



FY '18 Budget Ask

There are 37,000 individuals and families on the Dept. Developmental Services (DDS) caseload. Families are the largest group of caregivers. Family support, Turning 22 and related supports comprise a lifeline for these families and their loved ones.

- Families are our greatest asset, representing 60% of individuals served yet just 3.5 % of the budget
- Caregiving can mean 24/7 support, giving up jobs and can affect the entire family
- With meaningful supports, families can remain together and part of their community

The Arc requests that the House and Senate accept Governor Baker’s Turning 22 proposal in its entirety. As the graduating classes have grown from 630 in 2010 to 975 in 2018, no new formula was set for those turning 22 years old who need DDS assistance, forcing families to leave jobs and few opportunities for young adults. The House and Senate revised the formula once in the 1990s, and we have the opportunity to embrace this policy goal today. Please prioritize the four T22 line items.

Line Item 5920-5000 Turning 22 Maintain total \$24,191,670
Most T22 remain with family and need employment/day, family and transportation supports. First year ever that year one services are proposed to be fully funded.

Line Item 5920-2025 Day-Employment Maintain total \$ 205,139,405
In addition to the nearly 951 Turning 22 students, some persons in services need additional help and \$3 Mil transferred from 2026 line item which has been eliminated.

Line Item 5920-2000 Community Residential Maintain total \$ 1,170,331,170
Youth with developmental disabilities and mostly with autism are graduating at higher rates. FY’17 funding did not allow for adults newly in need. These dollars help those from 2017 who are funded and older adults who require more support due to medical and other conditions.

Line Item 5911-2000 Transportation Maintain total \$ 23,838,463
Transportation for 2017 Turning 22 graduates and individuals currently receiving services.

Other Priorities

Line Item: 5920-3000 DDS Family Support & Respite Services \$2 Mil increase total \$65,779,097
Last year’s \$5 Mil increase was released months after the start of the fiscal year. But we know 10,000 families were waiting for supports along with elder caregivers. Funding this line item responds to a lifetime of caring and for many families means much needed relief.

Line Item 5920-3020 Adult Omnibus \$1 Mil increase total \$14,403,338
Youth with autism are graduating at higher rates. FY’17 funding did not allow for adults newly in need. We need to catch up with students left at home and those graduating this year expected to total nearly 300.