HCBS waivers are an optional Medicaid service that allow people with disabilities to receive services in the community, as opposed to an institutional setting.

**What are HCBS waivers used for?**

- **Housing**: Support people to live in a group home, with a roommate or on their own.
- **Employment**: Help people find and keep jobs through long-term, supported employment services.
- **Professional Caregivers**: Assist with bathing, dressing, eating and even getting to work.
- **Therapies**: Provide for physical therapy, occupational therapy, speech and language therapy and behavioral supports.

**What do HCBS waivers mean for Georgia?**

- Makes a small dent in the 5,000+ Georgians on the waiting list for a waiver
- Creates jobs and pumps money back into local economies
- Keeps families out of crisis through respite care and ensuring family members keep their jobs
- Saves the taxpayer money, as HCBS waivers, on average, cost less than institutional settings

HCBS waivers are also called:
- NOW/COMP: Intellectual and Developmental Disability
- ICWP: Physical Disability
- SOURCE/CCSP: Elderly and Disabled

**What Georgia Needs:**

$16.3 million increase to DBHDD to fund 650 new NOW/COMP waivers and support level funding to DCH for ICWP, CCSP and SOURCE waivers

Questions? Want to help? Contact GCDD’s Public Policy Director Dawn Alford at 404.805.9741 or dawn.alford@gcdd.ga.gov or GCDD’s Planning & Policy Development Specialist Hanna Rosenfeld at 404.275.8119 or hanna.rosenfeld@gcdd.ga.gov.