



## 1915(c) Children's Waiver Feasibility Study

### **Purpose:**

In 2023, the Kentucky Cabinet for Health and Family Services (Cabinet) will lead a study to determine if it can serve children with severe emotional disability (SED) and children with intellectual disabilities and related conditions (ID/RC), including autism spectrum disorder (ASD), through a potential new Medicaid 1915(c) Home and Community-Based Services (HCBS) waiver.

The study will look at ways to put a targeted service package in place for children ages 0 to 21 with SED, ID/RC, and ASD, while also considering how much this would cost. The study should be complete by the fall of 2023.

### **Study Methodology:**

The study will be made up of various steps, which include the following:

- Creating a Stakeholder Advisory Group, made up of caregivers, advocates, providers, and government representatives to provide input on the study
- Researching waivers in other states that serve children with SED, ID/RC, and ASD to learn about their program design and service offerings
- Analyzing population data to identify the service and support needs of children with SED, ID/RC, and ASD
- Surveying the provider network in Kentucky to determine their ability to serve a potential new population
- Projecting what it would cost to add a new 1915(c) waiver
- Developing a study report that summarizes all the study activities and findings

### **Opportunities for Stakeholder Input:**

The Cabinet values the stakeholder input, particularly from those individuals who may be impacted by a potential new program. The Cabinet plans to host several focus groups in early 2023 to collect information on the needs of the study population, the supports and services that would meet their needs, and feedback on study findings and other state models. The Cabinet invites individuals currently receiving home and community-based services, caregivers, and other family members, friends, and neighbors to join these focus groups and will share more information about how to participate soon.

If you have questions about the Children's Waiver Feasibility Study, contact the Department for Medicaid Services at [CHFS.HCBSWorkGroup@ky.gov](mailto:CHFS.HCBSWorkGroup@ky.gov) and Rina Griffin at Guidehouse at [rgriffin@guidehouse.com](mailto:rgriffin@guidehouse.com).