

Sent on Behalf of DES/DDD

DISABILITY RIGHTS ARIZONA COMIT PROGRAM UPDATE

Target Audience - Qualified Vendors and Providers

Transmittal Date - 06/11/2025

The Disability Rights Arizona (DRAZ) Compliance, Oversight, Monitoring, and Investigations Team (COMIT) Program was created as a result of the passage of House Bill 2865 (HB2865) by the Arizona Legislature on June 23, 2022, and signed into law by the Governor on June 28, 2022. This legislation amended the Arizona Revised Statutes (ARS) to include ARS 36-595.03 "Developmental Disabilities Group Home Monitoring Pilot Program". The legislation mandated that the Division contract with (DRAZ) to conduct monitoring and investigations for individuals residing in DDD group homes. COMIT is responsible for completing in-person monitoring for group homes providing services to members with complex needs. In 2024, COMIT completed monitoring of 172 members with complex needs residing in 151 group home settings operated by 73 Qualified Vendors.

The Division and COMIT have established a constructive partnership and meet monthly to review findings from the COMIT monitoring visits. The most common themes and areas for improvement identified in the findings include:

- Outdated behavior plans;
- Inconsistent vendor documentation;
- A disconnect between the training that DSPs receive and their ability to implement the concepts conveyed in the training;
- Person Centered Service Plan (PCSP) goals that are not in a SMART format; and
- PCSPs with inconsistent service information.

The Division is committed to resolving member-specific issues as well as identifying systemic trends and already has multiple initiatives in place. Two of these initiatives are the Behavior Plan Performance Improvement Project and accreditation from the National Committee for Quality Assurance (NCQA) in Case Management for Long Term Services and Supports (CM-LTSS).

The Division implemented an initiative to enhance collaboration with the Qualified Vendor network by sharing specific findings from each group home monitoring visit completed by COMIT. The Division's Quality Management Unit will coordinate this initiative through direct vendor communications, sharing member-specific results and recommendations, providing necessary technical assistance, and conducting additional virtual and onsite monitoring to ensure the case-specific and systemic trends are resolved.