



*For people with intellectual
and developmental disabilities*

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Achieve with us.

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Governor's budget includes Landmark Turning 22 Proposal Initial Report January 26, 2017

Governor Baker's proposed budget places the Commonwealth in a position to address a 15 year old policy dilemma in the DDS Turning 22 program. Since the inception of Turning 22 (T22) in the 1980s, the Department of Developmental Services has struggled to keep up with the influx of young adults. Only once since the 1980s has the Commonwealth fully adjusted the T22 formula for rising adult needs and this action was initiated by House and Senate Ways and Means members.

In reviewing the proposal, HHS Secretary Marylou Sudders said it will address the needs of over 900 young adults in the 2018 graduating class and provide full-year funding for 2017 graduates into next fiscal year. This requires significant investments in four DDS line items. A supplemental budget for Turning 22 for this year will be filed. The number of T22 graduates have increased by 53% since 2010.

As we head into the House and Senate, this initiative must remain a top priority of The Arc. The House and Senate need to include this proposal to ensure a positive outcome not only for this year but the acceptance of the new T22 formula. Legislators historically have supported funding increasing it by \$500,000 last year. Ways and Means Committees chaired by Rep. Brian Dempsey and Sen. Karen Spilka will craft their budgets in the coming months.

Funding recap on Community Services including areas still requiring funding. All increases are relative to 2017 projected spending:

- Transportation -also impacted by T22 initiative is up \$2 Mil.
- Community Residential (10,000 served) is up \$46.6 Mil which also addresses changing needs and T22; while State Operated homes is up \$2 Mil (1,100 served)
- Day/Employment - also tied into T22 for 2017 graduates, is up \$12.3 Mil.
- Adult Omnibus- up nearly \$1,000,000
- Turning 22 for year 1 - up \$16.7 Mil
- Family Support/Respite- level
- Autism Children - level
- DESE-DDS - level

MassHealth funding is difficult to track given classifications around types of delivery systems (Managed care, Fee for service, SCO, etc.) but Sec. Sudders announced \$155 Mil growth anticipated in community long term supports and services (CLTSS) -some of this of course is related to the impact of overtime for PCAs.

MassHealth will be serving 2 million people by June 2018, nearly 30% of our state population. Enrollment growth allows for the largest portion of the increased budget at \$600 Million. As a result to protect the sustainability of MassHealth (a core program for us), HHS has proposed "Health Care Market Reform Plan" to address transparency and accessibility. What persons pay providers for diagnostic tests can vary greatly - more on these costs will be available to consumers across health settings and health plans. The administration will also call for caps on price growth given the continued rising health care costs. More on MassHealth later.

We need you to contact your legislators (representative and senator) on Beacon Hill. This is a five and sometimes six step process, so please stay connected and active!

You can see the budget chart on our website (thearcmass.org -state budget page under the Advocacy tab) and our fact sheet will be posted soon with guidance.

