



ADRC First Phase II- Frequently Asked Questions

Brief History of the *ADRC First* Pilot Project

The *ADRC First* Pilot Project has been operating on the Kenai Peninsula since December, 2013 to improve access and outcomes for individuals seeking long-term services and supports. The process begins when an individual with a need for assistance contacts the Aging and Disability Resource Center (ADRC), or is redirected to the ADRC from SDS or another community provider. The ADRC provides a short pre-screening, information and options counseling, and if needed, short-term crisis support to prevent institutionalization, and assists in planning for immediate and future needs.

The *ADRC First* pilot screening is specifically designed to look at each individual holistically in order to assist them in navigating the service delivery system and in making informed choices about their care.

Has the ADRC First Pilot Project worked?

Yes. During Phase I of the *ADRC First* pilot project, the initial pre-screen process has

- reduced by 35% Medicaid waiver applications because other, more appropriate service options were identified;
- increased by 24% the rate of successful PCA eligibility assessments;
- helped 56 people receive information regarding behavioral health and substance abuse services they needed to access treatment.

What is Phase II of the project?

Phase II of the project will continue with individual pre-screenings. However, those pre-screened and found likely to be eligible for the Adults Living Independently (ALI) waiver services will now work with the ADRC staff to gather, complete and submit the application to SDS for review and eligibility assessment.

Will the ADRC submit applications for all Medicaid services?

No. Applicants found likely to be eligible for the Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities (IDD), Adults with Physical and Developmental Disabilities (APDD) and Children with Complex Medical Conditions (CCMC) waivers will continue to work with an SDS-certified care coordinator to complete the application process for those services. Individuals seeking PCA services will be pre-screened and provided options for PCA application assistance.

Will the application process completed by ADRC First staff be the same as completed by an SDS-certified care coordinator?

Yes, the application will be exactly the same process for individuals applying for the ALI waiver as those applying for the IDD, APDD or CCMC waiver with assistance from a care coordinator. There will be no preferential treatment for applications submitted to SDS by the ADRC First staff.

Will this application process apply statewide now?

No, Phase II will continue to serve only individuals residing in the communities of Cooper Landing, Kasilof, Kenai, Nikiski, Ninilchik, Soldotna, and Sterling. Individuals outside of this service area will still continue to work with a care coordinator of their choice.

What happens if an applicant in the ADRC First project is found to meet the level of care (LOC) requirements and is deemed eligible for ALI waiver services?

Once SDS has completed the assessment and determined eligibility, staff at the *ADRC First* project will assist the individual to choose an SDS-certified care coordinator. From there the care coordinator takes over and completes the required steps for services to begin.

What happens for an individual's renewal application?

The renewal process will be completed by the care coordinator. The *ADRC First* staff only assists with the initial eligibility application for ALI waiver services.

Why is the process of applying for ALI waivers changing?

In addition to streamlining the screening and application process, this change supports the federal and State goal of offering a conflict-free single point of entry for people seeking Medicaid-funded home and community-based services.

When will Phase II begin?

Phase II will begin **October 1st, 2015**. *ADRC First* staff will be responsible for completing the standard application form and submitting it to SDS for review and assessment.