

## **CARROLL COUNTY BOARD OF DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES**

### **Policy Reference: UTILIZATION OF COUNTY TAX DOLLARS AS LAST RESORT**

#### **I. PURPOSE**

It is the position of the Carroll County Board of DD to exercise fiscal responsibility by encouraging and assisting individuals served and their families to access all available resources before using county tax levy dollars for needed services and supports, reserving county tax dollars for the payment of last resort. With limited funding to serve individuals who are waiting for services, existing resources must be maximized to meet the needs of all individuals and families eligible for Board services.

#### **II. POLICY STATEMENT**

Within applicable budgetary restraints, the Carroll County Board of DD supports the provision of services and supports to as many eligible individuals as possible. To this end, the Board places the following conditions on persons receiving or seeking to receive Board-funded services and supports:

1. Each individual who wishes services and supports that can be funded by a Medicaid Home and Community Based Services Waiver administered by the Board that will meet the individual's needs must apply for such Waiver. Board staff will assist in the application process.
2. If the individual is determined ineligible for a Medicaid Waiver because of inability to obtain the appropriate level of care or to meet Medicaid eligibility requirements, or if an individual is willing to apply but is unable to gain access to a Medicaid Waiver because no appropriate Waiver slot is available, the Superintendent shall have the authority to authorize local funding for the cost of services, taking into account the other resources available to the individual.
3. If the individual declines to apply for a Medicaid Waiver but still wants the services, he or she may receive funded services equivalent to the local share of the Medicaid Waiver service cost. The individual may identify and access other funding sources, including personal funds, for the federal share of

service costs that would have been covered by federal Medicaid funds.

4. Sharing services is a very effective way of reducing service costs and making it possible for eligible individuals to receive services for which they are waiting. Therefore, the Board expects persons who can do so to share services with other eligible individuals or to accept another method of reducing an equivalent amount of service costs. Any exceptions must be recommended by the individual's team, based upon an assessment of need, and approved by the Superintendent.
5. The above conditions shall be effective with the effective date of this policy, except that persons receiving Board-funded services and supports prior to that date will be grandfathered. In addition, the Superintendent may waive any requirements of this policy for a period of up to one hundred eighty (180) days for any individual determined by the Superintendent to be in emergency need of services.
6. No individual shall be offered services and supports unless the Superintendent or his/her designee determines that the individual's needs can be met through such services, and the individual's health and safety can be adequately protected within the funding requirements established by the Board and the Ohio Department of Developmental Disabilities.
7. State and federal laws and rules shall take precedence over any contrary provisions of this policy.