

workers, you know, how you want your pants put on there, how you like things done, and have the control you want in your life.

SHARON:

Thanks for that intro to HCBS and person-centered and person-directed support.

So the project that you're working on is kind of looking at person-centeredness of those supports and how to measure that. Bridgette, can you talk a little bit about, you know, what is a measure? Why do we need to measure if HCBS are person-centered?

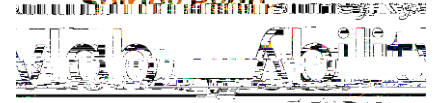
BRIDGETTE:

Within any program, it's important to evaluate to understand how it's doing, if it's doing what it's supposed to and intended. So a measure does just that.

What we're looking for in outcome measures, we want to understand do people have the life that they want, they have these person-centered outcomes and living the lives that they want. A measure then is a way to measure that, understand if it's happening. And it's often done in the form of a survey or an interview. A survey is the most commonly used at a large scale, because it can collect a lot of data and kind of a snapshot of what's happening in a lot of people. So that's probably the most common way for them that you will see a measure take place or an outcome measure.

Last spring CMS released a report that they are a final rule or to set up a rule that with measures ways to understand if HCBS is being person-centered, therefore, it's become a priority. And these measures are even more important than they were before. CMS released a proposed rule last spring, to help improve the measurement of person centered outcomes within HCBS. Therefore, our project falls perfectly within that space. We see our measure kind of filling some gaps of current surveys and measures that exists specifically, we're trying to find a way to include it into the planning process. So it becomes part of the process in order to determine the quality of services. And therefore, we can identify if providers are doing a job, if counties are doing a job,

Shirley Ryan





it was easy to understand for all individuals. The second piece is, we would ask why they answered the way they did. And what this allows us to do is really understand if conceptually if they're going to the same place that we want **them**.

