As you write your comments, consider your own experience with the HCBS service system. What needs to change in order to help people with disabilities, and those who are aging to have full access to the community?

Questions you may want to consider:

- Do you have the resources you need to help clients make choices about what they want to do each day and where they want to go?
- Can your clients spend their money the way they would like?
- Are there enough resources and supports in the community to give clients meaningful choices about where they live, where they work, and the type of work they want to do?
- Do your clients have the supports they need to be part of the community?
- Do your clients have friends without disabilities who are not relatives or direct care staff?
- Do you have the resources you need to provide clients with access to transportation and other supports needed to go to work, go shopping, go to church or volunteer?

To submit feedback directly to the state, there must be an open public comment period. The state must hold additional comment periods each time there is a substantial change to the plan. Currently, the public comment period is closed, but this doesn’t mean there won’t be any more opportunities to share your feedback in the future. To receive notifications of upcoming comment periods, join the Department of Health’s mailing list at [http://health.utah.gov/ltc/hcbstransition/listserv.html](http://health.utah.gov/ltc/hcbstransition/listserv.html). When the public comment period reopens, submit your comments at [http://health.utah.gov/ltc/hcbstransition/PublicComments.html](http://health.utah.gov/ltc/hcbstransition/PublicComments.html), or via fax to (801) 323-1588, or by mail to:

- **Utah Department of Health**
  Division of Medicaid and Health Financing
  Attn: HCBS Transition Planning Comments
  PO Box 143112
  Salt Lake City, UT 84114-3112

If you’d like, you can send your comments to the Disability Law Center at any time. We will collect the comments and send them to the state for you when the next comment period opens. Feel free to use the attached comments template.

Submit your comments via:

- **Email**: hcbs@disabilitylawcenter.org
- **Online**: disabilitylawcenter.org/hcbs
- **Fax**: (801) 363-1437
- **Mail**: Disability Law Center
  Attn: HCBS Comments
  205 North 400 West
  Salt Lake City, UT 84103

What if the state is NOT accepting public comments right now?

If you’d like, you can send your comments to the Disability Law Center at any time. We will collect the comments and send them to the state for you when the next comment period opens. Feel free to use the attached comments template.

What should I say in my comments?

As you write your comments, consider your own experience with the HCBS service system. What needs to change in order to help people with disabilities, and those who are aging to have full access to the community?
Providing Your Input On
Home & Community-Based Services

The State of Utah is creating a plan that will make changes to the way home and community-based services (HCBS) are provided to people with disabilities and those who are aging. Because the state can’t write a good plan without your help, we encourage everyone to become actively involved in the planning process.

The state needs your input as a provider about how things could be better. You can use this form to share your thoughts about what community life means to your clients, as well as anything else you would like to share.

Integration and Access to the Community

• Do you have the resources and support you need from the State to help clients have full access to the community?

• What are the biggest barriers to providing integrated services?

• What needs to change within the DSPD service system to make sure the services you provide give people the opportunity to be a part of the community?

Choice

• Are there adequate resources and supports available in your area to allow a person with a disability the opportunity to choose a service that reflects their interests and abilities?

• Do you have the resources and support you need from the State to help clients make informed, meaningful choices about the services they receive?
Individual Rights

- Are there barriers within the DSPD service system to ensuring individual rights? (for example — individual rights to access a private telephone or email, rights of clients to close and lock a bedroom door, or the right to store personal belongings in a secure place while they are receiving services?)

- What needs to change within the DSPD service system to make sure you are able to ensure an individual’s rights of privacy, dignity, respect, and freedom from coercion and restraint?

Independence

- Do you have the resources and support you need from the State to help clients have independence and autonomy? (for example — do you have the resources you need to help clients chose when and what they want to eat, what they want to do for fun and how they want to set their schedules?)

- What are the biggest barriers to helping clients to become more independent?

- What needs to change within the DSPD service system to make sure the services you provide promote independence?
Notes

You can use the space below to write anything additional you would like to say.