What is the Home and Community Based Services (HCBS) Rule?
In January 2014 the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) announced a Final Rule on HCBS. HCBS are Medicaid services for people with disabilities to help them live in their own homes and communities.

Why is the Rule Important?
It will:
- Ensure individuals who have disabilities have the same access to the community as individuals who do not have disabilities.
- Allow individuals the opportunity to make decisions about the services they receive and who provide their services.

The goal of the HCBS Final Rule is to make sure that the services individuals receive, give people the opportunity for independence in making life decisions, to fully participate in community life, and to ensure that individuals’ rights are respected.

How does this impact my life or my services?
You should start thinking about how you want your services to support you. You are the expert when it comes to your life.

When will the new rule happen?
The State of Michigan will work with individuals and their service providers to prepare for the new rule. The deadline to come into compliance is March 2019.

FOR MORE INFORMATION
Michigan Department of Health and Human Services, Home and Community Based Services Program Transition: http://www.michigan.gov/mdhhs/0,5885,7-339-71547_2943-334724--,00.html

What does the rule discuss?
Individual Rights:
The HCBS Rule will protect an individual’s right to privacy, dignity, respect and freedom.

Full Participation in Community Life:
All individuals are supported to take part in their community and have the same access as other individuals in the community.

Making Life Decisions:
Individuals can make decisions about their lives using the supports they need. Individuals control and pick how they want to spend their day.