Goal for this Section

Provide an update to Greater Minnesota Lead Agencies on the passage of three new employment services in the past legislative session.

- Seek feedback on the current waiver amendment language
- Seek feedback on transitioning to the new services
• **Employment Exploration Services:** Community-based services that introduce and explore employment, such as work experiences. Service assists people in making an informed choice about working in competitive, integrated employment.

• **Employment Development Services:** Individualized services that help people find competitive, integrated employment or attain self employment.

• **Employment Support Services:** Individualized services and supports that assist people with maintaining community employment in an individual or group arrangement.
Employment Services Update and Timeline

• **June, 2014**: Stakeholder workgroups began developing employment services

• **June, 2017**: Employment services pass in the Omnibus Health and Human Services Bill during Special Session (*S.F. No. 2, Article 1, Sec. 2*)

• **August, 2017**: Employment services waiver amendment language will be posted for public comment

• **October 1st, 2017**: Employment services waiver amendment will be submitted to the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) for approval

• **January, 2018**: Upon CMS approval, employment services will be implemented
What we are doing now

- Revisiting waiver amendment language for submission to CMS
  - Lean towards keeping existing language vetted through stakeholders
- Planning transition process to implement new services
  - How and when will current day services switch to new employment services for people?
  - What training, technical assistance, and clarification is necessary for partners?
- Seeking stakeholder feedback
• Currently conducting two projects to estimate the business impacts of new employment services
  1. Lifeworks (ongoing)
  2. Alexandria Opportunities Center (starting)
• How would new services be provided and what would the business impacts be to service providers?
• Develop a tool that other service providers can use
Proposed Changes

- Allowed Exploration and Development to be authorized/billed during the same week
  - Previously, once you started receiving Development, you could no longer receive Exploration

- Reduced Time Limit for Development from 24 months to 12 months and removed any group activity in Development
  - Matches the time limit for Exploration

- Removed time limits on group sessions in Exploration
  - Previously, one 90 minute session per week

- Created provider training requirements
Questions for Discussion

• **Review the transition plan**: Found at the end of the document. Would this present any complications or difficulties in switching people over to the new services?

• **Review provider training requirements**: Found at the end of the document. What questions or clarifications come to mind? How would this correspond to training providers are currently conducting?

• **Authorization and billing**: Discuss options and directions for authorizing and billing the services. What challenges and clarifications should be addressed?

• **Open discussion on changes**: Do you have any questions or concerns about the changes being proposed? What other feedback would you like to provide?
Thank you!

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