Texas Department of Aging and Disability Services: Stated Interest Lists

Pat Morse: The very next page is very important, and this is what parents really need to look at and that is a stated interest list. For most of us we consider it the interest list, in reality, it is a wait list. DADs is very clear that it is a wait list, but they call it an ‘Interest List’ when you are looking at the menu. The interest list is very important for your child to get on as soon as possible because there is no charge to do so, and you do not have to prove a disability at that time. An interest list only means that you are giving your name for parent or guardian, the student’s name, your address, and a phone number where you can be reached. By law, DADs must contact you once a year to make sure that you are still wanting to be on that list for your ward or student. If that’s ‘yes,’ then they are required to keep you on there. They also tell you where you are on the list if you ask them. Keep in mind that some of the interest lists for Medicaid waiver could be ten years or more. So, it is really important to get on as many lists as possible. In terms of the interest list, later on the DADs website, you can actually pull that information up.

Again, I caution you, please do not be overwhelmed because there are some interest lists that are called in to the local authority, which for us is MHMR Authority of the Brazos Valley. Their phone number is 979-822-6467. You will call there and simply ask for intake IDD services. When they answer the phone just say you want the interest list, and tell them what waiver programs you want the interest list. There are other interest lists that the Department of Aging and Disability Services, in Austin (the central office), actually keep the interest lists for themselves for several of the major IDD waiver lists. There is a list of, again, both of them. I have separated them into the ones that MHMR need to be called and the ones that you actually call DADs directly. CLASS is a major list that most people want to have their child on. That is Community Living and Assistance Support Service (CLASS) because it has many of the services that people need including paying for dental. The Home and Community Service List, however, you have to go through the local authority for. So, it is very important to know which list you call where, and it’s all stated in that DADs website when you get to that link.