

Dakota County Social Services Services Provided to Individuals with Disabilities

Social Services connects individuals with disabilities to a variety of services that promote independence and community living. Below is a brief description of those programs.

MnCHOICES Assessments

This assessment is the first step in determining eligibility for public programs that support people with disabilities living in the community. Assessments are completed by a Community Living Services nurse or social worker with a focus on understanding each person's unique needs and preferences.

Case Management and Services

Dakota County administers several state and federal programs that connect individuals with disabilities to a variety of services and supports.

- Community Access for Disability Inclusion (CADI) – Program that provides home and community-based services to children and adults with disabilities who are eligible for medical assistance, certified disabled, and require the level of care provided in a nursing facility. These services are an alternative to institutionalization. They help a person live as independently as possible in community settings and promote optimal health, independence, safety, and community integration.
- Community Alternative Care Waiver (CAC) – Program that provides home and community-based services to children and adults who are eligible for medical assistance, certified disabled, and are chronically ill or medically fragile – requiring the level of care provided in a hospital. These services are an alternative to institutionalization. They help a person live as independently as possible in community settings and promote optimal health, independence, safety, and community integration.
- Brain Injury Waiver (BI) – Program that provides home and community-based services to children and adults with a diagnosis of brain injury who are eligible for medical assistance, certified disabled, and require the level of care provided in a specialized nursing facility or neurobehavioral hospital. These services are an alternative to institutionalization. They help a person live as independently as possible in community settings and promote optimal health, independence, safety, and community integration.
- Developmental Disability Waiver (DD) - Program that provides home and community-based services to children and adults eligible for Rule 185 Case Management* who are eligible for medical assistance and require the level of care provided in an intermediate care facility for persons with developmental disabilities (ICF/DD). These services are an alternative to institutionalization. They help a person live as independently as possible in community settings and promote optimal health, independence, safety, and community integration.

***Developmental Disability (DD) Rule 185 Case Management**

Rule 185 case management for children and adults with developmental disabilities or related conditions assists people in gaining access to needed social, medical, educational, and other supports and services.

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The assigned case manager works with the person to identify their unique needs and preferences, and to identify and coordinate services and supports. This case management is also sometimes referred to as Vulnerable Adult DD (VA/DD).

State Plan Services

- Personal Care Assistance (PCA) - Services to help people with day-to-day activities in their home and community to maximize independence. Personal care assistance services help a person with day-to-day activities in their home and community. PCAs help people with activities of daily living, health-related procedures and tasks, positive behavioral support, etc. PCA services are available to eligible people enrolled in a Minnesota Health Care Program and receive eligibility and authorization through a MnCHOICES assessment.

Consumer Directed Supports (CDS)

- Consumer Support Grant (CSG) - A state-funded alternative to Minnesota Health Care program home care services of home health aide, personal care assistance and/or homecare nursing. The Consumer Support Grant Program allows eligible individuals to convert the state portion of payments for the home care services into a cash grant. With county assistance, individuals can manage and pay for a variety of home and community-based services. The CSG program provides greater flexibility and freedom of choice in service selection, payment rates, service delivery specifications and employment of service providers. Parents, spouses, family members, trusted neighbors or friends can be paid for service, as well as employees of traditional home care provider agencies.
- Consumer-directed Community Supports (CDCS) - A service option available to people on the home and community-based services (HCBS) waivers. CDCS gives a person flexibility in service planning and responsibility for self-directing their services, including hiring and managing support workers. CDCS may include traditional services and goods, and self-designed services.

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The following table details the number of individuals with disabilities served in each of these programs in 2021.

Dakota County Social Services to Individuals with Disabilities (2021)

Description	Total Number of People Served
MnCHOICES Assessments	8,070
Community Access for Disability Inclusion (CADI)	2,366
Community Alternative Care Waiver (CAC)	54
Brain Injury Waiver (BI)	152
Developmental Disability Waiver (DD)	2,023
Developmental Disability Non-Waiver	1,070
Personal Care Assistance (PCA)/Consumer Support Grant (CSG)	1,200**
Case Management Services (all programs)	7,016

**These cases are assessed by a contracted agency called MVNA/Alliance; people eligible for state plan services may or may not also be eligible for and receiving case management.