



# Developmental Disabilities Administration **Community Meeting**

January 30, 2025



# Conduct

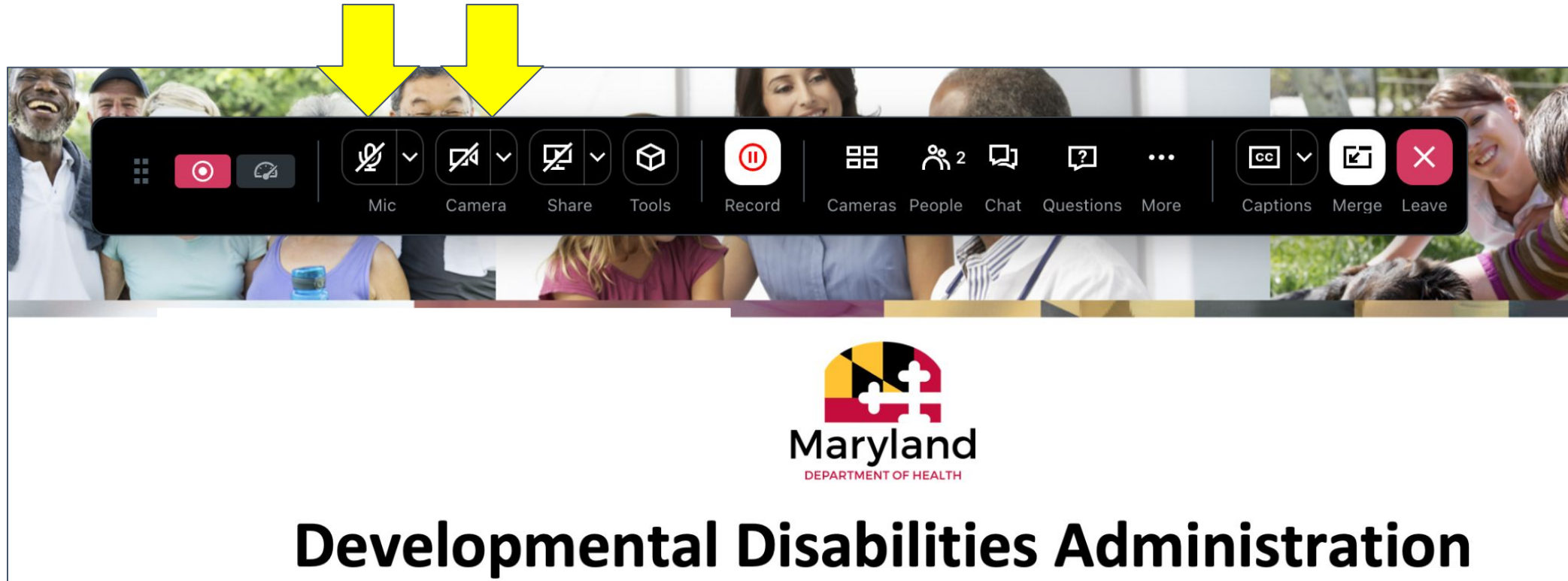
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The free expression of diverse viewpoints is a fundamental value of our group. This freedom carries the responsibility to engage respectfully, which means treating one another with dignity and respect in good faith.

Uncivil behavior, disruptive actions, abusive language, threats, or harassment will not be tolerated and may result in removal from the meeting.

# Housekeeping

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The image shows a Zoom meeting interface. Two yellow arrows point to the 'Mic' and 'Camera' controls in the top toolbar. The toolbar includes icons for Mic, Camera, Share, Tools, Record, Cameras, People, Chat, Questions, More, Captions, Merge, and Leave. Below the toolbar, the Maryland Department of Health logo is displayed, featuring a stylized cross and the text 'Maryland DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH'. Below the logo, the text 'Developmental Disabilities Administration' is written in a large, bold, black font.

# Housekeeping



A screenshot of a Zoom meeting interface. The toolbar is black with white icons and text. From left to right, the icons are: a grid icon, a red circle with a white dot, a brain icon, a microphone icon with a slash, a camera icon with a slash, a share icon with a slash, a cube icon, a red circle with a white pause symbol, a grid icon, a person icon with a '2', a chat icon, a question mark icon, a three-dot menu icon, a CC icon, a merge icon, and a red circle with a white X icon. Below the toolbar is a white banner with the Maryland Department of Health logo (a shield with a cross) and the text 'Maryland DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH' and 'Developmental Disabilities Administration' in large black font.

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# Welcome

# Leadership Updates

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**Antoine Williams**  
Director of Programs



# Agenda

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- Living Our Best Lives: Success Stories
- News and Updates
- Questions and Answers
- Public Comment

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# Living Our Best Lives: Success Stories



# Living Our Best Lives: Success Stories

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## Meet Candi!



# Living Our Best Lives: Success Stories

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Meet  
Matthew  
Clark!



# Living Our Best Lives: Success Stories

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## Meet John “JP” Henry!



# Living Our Best Lives: Success Stories

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Please send your photos and stories to Dr. Yemonja Smalls at [yemonja.smalls@maryland.gov](mailto:yemonja.smalls@maryland.gov) with the subject line “My Success.”

Also, please send the signed consent form [here](#) so we can include your pictures.

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# News and Updates



# DDA Cohort Updates

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- National Association of Dual Diagnosis (NADD) accreditation
- The Request for Application (RFA) for the Facilitation for the Dual Diagnosis Cohort
- Cohort 2: Organization-wide Positive Behavior Support Team Training

# Children's and Family Services Updates

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- Updates to the Local Care Team Process
- **The Council on Quality Leadership (CQL): Strengthening Services, Supporting Families, and Improving Lives Across Maryland**



# Housing Updates

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- **Money Follows the Person Program**
  - Housing Clearing House
    - <https://mih-inc.org/>*
  - Housing Committees
  - Rental Subsidy Program



# 988 and Mobile Crisis

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- The **988 Suicide & Crisis Lifeline** is a support helpline for people experiencing mental health or substance use emergencies. **People can call (or text or chat) 9-8-8 to talk and to connect with services.**
- **Maryland Mobile Crisis** is a group of behavioral health teams across the state.
  - Licensed mobile crisis providers in 14 jurisdictions
  - Training

# Project STIR (Steps Towards Independence and Responsibility)

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- Hands-on training for and by people with disabilities that is designed to provide the tools to be a good self advocate, connect with others in advocacy and gain leadership skills and experience.
- Training is provided by People on the Go through a contract with the Kennedy Krieger Institute.



Pictured: DDA's Cody Drinkwater and Governor Wes Moore

# Support Broker Certification

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- [Support Broker Training 2025 Registration](#)
- [Certified Support Broker Listing](#)

# Waiver Advisory Council

Participants will have the opportunity to advise on system design, service delivery, and quality enhancement strategies for the DDA-operated Medicaid waiver programs.



## Waiver Advisory Council

Help Shape Services for People with Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities



The Developmental Disabilities Administration (DDA) is looking for members to join the new Waiver Advisory Council. This group will help the DDA make services better for people with intellectual and developmental disabilities in Maryland. We need your voice, especially if you have personal experience using these services.

**What Will You Do?**

As a member, you will give advice on:

- How the DDA-operated Medicaid waiver programs are set up
- Making sure people can get the services they need
- Following Medicaid rules ([Access Rule](#))
- Improving the quality of services

**Who Can Join?**

We are looking for:

- People who receive Medicaid waiver services
- Family members
- Providers of services, including those licensed or certified by the DDA

**Time Commitment and Meetings**

The council meets every two months in person, with a virtual option using Google Meet. Meetings are open to the public, and anyone can attend. Agendas and meeting details are shared before each meeting. The Council follows a process where every voice matters, and everyone works together to find solutions. The meeting dates are:

- October 17, 2024, 1-2:30 p.m.
- December 2024 (TBA)
- February 2025 (TBA)
- April 2025 (TBA)
- June 2025 (TBA)
- August 2025 (TBA)

**How to apply:**

To apply, fill out the [Waiver Advisory Council application](#). Applications are open until all seats are filled. For help completing the form, call 410-767-5600.

**Contact Information:**

For more details or questions, please contact Rhonda Workman, Director of Federal Programs, DDA, at [rhonda.workman@maryland.gov](mailto:rhonda.workman@maryland.gov).

Make a difference today by joining the Waiver Advisory Council.



February 21, 2025	1-2:30 p.m.
April 17, 2025	1-2:30 p.m.
June 19, 2025	1-2:30 p.m.
August 21, 2025	1-2:30 p.m.
October 16, 2025	1-2:30 p.m.
December 18, 2025	1-2:30 p.m.

[REGISTER HERE](#)

# DDA FY 2026 Budget Overview (1 of 3)

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## Governor's DDA Budget

- Historic investment of \$1.3 Billion in State General Funds, equalling \$2.6 billion in combined State and federal funds. More than two-thirds more funding than in FY 2023.
- This investment will support:
  - Continued enrollment of new individuals into service (Transitioning Youth, individuals in crisis situations, and others).
  - Moderate rate increases for all services.
  - Continued investment in the LTSS *Maryland* system, reducing provider administrative burden and increasing performance for essential eligibility and access processes.

# DDA FY 2026 Budget Overview – Cost Containment Strategies

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- State-Funded Services
- Waiting List Equity Fund
- Geographical Differential
- Dedicated Hour Utilization
- Low Intensity Support Services (LISS)
- Reasonable and Customary Rates
- Wage Exceptions
- Individual and Family Directed Goods and Services



# DDA FY 2026 Budget Overview (3 of 3)

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## DDA Budget Hearings Schedule

- The DDA House Budget Hearing is on February 19, 2025.
- The DDA Senate Budget Hearing is on February 20, 2025.



# Transitioning Youth

FY 25 Applications All					
COUNTA of LTSS ID or MA #	DDA Regional Office (Responsible Region)				
<i>Financial Eligibility</i>	Central Maryland Regional Office	Eastern Shore Regional Office	Southern Maryland Regional Office	Western Maryland Regional Office	Grand Total
	115	9	82	22	228
Approve	237	40	208	74	559
Denied - Overscale Asset, Pending SRT				1	1
Deny	5		5	1	11
Not Needed	8	5	10	4	27
Pending Review	2		1		3
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>367</b>	<b>54</b>	<b>306</b>	<b>102</b>	<b>829</b>


# Eligibility Determination

<i>COUNTA of Financial Eligibility Determination Date</i>	<i>Regional Office (Responsible Region)</i>				
<i>Financial Elig.</i>	Central Maryland Regional Office	Eastern Shore Regional Office	Southern Maryland Regional Office	Western Maryland Regional Office	Grand Total
1052 Request for Information Issued	4		5		9
Approve	8	1	8	1	18
N/A Application Not Submitted	1			0	1
Pending - SRT Decision	1	1	1	2	5
Pending Review	1		0		1
Pending SRT - EDD Awaiting SRT Packet from Applicant	4		7		11
Pending SRT - SRT Team Awaiting Applicant to Provide Requested Medical Info	8	1	8	1	18
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>63</b>

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# What's Next?

# Reminders




**Maryland**  
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

## The DDA Connection

December 6, 2024

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FROM THE DESK OF  
**Marlana R. Hutchinson**  
Deputy Secretary  
Developmental Disabilities Administration

On November 15, DDA staff and I were honored to participate in the Maryland Department of Disabilities Direct Support Professional Awards. It was truly a privilege to recognize the important work that Direct Support Professionals do for Marylanders with disabilities every day.

As I mentioned at the event, we celebrate you as professionals and acknowledge the significant commitment you have made to the community of individuals with disabilities that we serve. Thanks to your dedication, many citizens with disabilities in Maryland can live more fulfilling lives in the communities of their choice.

In collaboration with the Maryland Department of Disabilities, the Maryland Department of Health's Developmental Disabilities Administration proudly celebrates Maryland's Direct Support Professionals. Although one specific week in September is dedicated to honoring your



# Sign up for the DDA Connection





# Rate Review Advisory Group

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## 2025 Rate Review Advisory Group Meeting Schedule

- Thursday, February 6, 2025 12:30 to 1:45 PM
- Thursday, March 6, 2025 12:30 to 1:45 PM
- Thursday, April 10, 2025 12:30 to 1:45 PM
- Thursday, May 29, 2025 12:30 to 1:45 PM
- Thursday, July 10, 2025 12:30 to 1:45 PM
- Thursday, August 21, 2025 12:30 to 1:45 PM

[REGISTER HERE](#)

# 2025 Regional Provider Meetings

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<p><b>Southern Maryland Regional Office:</b> 4/8/2025, 7/8/2025, and 10/14/2025</p>	<p><a href="#">REGISTER HERE</a></p>
<p><b>Central Maryland Regional Office:</b> 4/9/2025, 7/9/2025, and 10/8/2025</p>	<p><a href="#">REGISTER HERE</a></p>
<p><b>Western Maryland Regional Office:</b> 4/10/2025, 7/10/2025, and 10/9/2025</p>	<p><a href="#">REGISTER HERE</a></p>
<p><b>Eastern Shore Regional Office:</b> 4/17/2025, 7/17/2025, and 10/16/2025</p>	<p><a href="#">REGISTER HERE</a></p>



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# Questions & Answers and Public Comment

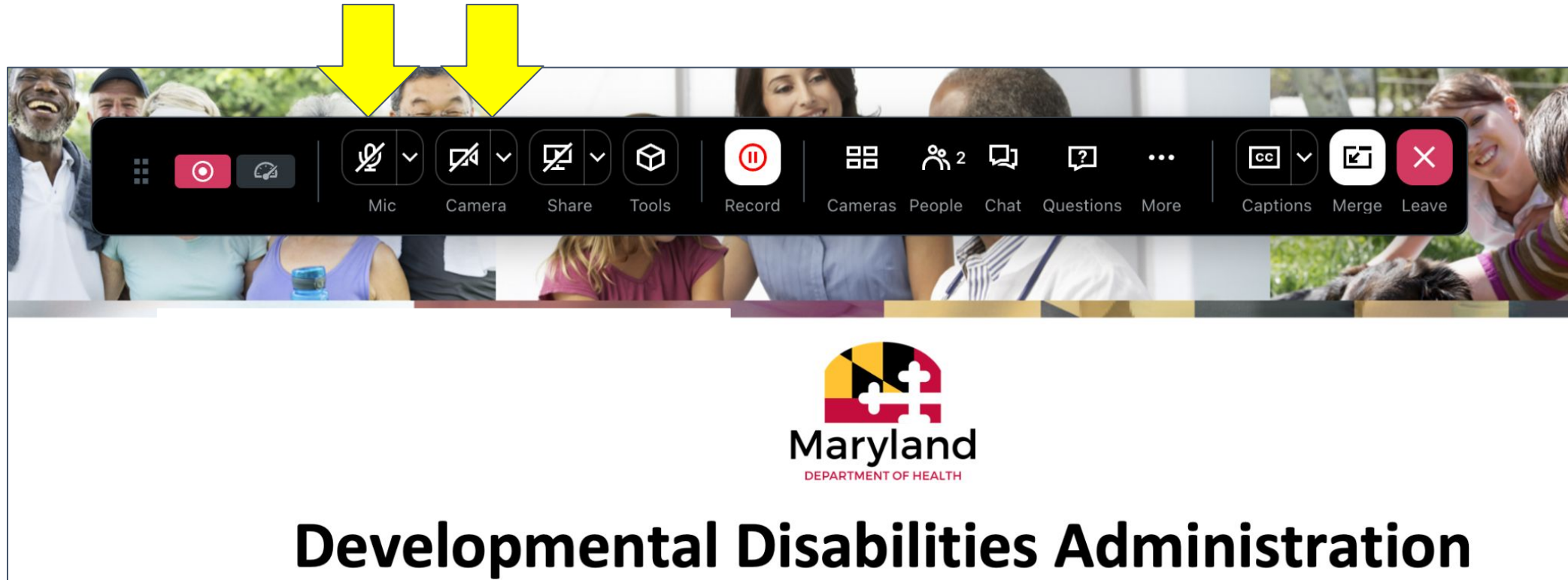
# Questions & Answers

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Thank you for sending questions before today's meeting! We will share responses to the most common questions.


We will also respond to as many questions as possible received in the question box, before proceeding to the public comment section.

# Housekeeping



The image shows a Zoom meeting interface. At the top, a banner features a group of diverse people. Below the banner is a black control bar with various icons: a grid icon, a red camera icon, a grey camera icon, a microphone icon with a slash, a camera icon with a slash, a share icon with a slash, a tools icon, a record icon, a cameras icon, a people icon with '2', a chat icon, a questions icon, a more icon, a captions icon, a merge icon, and a leave icon. Two yellow arrows point down to the microphone and camera icons. Below the control bar is a white banner with the Maryland Department of Health logo and the text "Developmental Disabilities Administration".

Mic Camera Share Tools Record Cameras People Chat Questions More Captions Merge Leave


  
**Maryland**  
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

**Developmental Disabilities Administration**

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Mic Camera Share Tools Record Cameras People Chat Questions More Captions Merge Leave

  
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## Developmental Disabilities Administration

# Public Comment

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02:00

# Living Our Best Lives: Success Stories

