



To: HCBS Stakeholders

From: Tricia Roddy, Deputy Medicaid Director, Health Care Financing

Date: January 25, 2022 *Tricia Roddy*

Re: American Rescue Plan Act (APRA) Funds and HCBS Expenditures

Dear Stakeholders,

The Maryland Department of Health (MDH) has received some feedback from the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) that we wanted to share with you. MDH is unable to use American Rescue Plan Act (APRA) monies to fill home and community-based services slots until all its approved slots have been filled.

MDH is currently approved to fill 6,348 slots under the Community Options Program. Through December 2021, MDH has filled 4,456 for FY 2022. Because there is still a gap in our approved slots and our budgeted amount, MDH will not be including new slots in our ARPA spending plan at this time. Our goal is to fill over 5,000 slots in FY 2023. Our budget reflects this increase in slots and MDH will be hiring additional staff to assist us in filling these additional slots.

MDH is looking at the other suggestions for expenditures related to the remaining ARPA reinvestment funds provided by stakeholders. Some good news is CMS recently approved our [November 1, 2021 spending plan](#).