the information you may need to access the best, most cost-effective medical and related services to meet the needs of your family.*

### What is Mi Via?

Mi Via is a Medicaid self-directed waiver designed to assist persons with disabilities and families who choose to direct their own services and support in their homes and communities. This means you determine how funds are distributed based on the plan and budget you develop. You choose which services, goods (items) and supports are most beneficial and hire the people you want to provide these services and supports. The child and family and/or the individual in Mi Via are known as the “Participant.”

### Who is eligible for Mi Via?

To be eligible for Mi Via, your child must be a New Mexico resident who is already receiving services **or** has received an allocation to one of the following Medicaid waiver programs:

- Disabled and Elderly (D&E) Waiver
- Developmental Disabilities (DD) Waiver
- Medically Fragile Waiver
- AIDS Waiver
- the Mi Via Brain Injury List



Each of the waiver programs and the Mi Via Brain Injury list can be thought of as doors into Mi Via. Once your child receives an allocation to one of these programs you may choose Mi Via on your Primary Freedom of Choice form. If you are already receiving services through one of the waiver programs, you may choose to move to Mi Via at any time by contacting your state waiver program. If you are not satisfied, you may return to your original waiver. Mi Via Participants must meet the same medical and financial eligibility as any other person on the waiver they applied for.

### If I choose Mi Via, who will help me?

You will work with a **Consultant** who assists with paperwork, submits your plan and budget for approval and answers questions. **Consumer Direct Personal Care (CDPC)** provides this service. Contact CDPC at 1-866-786-4999 to request an information packet, which includes the Mi Via Participant Guidebook, and/or visit the Mi Via website: [www.mivianm.org](http://www.mivianm.org).

Mi Via Participants also have a **Financial Agent, Public Partnerships (PPL)**, who will assist with hiring employees and paying vendors. They take care of all money issues like timesheets, payroll, taxes and other employer related requirements. They pay the people you hire, cut checks to the stores where you would choose to purchase goods and services and send a monthly spending report. Contact Public Partnerships at 1-866-393-3752 for more information. Once you are on Mi Via, extra copies of forms, timesheets and other information can be accessed through the website: [www.publicpartnerships.com](http://www.publicpartnerships.com). Contact Public Partnerships first by phone for login information.

If you need additional help to implement your plan, you may budget for **Resource Facilitation**. Ask your consultant for more information on how this service might help you.

If your child has a brain injury, you may apply for Mi Via by calling the Aging and Disability Resource Center at 1-800-432-2080. The **Mi Via Brain Injury Hotline** is available to help with the eligibility process, questions and additional information. Contact them at 1-888-292-7415.

**What are the service options for children in Mi Via?**

Services are received through an approved Service and Support plan (SSP) and budget. This plan is developed by you, a Mi Via Consultant and anyone you choose to invite to your planning meeting. Each request on the plan must have a statement as to how and why this will help the child’s medical, functional and/or social needs.

Some services for children, such as therapies and personal support services, become available because the child receives Medicaid once they are on a waiver. These types of services can only be accessed through Medicaid, not through waiver funding. In Mi Via, children may request any service available through the traditional waiver, including: Nutritional Counseling, Personal Plan Facilitator, Respite Care, Behavioral Support Consultation, Non-Medical Transportation, Community Access, Supplemental Dental Care, Intensive Case Management, and Environmental Modifications.

Mi Via Participants have eight **additional** categories available to them known as **Participant-Delegated Goods and Services**. As with any request, you must describe in the plan how the service or good you are asking for addresses the child’s medical, functional and/or social needs, and directly relates to their disability. The Mi Via Participant Guidebook gives examples from each category. In your plan you may request services or goods from the following categories:



- Transportation
- Community Participation
- Household-Related
- Resource Facilitation
- Technology for Safety and Independence
- Alternative Medicine and Therapies
- Health-Related Services, Equipment and Supplies
- Coaching/Education for Parent(s), Spouse

**How do families apply for Mi Via?**

When you receive an allocation to a waiver, you receive a form stating that you may choose the traditional waiver *or* Mi Via. If you are **already** receiving services through a waiver program, contact your program to request a **Waiver Change Form**. Complete the form and return it to the program.



AIDS Waiver	Santa Fe	(505) 476-6928
Disabled and Elderly (D&E) Waiver	Santa Fe	(505) 476-4760
Medically Fragile Waiver	Albuquerque	(505) 841-2913
Developmental Disabilities (DD) Waiver:		
Contact your Regional Office:		
Metro Regional Office	Albuquerque	1-800-283-5548
Northeast Regional Office	Taos	1-866-315-7123
Northwest Regional Office	Gallup	1-866-862-0448
Southeast Regional Office	Roswell	1-866-742-5226
Southwest Regional Office	Las Cruces	1-866-742-5226

CDPC will contact you to set up an enrollment meeting and a planning meeting. After your planning meeting, your Service and Support Plan (SSP) and budget will be submitted to Lovelace for approval. Once the plan and budget are approved, you begin implementing them on the agreed upon start date, which is typically the first of a month. *If you have questions about the Mi Via Self-Directed Waiver or need information to help you understand Mi Via, please contact **Parents Reaching Out**. Ask to speak to a staff member in the Family to Family Health Information Center.*

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