

OASIS · AT A GLANCE

Michigan day programs after prevocational services

Michigan removed Prevocational Services from the Habilitation Supports Waiver in the renewal effective October 2024 and gave families six months to land somewhere else. Here is what is left and how the replacements differ.

PILLARS: WHERE · WHAT | COMPANION TO BLOG POST B143 | 2-PAGE BRIEF

6

MONTHS TO MOVE

The transition window after a service left the waiver.

How the service disappeared

RENEWAL TO REMOVAL

STAGE 1

The waiver renewed

Michigan's Habilitation Supports Waiver renewal was approved in December 2024, retroactively effective October 1, 2024.

→

STAGE 2

A six-month clock started

Beneficiaries receiving Prevocational Services were given a six-month transition period to move to a different service.

→

STAGE 3

Two named landing spots

1915(i) State Plan Skill Building and Out-of-Home Non-Vocational Habilitation. Everything else is CLS or supported employment.

The three services families confuse

MICHIGAN HSW AND 1915(I)

What was removed against what replaced it

The difference that matters most is the first row. State Plan services are an entitlement for those who meet criteria. Waiver services depend on a capped slot.

MEASURE	PREVOCATIONAL	SKILL BUILDING	OUT-OF-HOME HAB
Authority	Waiver, removed	1915(i) State Plan	Waiver service
Slot dependent	Was, yes	No	Yes
Focus	Work readiness	Skill development	Structured non-work day
Setting	Facility based	Community or site	Out of the home
Status now	Not covered	Available on paper	Available on paper
Real constraint	Gone	Provider capacity	Provider capacity

2

Named replacement services

Skill Building and Out-of-Home Non-Vocational Habilitation. That is the whole list.

2533-BH

The MDHHS policy citation

If your CMH says nothing changed, cite this project number back to them.

5

Services families confuse

Prevocational, Skill Building, Out-of-Home Hab, CLS, and supported employment.

THE BUILDING DID NOT CHANGE

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Nadia's son Owen has gone to the same building four days a week for six years. The letterhead on his plan changed, the service name changed, the authorized units dropped, and the van route got cut to three days. She found out because a billing code did not match last year's.

SAME DOOR. DIFFERENT SERVICE. NO NOTICE.

THE TAKEAWAY

Covered is not the same as available. A service can be in the waiver, authorized on the plan, and completely unstaffed within an hour's drive. Ask about capacity, not coverage.

TURN THE PAGE

The four questions to ask every provider, how to compare this year's plan to last year's, and what a unit reduction entitles you to.

Find out what your adult child actually has

THEN PROTECT IT

IDENTIFY

Nail down the service name

☐ Email your supports coordinator, do not phone

☐ Ask for the service name, not the building name

☐ Ask for authorized units and effective dates

☐ Ask whether the October 2024 renewal changed it

☐ Save the reply, it is your baseline

COMPARE

This year against last year

☐ Request the current IPOS and the prior year IPOS

☐ Put them side by side, line by line

☐ Circle every authorized unit that dropped

☐ Ask in writing why each one dropped

☐ A drop without a meeting is a due process problem

SCREEN

Four questions for every provider

☐ Do you have current openings, today?

☐ How many days a week can you actually staff?

☐ What is your staff to participant ratio?

☐ Is transportation included or separate?

☐ Log the date and the answer, every time

CONTEST

If the service was reduced

☐ Request the written Adverse Benefit Determination

☐ Ask for a person-centered planning meeting in writing

☐ File the local appeal within 60 days of the notice

☐ Request benefit continuation within 10 days

☐ Copy the PIHP regional office on everything

BRING ONE PAGE, NOT A BINDER

The service comparison sheet

01

Service name

The exact billing service, not the program's marketing name.

02

Authority

Waiver or 1915(i) State Plan, and whether a slot is required.

03

Units

Authorized hours per week, and hours actually delivered last month.

04

Provider

Name, current capacity, staffing days, and transportation.

YOUR MOVE

When the day service quietly shrinks

1

Get it in writing

Service name, units, dates, from your coordinator.

2

Compare the plans

This year against last year, line by line.

3

Demand a meeting

Person-centered planning, within fourteen days.

4

Appeal the reduction

Within 60 days, continuation within 10.

5

Escalate regionally

PIHP office, then a state complaint.

A service change without a planning meeting and a written notice is not a service change. It is a paperwork error you are entitled to contest.

SOURCES

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

JP

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Jim Palasty is the founder of OASIS for Autism and a single father of an adult autistic daughter in Michigan.

Michigan Department of Health and Human Services. Notice of Proposed Policy, Project 2533-BH, Prevocational Services. Issued December 30, 2025.

Michigan Department of Health and Human Services. Habilitation Supports Waiver renewal application, MI.0167, approved December 20, 2024, effective October 1, 2024.

Western Michigan University Disability Services and Adult Wellness Programs; Gesher Human Services; Judson Center; Dutton Farm. Michigan adult day and skill building providers, verified operating 2026.

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