

# The Arc of Massachusetts FY 2020 Budget Ask & Workforce Initiative



*Please maintain the Governor's DDS budget proposal. Increases noted are in addition to the House 1 request.*

**THE WORKFORCE INITIATIVE:** We face a workforce crisis beyond those in the past affecting both constituents, families who hire their own staff and providers managing home and community services. We need short-term action and a long-term plan. *An Act relative to meeting the human service workforce demand* (Rep. Denise Garlick & Sen. Barry Finegold) provides a standard to follow.

## Supporting Families

**Turning 22: DDS Line item 5920-5000** **Maintain**

Proposed funds meet the needs of the 1,150 plus students graduating from school based services and transitioning into adult supports

**DESE-DDS: Line Items 5948-0012 & 7061-0012** **Maintain**

Proposed funds help maintain supports for 570 families and addresses the need of hundreds of families that are waiting. This line item avoids out of home placements, keeps families together and is cost effective for the state

**Family Support and Respite: DDS Line item 5920-3000** **Request \$3.4mil**

Although 12,000 served, many receive minimal funding, while another 8,000 unserved. Families represent 60% of the individuals serviced by DDS but only 3.5% of the DDS budget.

## Supporting Adults

**Community Day and Employment: DDS Line item 5920-2025** **Request \$6.7mil**

14,000 being served, 895 new graduates needing supports, 300 additional need support. Funding must address changing needs and staff ratios.

**Transportation: DDS Line item 5911-2000** **Request \$1.4mil**

Proposed funds will meet the transportation services needs of 300 new individuals.

**Autism Omnibus: DDS Line item 5920-3020** **Request \$5.8mil**

T22 addresses new grads but others who are older are not yet funded, 381 waiting for supports.

**Community Residential: DDS Line item 5920-2000** **Maintain**

9,000 served including shared living, 238 new individuals needing these supports.