Developmental Disabilities Administration (DDA) Updates

Bernard Simons, DDA Deputy Secretary

June 12, 2020
Deputy Secretary’s Agenda

• Opening Remarks
• DDA Regional Office Update
• Carol A. Beatty, Secretary, Department of Disability
• Christy H. Stuart, Ed.D. Chief for Secondary Transition, Division of Early Intervention and Special Education Services Maryland State Department of Education
• Lori Markland, Executive Director, Assistive Technology Program, Maryland Department of Disabilities
• Questions
Deputy Secretary’s Opening Remarks

• This week you heard Governor Hogan announce the continuation of Stage Two of Maryland’s COVID-19 Recovery, Safe and Gradual Reopening of Workplaces and Businesses

• The DDA’s highest priority is the health, safety, and wellbeing of people with intellectual and developmental disabilities, their families, staff, and providers

• Thank you to those of you that have expressed an interest in working with the Regional Directors in the reopening discussion at a local level
Regional Updates

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

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

• CMRO- Nicholas Burton
  nicholas.burton@maryland.gov

• WMRO- Cathy Marshall
  cathy.marshall@maryland.gov
There are 17,764 people supported in services by the DDA of which 2% have tested positive for COVID-19.
There have been 363 participants reported as having tested positive for COVID-19 of which there have been 28 deaths.

The 28 deaths represents approximately 7% of all (363) participants that tested positive.
The DDA Commitment

• We will continue to share information and resources
• We will continue to collaborate and advocate on behalf of the people you support, their families, and staff
• We will help Marylanders with intellectual and developmental disabilities thrive
• We will continue to keep you updated
Carol A. Beatty, Secretary

Department of Disabilities
Department of Disabilities

Mission
Changing Maryland for the better by promoting equality of opportunity, access, and choice for Marylanders with disabilities

Vision
Committed to the promise of a Maryland in which all people with disabilities have the knowledge and influence to make a difference in their lives and the lives of others
Christy H. Stuart, Ed.D. Chief for Secondary Transition

Division of Early Intervention and Special Education Services
Maryland State Department of Education
SECONDARY TRANSITION

Transitioning Youth
June 12, 2020
Secondary Transition During COVID-19

Challenges

- Implementation of Transition Activities (summer)
- Recovery Plan & Process
- Agency Linkages

Responses

- Delivery of instruction in a virtual and distance learning environment
- Recovery Plan-Secondary Transition Considerations across various partners
- Referral, application, seeking support and partnership
Autism Waiver (AW) Transitioning Youth (TY) During COVID-19

**Challenges**
- Continuity of service provision
- Seamless transition from AW to DDA services
- Constantly evolving response to COVID-19
- Time sensitive
- Information sharing/Involvement of all partners

**Responses**
- Submitted Appendix K
  - *Granted AW flexibilities and increased service hours*
- Coordinated services
- Instituted TY Surveys with AW Service Coordinators
- Enhanced partnerships between AW Service Coordinators and CCS Workers
- Shared tracking spreadsheet on the status of 126 AW participants
- Allowing parent choice to ensure continuum of service delivery
Lessons Learned During COVID-19

- Enhanced Engagement
- Virtual Delivery of Instruction & Services
- Creative Support Strategies
- Guidance is Constantly Evolving
- Relationships are STILL a Priority
- Communication is CRITICAL!
Resources

Navigating Secondary Transition Services for Students with Disabilities during COVID-19


Resources to Support Students with Disabilities during the COVID-19 Pandemic

https://marylandlearninglinks.org/COVID-19/

Appendix K: Emergency Preparedness and Response and COVID-19 Addendum

Lori Markland, Executive Director
Maryland Assistive Technology Program
Department of Disabilities
Maryland Assistive Technology Program

MARYLAND DEPARTMENT OF DISABILITIES
Why I do what I do...

- Have 3 kids, a bonus kiddo, and a dog
- Lived in Baltimore City my entire adult life
- Undergraduate and graduate degrees from the University of Baltimore (English & Creative Writing)
- Worked with MDTAP for 20 years!
- Have a child with Nonverbal learning disability, ADHD, and severe anxiety
- Been part of the IEP process & integrating AT as a support for learning for my own daughter
- Weekly services through Kennedy Krieger Institute
ABOUT US

Maryland TAP provides statewide access to assistive technology (AT) through equipment demonstrations, loans, reuse, financing, and training.

www.mdtap.org
WHAT IS ASSISTIVE TECHNOLOGY?

Definition of Assistive Technology (AT)

any item, device, or piece of equipment used to maintain or improve the functionality of people with disabilities, allowing them to be more independent in education, employment, and community living activities.
What Technology Gets Us

“technology makes things possible.”

IBM training manual - 1991
How do you access information about and acquire Assistive Technology devices for yourself, family members, or clients to enhance life, work, and play?

Access

Contact your State AT Program for more information on AT devices and usage.

Information & Assistance

Device Demonstration

AT Professionals will demonstrate different devices according to your particular needs.

Device Loan

You can borrow devices to try at home, school, work, or play.

Reutilization

You can acquire the desired device. Some gently used devices may be acquired at little or no cost.

Acquisition

State Financing

Other financing options are also available.
WhAT We Do

- Run three AT Libraries across the state (Central Baltimore, Southern Maryland, and Eastern Shore)
- Conduct AT demonstrations with AT Clinicians
- Issue short-term device loans
- Host webinars, trainings, and presentations on AT
- Online equipment reuse exchange (buy, sell, giveaway AT & medical equipment)
- Maryland High-tech AT Reuse Center (housed in the Loan Closet of Howard County)
- Conduct a low-interest financial loan program
- Run the Central Baltimore, Western Maryland and Southern Maryland adapted telephone evaluation centers and assessment program
More of What We Offer

Virtual AT Library
Home Modifications Directory
Loan Closet Directory
What you’ll find in our library!
More of what you’ll find!
iDevices & Apps...
The options are almost endless.
A place for those who have & those who need

MDTAP maintains MATER, an equipment exchange site through Facebook Yardsale

Maryland Assistive Technology Equipment Reuse

walkers, magnifiers, adapted vehicles, beds, lifts, etc.
MD AT REUSE (MATR) EQUIPMENT
➢ CCTVs/Video Magnifiers/Magnifiers
➢ iDevices
➢ Adapted computer keyboards, mice, switches
➢ Speech communication devices
➢ Amplified telephones
➢ And more

Visit MATR By Appointment Only –
7125 Riverwood Drive, Suite D1 Columbia, MD 21046
To schedule a MATR donation, consultation, or pickup, contact 443-326-9703
matr@mdtap.org
AT Financial Loan Program

- Provides low-interest loans to Maryland residents with disabilities or their families to buy assistive technology
- Covers all types of AT including vehicles, computers, home modifications, and more
- Loan amounts - $500 - $50,000
- Interest rates usually one point below prime
- Approves many loans that would be turned down by conventional lenders
Discounted Assistive Technology – Purchasing Cooperative

MDTAP partners with AT Discount Sales & Services LLC to access the lowest prices for AT when purchasing items for our AT libraries.

AT Discount Sales & Services LLC provides discounts and product information for all AT product needs.

410-290-1327
amanda@atdiscount.net
www.atdiscount.net
Maryland Accessible Telecommunications

MDTAP maintains 3 adapted telephone evaluation centers across the state – Baltimore City, Cumberland (Western MD), and Mechanicsville (Southern MD)

Our lead communications device evaluator provides assessments and installation support to consumers in the three regions we serve.
MD AT Info Everywhere

Where It’s AT – Our award-winning AT Blog

Find us on Facebook -

Follow us on Twitter -

Watch us on YouTube –
CONTACT US

Central Office

Maryland Technology Assistance Program
2301 Argonne Drive, T-42
Baltimore, MD 21218
(800) 832-4827 (voice)
(866) 881-7488 (TTY)
(410) 554-9237 (fax)
mdtap@mdtap.org (e-mail)
www.mdtap.org (web)
Eastern Shore
Demonstration & Loan Library

Bay Area Center for Independent Living, Inc.

909 Progress Circle, Ste. 300
Salisbury, MD 21804
443-260-0822 (voice)
443-260-0833 (fax)
http://bayareacil.org/ (web)
Southern Maryland
Demonstration & Loan Library

Southern MD Center for Independent Living

38588 Brett Way, Suite 1
Mechanicsville, MD 20659
301-884-4498
info@smcil.org
www.smcil.org
Questions