

## The 'Waitlist'

### What does it mean when a NH individual who experiences a developmental disability or acquired brain disorder is placed on the 'Waitlist' for adult services at age 21?

- **It means** that individual may experience a **loss of skills** that he/she has been intently working to develop all throughout their life public educational experience.
- **It means** that the individual may lose their job and **become unemployed** because they will no longer have access to the necessary job supports and staff needed to keep working.
- **It means** that a **parent or guardian may need to leave their job** and stay at home to provide direct supports for their family member, resulting in **decreased income and additional hardships**.
- **It means** that a family in this situation may **no longer be able to pay their bills**, they may **lose their home & savings, and the entire family may need more state funded services**.
- **It means** that the more individuals on The Waitlist translate into **lost employment opportunities** for the **Direct Support Professional (DSP)**.

### What does it mean when children are put on the 'waitlist' for In Home Supports & Services?

- **It means** that the family may be headed into a **financial and personal crisis** unable to balance the special needs & demands of their child with the other needs of their family.
- **It means** that when the family can no longer cope without the necessary supports the **child may no longer be able to live at home in their community with their family** and may need to be placed in a residential or foster care setting.
- **It means** that once that child has been placed outside of his/her family home it's very **unlikely that the child will ever return home** and **may experience a lifetime of segregation & isolation**.