



Developmental Disabilities Administration **Waiver Advisory Council**

October 17, 2024



Agenda

- Welcome and Housekeeping
- Introduction of Members
- Membership Recruitment Discussion
- Council Member Supports
- Purpose and Review of Charter
- Nomination Process for Voting Co-Chair
- Formation of Waiver Recommendations Workgroup
- Future Meetings
- Public Comment

Waiver Advisory Council

Welcome

Waiver Advisory Council

Housekeeping

Housekeeping

Developmental Disabilities Administration
Waiver Advisory Council

October 17, 2024

Yemonja Smalls -MDH-

Zoom Meeting Controls: Mute, Video, Chat, Raise Hand, etc.

- Meeting recorded
- Please mute your device
- Questions/Comments (chat or “raise hand” feature)
- Introduce yourself prior to speaking
- Public comment period at end of meeting

Waiver Advisory Council

Introduction of Members

Membership - People and Families



- People with lived experience
- Family members

Membership - Providers



DDA Providers

- Licensed
- Certified
- Coordination of Community Services
- Financial Management and Counseling Services

Membership - Advocacy Groups



Advocacy Groups

- Maryland Ethnic Advocacy Group
- Maryland Center for Developmental Disabilities
- Maryland Developmental Disabilities Council
- Self-Directed Advocacy Network of Maryland
- Parents' Place of Maryland

Non-Voting Membership - Legislator(s)



Non-Voting Membership - State Agencies

- Maryland Department of Disabilities
- Maryland Department of Housing and Community Development
- Maryland Department of Human Services
- Maryland State Department of Education - Division of Rehabilitation Services

Non-Voting Membership - Maryland Department of Health Administrations and Offices

- Developmental Disabilities Administration
- Behavioral Health Administration
- Office of Long Term Services and Supports
- Office of Health Care Quality
- Office of Eligibility Services - Eligibility Determination Division
- LTSS*Maryland* Program Management Office

Non-Voting Membership - National Advocacy Groups

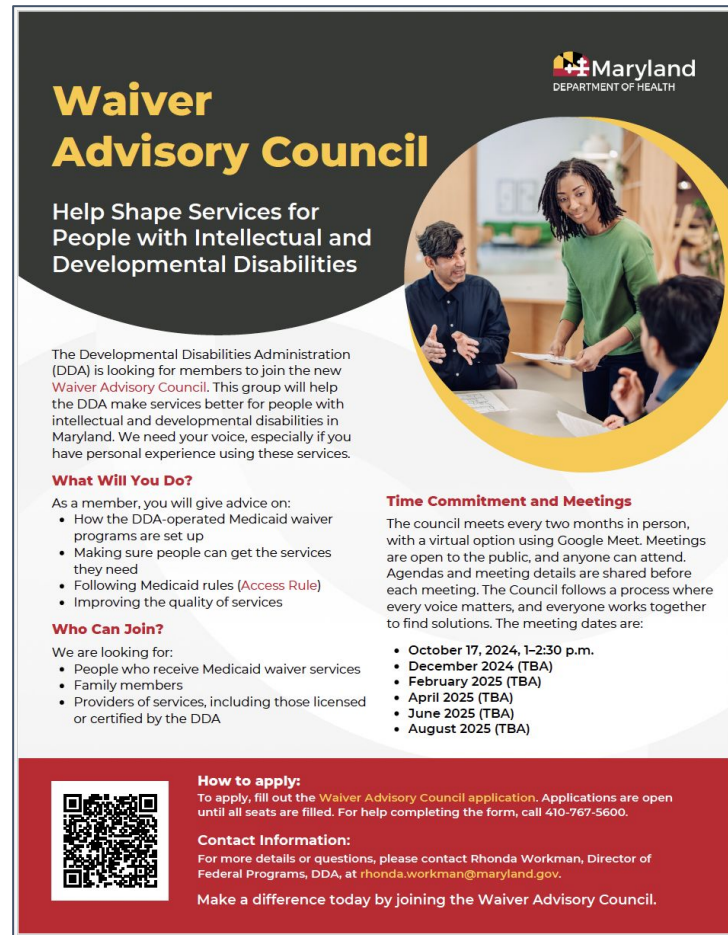
- National Association of State Directors of Developmental Disabilities Services (NASDDDS)
- Applied Self-Direction



Waiver Advisory Council

Membership Recruitment Discussion

Recruitment Flyers



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.

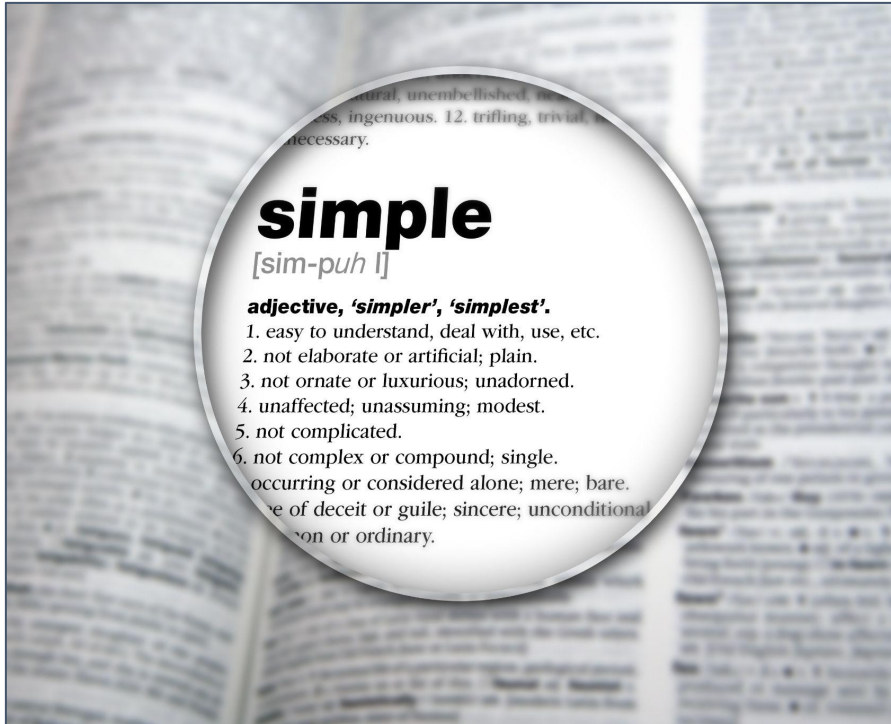
Make a difference today by joining the Waiver Advisory Council.

- [Waiver Advisory Council Overview Flyer](#)
- [Waiver Advisory Council Recruitment Flyer](#)

Waiver Advisory Council

Council Member Supports

Council Member Supports



- Prep meetings
- Plain language
- Dedicated website
- Meetings in different areas of the State
- Meetings in evening
- Support Request Form

Waiver Advisory Council

Purpose and Charter

Purpose

Create meaningful engagement and a feedback loop with all stakeholders, with a focus on people with lived experiences

Members will have the opportunity to advise and provide recommendations for the DDA-operated Medicaid waiver programs on:

- System design,
- Service delivery, and
- Quality enhancement strategies

Charge

The Waiver Advisory Council provides input on:

- DDA-operated Medicaid waiver program system design
- Service delivery and access to services
- Federal waiver assurances
- Ensuring Access to Medicaid Services (Access Rule)
- Quality enhancement efforts and improvement strategies

Input: Medicaid Waiver Program System Design

Community Pathways Waiver

- Adults -18 years and older in need of residential services
- Meaningful Day, Support, and Residential Services

Community Supports Waiver

- Adults -18 years and older
- Meaningful Day and Support Services

Family Supports Waiver

- Children birth to 21 years
- Various Support Services

Input: Service Delivery and Access to Services

- Two service delivery models: Self-Directed and Traditional
- Four regional offices
- Case managers - Coordinators of Community Services
- Licensed and certified DDA providers
- Electronic Visit Verification
- Eligibility Determination Division
- Office of Health Care Quality
- *LTSSMaryland*

Input: Federal Waiver Assurances

- Administrative Authority
- Level of Care
- Service Plan
- Qualified Provider
- Health and Welfare
- Financial Accountability

Input: Ensuring Access to Medicaid Services

Federal Access Rule related to:

- Medicaid applicants' and participants' rights
- The rules agencies must follow when they work with Medicaid participants

Input: Quality Enhancement Efforts and Improvement Strategies

- Commitment to improving quality in services
- Previous strategies have been recommended by:
 - DDA Quality Advisory Council
 - Coordination of Community Services providers
 - Maryland Developmental Disabilities Coalition
 - Maryland Developmental Disabilities Council
 - Advocacy groups
 - Quality Improvement Organization - Liberty Healthcare

Council Values and Conduct

Guiding principles

- Person-Centered Thinking
- Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Principles
- Evidence-based, data-driven, and solution focused
- Commitment to continuous quality improvement, collective responsibility, and goal alignment

Meetings

- Goal-driven and follow agenda
- In person and virtual options
- Bi-monthly
- Travel arrangement may be made for people receiving services
- Accessible
- Facilitated by Co-Chairs
- Sub-workgroup
- Public comment at the end of the meeting

Communications

- Email
- Documents
- Meeting minutes
- Recorded
- Dedicated Website

Conduct - Ground Rules

- Assume positive intent
- Speak one at a time
- Speak in plain language
- Share information openly
- Listen to other points of view
- Remain flexible and open-minded
- Actively participate
- Respectful
- Limit distractions



Terms of Membership

- 2-year term
- 3-year term

Council Member Agreements

- Arrive on time
- Actively participate
- Attend all meetings or send a proxy
- Review documents
- Complete assignments
- Seek and share information from your network
- Solution-directed and outcome-directed focus
- Present recommendations to DDA

Co-Chair Agreements

- Manage meetings
- Ensure members have opportunities to speak
- Promote collaboration and idea sharing
- Facilitate communication with subject matter experts
- Share progress
- Share technical expertise
- Consider feedback
- Explain reasons for accepting, not accepting or accepting amendments on recommendations
- Share information and decisions

Recommendations

- Advisory - advice to the DDA
- Reach consensus - willing to “live with”
- Equal voice
- Majority vote from filled seats
- Members or proxy must be present to vote

Nomination Process for Voting Co-Chair

- Members can volunteer
- Nomination of another member
- Co-Chair Nomination Form to be shared with members
- Council (voting members) to vote on Co-Chair after nominations received

Waiver Recommendation Workgroup

- Services
- Supports
- Processes
- Service delivery models - self-direction and traditional
- Employee, vendor, and provider qualifications
- Other

Future Meeting Presentations

- Medicaid 101
- Access Rule
- Self-Direction
- Quality Improvement Organization - Liberty Healthcare
- Waiver Recommendations Workgroup Report

Public Comment

Note: To ensure confidentiality, if you have a question specific to an application, eligibility, or services, please contact the DDA Regional Office directly

- Please raise your hand if you would like to speak
- Each person will have two (2) minutes