

# CHAPTER 8

## ALTERNATIVE RESIDENTIAL PLACEMENTS

An Alternative Residential Placement is the placement of a participant in a high management group home or therapeutic foster home setting that is not operated by a DSN Board. Alternative Residential Placements are pursued for participants who need more supports or different supports than can be provided within the local DSN system. All Alternative Residential Placements are authorized and approved through the Office of Behavioral Supports at the South Carolina Department of Disabilities and Special Needs Central Office. Alternative Residential Placements are not automatically available or accessible. DDSN participants must be referred, interviewed and accepted before being placed with a private provider (i.e. Mentor, Lutheran Family Services, New Hope Carolinas Triad Program, Youth Advocate Program, Palmetto Pee Dee Behavior Health System, Pine Grove, and Broadstep Academy).

**South Carolina Department of Social Services, Department of Mental Health and Continuum of Care Referrals:** If the DDSN WCM, along with the participant's DSS/DMH/CoC case manager, assess needs that can be met by support services available through the ID/RD Waiver, then a Request for ID/RD Waiver Slot Allocation (ID/RD Form 30) should be submitted according to policies outlined in Chapter 3 of the ID/RD Waiver Manual. If the DSN Board is approached by the South Carolina Department of Social Services (SCDSS), the Department of Mental Health (DMH) or Continuum of Care (COC) regarding a cost share request or request to fund alternative placement, then the DSN Board needs to inform the requesting agency that DSN boards cannot enter into cost share agreements for participants in therapeutic foster care/alternative residential placements with other state agencies. Cost shares with other state agencies for alternative placements are discussed and arranged with DDSN Central office, Office of Behavioral Supports. SCDSS, DMH or COC can request to have a staffing on the case with the DSN Board along with someone from DDSN Central Office or the appropriate district office representative, but DSN Boards should not be initiating waiver slot requests in order to cost share on an alternative residential placement. This will be done only by direction from the Office of Behavioral Supports. Furthermore, not all cost share agreements between DDSN and other state agencies lead to ID/RD Waiver application referrals. If there are other services that can be offered on a specific case in Regular or Therapeutic Foster Care (e.g. autism consult, behavior support consultation, etc), discuss these options with SCDSS, DMH or COC and provide these services if needed to help preserve the placement if it is a specialized service they cannot otherwise access for the participant. Please redirect local SCDSS, DMH or COC to contact their state office.

Participants who reside in Alternative Residential Placements **can** receive ID/RD Waiver funding for the placement, but not all Alternative Residential Placements are funded through the ID/RD Waiver. Because the degree of support is greater or the support is unique, the rate paid for these placements is substantially higher than the rate paid for most Residential Habilitation. The Residential Habilitation rate paid to Alternative Placement providers includes funding for **all services** that the participant may need (i.e. day services, personal care services, etc.) **except Adult Vision, Adult Dental, and/or Audiology Services**. Therefore, those residing in Alternative Residential Placement can receive, Adult Dental, Adult Vision, and/or Audiology through the ID/RD Waiver without prior approval from SCDDSN Central Office. **All other waiver services must first be approved by SCDDSN Central Office.**

To request an approval for additional waiver services in an Alternative Residential Placement, the WCM must complete the **Request for ID/RD Waiver Service(s) Addition in Alternative Residential Placement (ID/RD Form 33)** and attach a copy of the Single Plan/IFSP/FSP. This packet should be forwarded to the Lead Coordinator for ID/RD Waiver and Service Planning at SCDDSN Central Office. Appropriate SCDDSN Central Office staff will review the request. The WCM will receive written notification of the approval or denial. If the service is denied, the WCM will follow procedures outlined in **Chapter 8** regarding written notification to the participant regarding denial of a service.