Developmental Disabilities Administration (DDA) Updates

Bernard Simons, DDA Deputy Secretary

March 25, 2022
Agenda

Opening Remarks
  • Developmental Disabilities Awareness Month
  • Appendix K
  • National Core Indicators® Staff Stability Survey 2022

DDA’s Six Focus Areas
  • Overview
  • Advancements and Spotlights

Operations Updates
  • Rate Setting
  • LTSSMaryland—DDA Module Expansion

COVID-19 Response
Section One:
Developmental Disabilities Awareness Month
Appendix K Flexibilities Extension
National Core Indicators® Staff Stability Survey 2022
March is Developmental Disabilities Awareness Month

- Proclamation from Governor Hogan
- #DDAM and #DDawareness2022
- Cerebral Palsy Awareness Month
- Trisomy Awareness Month
- Traumatic Brain Injury Awareness Month
- World Down Syndrome Day
- National Cerebral Palsy Awareness Day

facebook.com/MarylandDDA/
Deputy Secretary’s Update

Appendix K Extension

• Those flexibilities scheduled to terminate on March 31, 2022 were extended to June 30, 2022.

• Meaningful Day Services billed via PCIS2 will require minimum of 3 hours.

• Current guidance for these flexibilities has been updated on the DDA website: health.maryland.gov/dda/Pages/DDA_Appendix_K.aspx

• While this extension provides more time, planning for the transition remains important and discussions should be occurring now with teams.
Deputy Secretary’s Update

National Core Indicators® Staff Stability Survey 2022

• The National Core Indicators®-IDD (NCI®-IDD) Staff Stability Survey gathers data on the workforce of Direct Support Professionals (DSPs) serving adults with intellectual and developmental disabilities age 18 and older

• The information you provide is important to state policymakers and advocates who will use the data to guide decisions

• Letters with unique login credentials and instructions will be sent to providers starting April 1, 2022

• Survey completion is due by June 30, 2022

• For questions, contact Leslie Stusiak, Director of Provider Services
  Leslie.Stusiak@Maryland.gov
Section Two
Advancements in DDA’s Six Focus Areas
Deputy Secretary’s Update

DDA Focus Areas

- Self-Determination
- Self-Advocacy
- Supporting Families
- Independent Living
- Employment
- Assistive Technology
Deputy Secretary’s Update

Self-Determination (Self-Direction)
• People plan their own lives
• People make their own decisions
• People plan and choose their own supports and determine how resources are spent for them
• People take responsibility for the decisions made
Deputy Secretary’s Update

Self-Determination (Self-Direction)

- MDH Memo - Personal Supports - Overnight Supports
- PolicyStat - Personal Supports
  - Overnight support must be documented in the PCP Risks section as one of the mitigation efforts in addressing applicable behavior or medical risk
- PCP Update for State-Funded to Waiver Services
- SDS Budget Sheet line item for Personal Supports - Awake Overnight Supports
Deputy Secretary’s Update

Self-Determination (Self-Direction)

• **SDS Budget Allocation Rate Change Guidance**
  • **Scenario #1** - Participants with an approved PCP and SDS budget prior to April 1, 2022, do not need to take any action
  • **Scenario #2** - Applicants/Participants working with their teams on PCPs created in LTSSMaryland before April 1, 2022, will need to document the pre-April 1, 2022 detailed service authorization proposed budget allocations before April 1, 2022.
  • **Scenario #3** - PCPs, SDS budget allocations, and SDS budgets created in LTSSMaryland – DDA Module on April 1, 2022, or later, will be based on the April 2022 rates
Deputy Secretary’s Update

Self-Determination (Self-Direction) Resources

• Self-Directed Services
• Self-Directed Services A Handbook for People with Developmental Disabilities Who Are Interested in Directing their DDA Services in Maryland - Revised Jan 31, 2022
• Self-Directed Services Guidance, Forms, and Webinars
Deputy Secretary’s Update

Self-Advocacy

- Speaking up for yourself and the things that are important to you
- Being able to ask for what you need and want and tell people about your thoughts and feelings
- Speaking up for your rights and making choices and decisions
Deputy Secretary’s Update

Patricia Porter, SMRO
Advocacy Specialist
patricia.porter@maryland.gov

Advocacy Specialists At-a-Glance - March 7, 2022
## Deputy Secretary’s Update

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<th>DDA Region</th>
<th>Counties Served</th>
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<tr>
<td>Western Maryland</td>
<td>Allegany, Carroll, Frederick, Garrett, Washington</td>
<td>Jessica Stine</td>
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<td></td>
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<td>Office: 240-313-4225</td>
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<tr>
<td>Southern Maryland</td>
<td>Montgomery, Prince George’s, Charles, Calvert, St. Mary’s</td>
<td>Patricia Porter</td>
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<td></td>
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<td>Cell: 410-456-8864</td>
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<tr>
<td>Central Maryland</td>
<td>Harford, Baltimore, Howard, Anne Arundel, Baltimore City</td>
<td>Cheryl Gottlieb</td>
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<td>Cell: 443-835-5030</td>
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Deputy Secretary’s Update

Supporting Families

• Create practices and provide Services that promote and maximize capacity, strengths, and unique abilities of families to support their family members

• Connect *Families to Families* to support one another

• Increase access to resources, support and services
Deputy Secretary’s Update

Supporting Families: Upcoming Webinars

March 30, 2022 at Noon - Your CCS: Building Successful Relationships
• Maryland Community of Practice for Supporting Families Webinar

April 27, 2022 at Noon - "Self-Direction: Living your best life!"
Deputy Secretary’s Update

2022 Annual National Meeting for the Community of Practice for Supporting Families - April 12, 2022

The 6th Annual Charting the LifeCourse Showcase – April 13 and 14, 2022

For additional information contact: Mary.kane-breschi@maryland.gov, Director of Family Supports
Deputy Secretary’s Update

Independent Living

• The choice of where and how to live
• Opportunities to use and learn new skills
• Living just like everyone else
• Having the opportunities to make decisions that affects one’s life
• Pursue activities of one’s choosing
Deputy Secretary’s Update

Independent Living

• This year the National Association of State Directors of Developmental Disabilities Services (NASDDDS) Mid-Year Conference will focus on the importance of collaboration with community partners. Our own Deputy Secretary Simons along with Tim Wiens, Director of Maryland Inclusive Housing, will present on Maryland’s expansion of Housing opportunities for Individuals with Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities. The conference is June 16th and 17th 2022.

• **DDA Rent Subsidy Program** - A tenant-based subsidy program similar to the housing choice voucher program, that provides rental subsidies to individuals with developmental disabilities who chose to live independently.
Deputy Secretary’s Update

DDA’s Rent Subsidy Educational Opportunities

• **April 7**- Will provide families, providers and people receiving services with an overview of DDA’s Housing Support Services. To Register [https://register.gotowebinar.com/register/1044124151454034190](https://register.gotowebinar.com/register/1044124151454034190)

• **April 11**- Will introduce the rent subsidy program to Coordinators of Community Service and Housing Support Specialist agencies, and provide guidance on how the two work together to assist individuals obtain and maintain housing. To Register [https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/8577849182115024908](https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/8577849182115024908)

• **April 29** - Will provide families, people in services and providers with information about the new DDA Rent Subsidy Program [https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/4292231033501230349](https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/4292231033501230349)
Employment

Using each person’s strengths, interests, and skills to support competitive integrated employment opportunities
Deputy Secretary’s Update

Spotlight: MD Training & Technical Assistance Project (MD-TAP)

Goal: Support providers to expand capacity to support people to obtain and succeed in competitive, integrated employment

Why? To assist providers with expanding their capacity to support people to obtain and succeed in competitive, integrated employment
Deputy Secretary’s Update

MD-TAP Technical Assistance

- 8 DDA providers
- 13 months

TA includes

- Strategic organizational assessment
- Virtual site visit
- Individual Action Plan
- Ongoing technical assistance including monthly Zoom meetings
- Learning Community (8-10 sessions)
Deputy Secretary’s Update

MD-TAP Leadership & Management Training

Who:

▪ Mid-level Managers and emerging leaders in employment or meaningful day supports
▪ Up to 3 staff from each participating provider

What:

▪ 7 Online lessons: accessed through Learning Management System
▪ Each month 1 new topic is introduced & fieldwork is assigned
▪ Monthly Zoom follow-up sessions on that month’s topic & fieldwork

Commitment:

▪ Complete online classes & fieldwork, and attend/participate in meetings
Deputy Secretary’s Update

Who Should Apply?

✔ Any current DDA employment service provider in the state of Maryland is eligible to apply

✔ Organizations with a commitment to shifting the focus of services from center-based supports to competitive integrated employment

Cohort 1 members may not reapply to participate
Deputy Secretary’s Update

How to Apply

Complete an online application

Include a signed letter of commitment from both:

- the organization's CEO/executive director
- the Board of Directors

Applications due April 14th
Deputy Secretary’s Update

For more information

View a recorded webinar; or contact

Stephanie Jones, Maryland DDA
stephanie.jones2@maryland.gov

Institute for Community Inclusion:
Cecilia Gandolfo, cecilia.gandolfo@umb.edu, or
John Butterworth, john.butterworth@umb.edu
Deputy Secretary’s Update

Assistive Technology

Provides support and assistance for people to:

- Increase independence
- Overcome challenges
- Become more connected to their communities
Spotlight: Maryland Technology First Kickoff

- The DDA in partnership with self-advocates, families and the provider community, is gearing to unveil the Maryland Technology First Kickoff on August 15, 2022
- The Technology First Committee will announce and declare Maryland becoming a Technology First state, in which all Marylanders with disabilities will be empowered to have access to technology that will enhance their ability to pursue their best life as they define it
- To allow the community and stakeholders to experience what technology is available to assist people in experiencing life, where life takes place
- Introduce resources on how technology can be obtained and/or purchased
- For further information contact Stephanie.Jones2@maryland.gov
Section Three: Operations Update
Deputy Secretary’s Update

LTSSMaryland Rates - Effective 4/1/2022
• LTSSMaryland Fee-for-Service
  • Does not apply to PCIS2 rates

Notable Changes
• Community Living Group Home (CLGH)
• Community Development Services (CDS)
• Meaningful Day Services
• Personal Supports/Personal Supports Enhanced

Rate Review Advisory Group Link: https://health.maryland.gov/dda/Pages/RATE-REVIEW-ADVISORY-GROUP.aspx
Deputy Secretary’s Update

**LTSSMaryland–DDA Module Expansion**

- 22 providers remain committed to the 2A pilot this spring (April - June)

- Confirmed 25 Phase 2B providers (scoping in process) with Go-Live dates planned July-September
Section Four:

COVID-19 Response and Resources
Deputy Secretary’s Update

COVID-19 Booster

• DDA Booster data – 5,700 people supported
  ● CMRO-2,773
  ● ESRO-478
  ● SMRO-1,794
  ● WMRO-655
  ● Increase of 1,399 since last webinar in January

• Local Health Departments for testing and Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) supplies

• Find a vaccination site and make an appointment near you here at covidvax.maryland.gov or call 1-855-MD-GOVAX
Deputy Secretary’s Update-Resources

- **SMRO** - Onesta Duke
  onesta.duke@maryland.gov

- **ESRO** - Kim Gscheidle
  kimberly.gscheidle@maryland.gov

- **CMRO** - Bianca Renwick
  bianca.renwick@maryland.gov

- **WMRO** - Cathy Marshall
  cathy.marshall@maryland.gov

DDA’s Regional Offices

- Central Maryland
- Eastern Shore
- Southern Maryland
- Western Maryland
Upcoming Monthly Webinars

Please join us for all of our 1:00 p.m. Friday webinars:

April 29
May 27
June 24
July 29
August 26
September 30
October 28
November 17
December 16

To register for Monthly Webinars with Deputy Secretary Bernie Simons:

https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/6873417036092171790

After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the webinar.
Questions