Developmental Disabilities Administration (DDA) Updates

Bernard Simons, DDA Deputy Secretary

October 2, 2020
Deputy Secretary’s Agenda

- Opening Remarks
- Deputy Secretary Update
- COVID-19 Regional Update
- National Disability Employment Awareness Month Advocacy Support
- Person-Centered Plan Development and Authorization Guidance
- Questions
Deputy Secretary’s Opening Remarks

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

• The DDA is committed to transparency with all of our stakeholders to ensure we are all working with the same information to support our shared missions

• Thank you for your continued support in joining me during these webcast so that we can stay in-touch and be able to provide you with the most current information
Deputy Secretary’s Opening Remarks

• You should have received Deputy Secretary Bernard Simons Memorandum 9.29.20 on our implementation of the Electronic Visit Verification for Personal Support going live for providers only operating in Easter Shore and Western Regions.

• As of today, we are please to report that Providers and Coordinator of Community Services are working very close with their Regional staff. We are conducting check-in meeting to ensure a smooth transition.
Deputy Secretary’s Opening Remarks

• The DDA in partnership with the Department of Disabilities are completing the fourth of four reports tracking the phase out of subminimum wage in Maryland. The Individuals with Disabilities Minimum Wage and Community Integration-Ken Capone Equal Employment Act Annual report will reflect that as of October 1st there will be no Maryland providers who pay their employees subminimum wage under the 14c certificate
Deputy Secretary’s Opening Remarks

Amendment #3

• Public comment period ended on September 30, 2020

• The DDA appreciates your feedback and all recommendations will be taken into consideration

• The DDA is reviewing all public comments during the month of October and will post the summary input recommendations and the DDA’s responses on the DDA website the first week in November
COVID-19 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 4% (664) have tested positive for COVID-19.
There have been 625 participants reported as having tested positive for COVID-19 of which there have been 39 deaths.

The 39 deaths represents approximately 6% of all (644) participants that tested positive.
Staci Jones, DDA Employment Services

Employment Data Initiatives
October: National Disability Employment Awareness Month (NDEAM)

- DDA hosting NDEAM webinar
- Friday, October 9 10am-12noon
- Registration on DDA Training Calendar
- Agenda:
  - Governor’s proclamation
  - Celebrating Essential Workers
  - Technology and Remotes Supports
  - Celebrating the Phase-out of Subminimum Wage in Maryland
  - Innovation and Looking to the Future

Stories to share? Contact Staci.Jones@Maryland.gov
October: National Disability Employment Awareness Month (NDEAM)

- 2020 NDEAM Theme: "Increasing Access and Opportunity"
- DDA will be posting NDEAM content on Facebook
- Sharing and highlighting success stories
- #NDEAM #NDEAM75 #EmploymentFirst

Stories to share? Contact Staci.Jones@Maryland.gov
Regional Office Advocacy Specialists

Advocacy Support Unit
Advocacy Support Unit

• Each DDA Regional office has an Advocacy Specialists that:
  • Build relationships
  • Support other people with disabilities to learn and understand DDA
  • Conduct trainings
  • Facilitate self-advocacy groups
  • Provide general support to a person’s support team
Eastern Shore Regional Office-ESRO

Cody Drinkwater- Eastern Shore Regional Advocacy Specialist
Cody.Drinkwater@Maryland.gov

Areas of Expertise:
● Internet safety
● Stigma on people with disabilities
Jessica Stine - Western Maryland Regional Advocacy Specialist  
Jessica.Stine@Maryland.gov

Areas of Expertise:
- Accessibility and Adaptive Technology
- Your rights in DDA services
- Blindness
- Resources
- Information overview on DDA Waivers
Southern Maryland Regional Office-SMRO

Nicole LeBlanc - Southern Maryland Regional Advocacy Specialist
nicole.leblanc@Maryland.gov

Areas of Expertise:
- Transitioning Youth
- Employment
- ABLE Act
- How work affects Benefits
Central Maryland Regional Office-CMRO

Cheryl Gottlieb- Central Maryland Regional Advocacy Specialist
Cheryl.Gottlieb@Maryland.gov

Areas of Expertise:
● Mental health
● Housing
Regional Small Group Discussions

Advocacy Specialists will be hosting:
• Virtual sessions
• Small group discussions (maximum 20 people per session)
• Various time slots to meet needs of various schedules

Topic:
• Living in a Post Pandemic World:
  A Peer-to-Peer Discussion About Dealing with the Impact of COVID 19
Regional Small Group Discussions

- Session times and registration links will be sent out in the coming weeks
- Conversations are confidential
- If there is demand, more sessions may be added
- Each quarter, discussion themes will be added
Regional Small Group Discussions

What can you do?

- Talk to people in services about this opportunity
- Provide support to people to get registered
- Provide support to people to participate, if needed

Note:

- These small group discussions are intended for people in DDA services only
- These discussions are not intended for providers or family members, unless providing direct support to the person to participate
# Contact Information

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<thead>
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<th>DDA Region</th>
<th>Counties Served</th>
<th>Advocacy Specialist</th>
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Nicholas Burton, CMRO Regional Director
Rhonda Workman, Director of Federal Programs

Person-Centered Plan Development and Authorization
Person-Centered Plan Development and Authorization

- The DDA has been listening to stakeholders regarding the Person-Centered Plan (PCP) processes and have made some enhancements.
- We have recently been sharing information on processes, procedures, and tools to create a robust plan to meet the person’s defined Good Life.
Person-Centered Plan Development and Authorization

- Utilizing the principles and tools of Charting the LifeCourse (CtLC), Details Service Authorization Tool (DSAT), and the Cost Detail Tool to support communication, service request, and authorization for payments are essential as we are operating in both the PCIS2 and LTSSMaryland systems.
Person-Centered Plan Development and Authorization

• On October 1st, we also shared communication regarding the discontinuation of the Modified Service Funding Plan (MSFP) processes

• Effective **October 15th, 2020**, any updates or changes based on a person’s assessed needs to their Person-Centered Plan (PCP) will be facilitated by the person’s Coordinator of Community Services (CCS) via a **PCP annual update** and as needed **revision** processes in the LTSSMaryland system
Person-Centered Plan Development and Authorization

- By transitioning from the legacy MSFP process to the PCP Annual update and revisions processes, we are successfully moving forward in our goal to create a person driven system. There are additional benefits to this transition as well:
  - Greater team collaboration, planning, and flexibility for the plan year to decrease the need for Revised PCPs throughout the year
  - Increased efficiencies in submitting, reviewing, and approving changes to a PCP
  - Streamlines our PCP process to ensure the PCP is a living document reflecting the person as a whole throughout the year
Person-Centered Plan Development and Authorization

- The DDA has created the Person-Centered Plan Development and Authorization standard operational procedures to support stakeholders

- A comprehensive review of the pre-planning, development, approval, and authorization processes for all Initial, Annual, and Revised PCP

- Applicable documents and tools (e.g. CtLC, DSAT, Cost Detail Tool, etc.) to help facilitate successful, robust, and timely PCP planning and implementation

Reference: Person-Centered Planning
Person-Centered Plan Development and Authorization

We are now going to provide an overview of the actual Person-Centered Plan Development and Authorization guidance.
Questions