

**May 7, 2020**

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This is a public comment related to EVV (Electronic Visit Verification).

When you have a child or young adult with special health care needs, your goal, as with any parent, is to support them the greatest independence possible. For a child with significant disabilities living on their own, away from the parent, is the greatest independence for many, only a dream.

Keep in mind, moving a person with a disability away from the family home to independence is not an easy task. I often say, "letting go was much harder than coming to grips with the disability and all it required".

As I read the rules for EVV, it becomes clear, that this requirement puts additional restrictions on the lucky individual that has moved away from the parent. No information has been given regarding, if there is more than one individual in a home, without being a group home or under another system. I see no upside of this rule. While I understand it is a federal requirement, I only see loss of flexibility, autonomy and restrictions, related to the implementation.

CDASS (Consumer Directed Attendant Support Services) has been a wonderful program. Allowing for greater independence; care provided in the community; and flexibility. CDASS is a model of care which creates typical relationships of employer and employee. It creates accountability to the individual and the ability to care give, not just provide care.

I have many questions, which have not been answered by the many stakeholder meetings, such as:

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1. Who pays for the computer to log in, as the staff will not use their personal cell phone?
2. What happens when a caregiver is logged in for one person in the home when the other person has an emergency? Does the individual win or the system, by logging out, then logging in, then attending the individual with the emergency?
3. What is hoped to gain by this invasive requirement?

As you can see by the title below, I have already had to become a PASA (Program Approved Service Agency), think a company and a nursing home and all the red tape, in order to provide needed services for my daughter. EVV feels like one more hoop and a punishment for accomplishing her independence!

SINCERELY,

CHRISTY S BLAKELY  
QUE PASA, DIRECTOR