Easy Read Edition

Institutions: The Old, The New, And What We Should Do

Words to Know
The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA)

A law that came out in 1990. The ADA gave people with disabilities rights.

DD Act

A law that got made in 1975. It helps protect the rights of people with developmental disabilities.
Developmental Disability Bill of Rights

Part of the DD Act. It lists what rights we have when we get LTSS. It also made rules that institutions have to follow.

Home and community-based services (HCBS)

Getting LTSS in the community.
**HCBS Settings Rule**

A rule the government made. It makes sure that Medicaid money set aside for HCBS goes to the right places.

**Institutions**

Places where a lot of disabled people live. People living in institutions did not decide to live there. They usually can’t leave when they want to.
Long-term services and supports (LTSS)

Services that help people with disabilities live our everyday lives. Some kinds of LTSS are job coaches and in-home helpers.

Medicaid

A health care program in the United States. Medicaid helps people with disabilities get health care.
Olmstead

A big court case in 1999. It says that you have a right to live in the community. It says that you don’t have to live in an institution.

State hospitals

The first kind of institutions.
State schools

The first institutions just for people with intellectual disabilities.

Supreme Court

The biggest court in the United States. They have the final say on how laws work.
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