



*For people with intellectual
and developmental disabilities*

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Achieve with us.

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Further Review of FY'24 Budget

The Arc is fully supportive of Gov. Healey's 2024 proposal and requests an additional \$5.6 Mil for those needing 1:1 assistance to return to day programs.

The Workforce crisis continues to be #1 priority. Those with complex or high needs comprise the subgroup most without access to services. Thousands of adults are isolated at home or staffed setting, and experiencing loss of skills. Family caregivers continue to take on 24/7 care and stress.

As full day services at the Dept of Developmental Services (DDS) and MassHealth are not yet achieved, it's critical to continue legislative language in 5920-2025, Employment and Day Account. We hope that DDS will implement a strategy in concert with MassHealth which could include:

1. Identify persons unserved through day programs
2. Assign service coordinators/family support center staff to assist a certain number of people each month with an individual/family plan and associated funding
3. Coordinate use of ARPA funds if resources are needed beyond budget
4. Authorize higher reimbursement for providers to admit individuals needing 1:1 two to three days week, i.e., A rate funding shall be expended for persons who have not returned to day service and require 1:1 support."
5. DDS supplement those not able to attend MassHealth day habilitation during this crisis period so organizations can re-admit those needing such support

Budget Growth for Department of Developmental Services. The DDS budget grew by \$351 Mil:

1. Est. Chapter 257 increase of \$174 Mil
2. \$76.7 Mil for state operated homes and facilities (#1 & #2 total \$250.7 Mil of growth addressing workforce crisis)
3. \$50 Mil in provider incentives for those waiting for residential services
4. DDS datapoints
 - a. 44,000 caseload with 41,000 adults and children enrolled in services
 - b. Many DDS eligible receive MassHealth services such as day habilitation & adult family/foster care.
 - c. 8,000 individuals in 24/7 across 2,200 home settings (257 state operated), 2 facilities.
 - d. 10,000 estimated in day programs and employment services
 - e. 10,000- 13,000 estimated in family and other supports
 - f. Annually over 1,300 require adult services

For more information, contact Maura Sullivan, Director of Government Affairs, at sullivan@arcmass.org and visit The Arc's advocacy webpage at www.thearcofmass.org/advocacy