



DD News and Updates

Newsletter

Volume 12
July 24, 2024



Shared Resources

- Conflict-Free Case Management Update
- Reporting Abuse
- BHDDH Staff Contact List
- Shared Resources



New Newsletter Issue

Friendly reminder that the second issue of every month will just be a shared resources.



We want to learn from you!

We want to continue to learn from the community. Share your feedback about our newsletter by completing our [online newsletter survey](#). We will keep the survey open to make sure we keep getting your feedback.

Website: www.bhddh.ri.gov

Email: BHDDH.AskDD@bhddh.ri.gov

Phone: 401.462.3421

ESPAÑOL: 401.462.3014

DDD Updates

Conflict-Free Case Management Update: CFCM agency profiles

Here are **four profiles** of agencies certified to provide conflict-free case management to DD participants.

- These agencies will start later in **August**. The transition will happen slowly, in phases.
- The Division will contact participants before a referral to a case management agency is made.
- You don't have to do anything until you hear from us.
- There are also two other agencies going through the process of becoming certified. The Division is also hiring additional case managers.



www.tricountyri.org

AGENCY BACKGROUND

Tri-County Community Action Agency offers a broad range of services and programs to provide a helping hand to those in need, and to build a foundation of self-sufficiency. What started out as 1 location office building in Johnston has grown steadily to the Tri-County of today, a network of 16 locations from Pascoag to Westerly serving individuals and families throughout the state of Rhode Island.

MISSION

To empower and create opportunities for vulnerable individuals and families in our community to become socially and economically self sufficient through integrated social education, health prevention, and other basic needs services.

PROGRAMS & SERVICES OFFERED

Primary Medical Care
Mental Health and Substance Use
Dental & Oral Health
Head Start & Early Head Start
Employment & Training Services
Emergency Services
Nutrition Education
Senior & Disabled Adult Programs
Victim of Crime Advocacy
Health Equity Zone
Regional Prevention Coalition
And so much more!

CONFLICT FREE CASE MANAGEMENT

Case Management is provided to elders and adults with disabilities participants on Medicaid Long Term Services and Supports. Case Managers will assist the participant in developing their person-centered plan and will coordinate and monitor the implementation of that plan.

CONTACT US SENIOR AND ADULTS WITH DISABILITIES DEPARTMENT

401-349-5760
Office Hours
8:00 am- 5:00 pm
Monday- Friday, (excluding state and federal holidays)
Office Location
33 Maple Ave. North Providence, RI
P: 401-349-5760
F: 349-3125

Services are available in English, Spanish, and translation services are available for many other languages, including ASL, free of charge. Contact the Agency with the preferred language spoken.



Westbay Community Action, Inc. is an equal opportunity organization.

Westbay Community Action is a charitable organization serving the people of Kent County. We help with food, utilities, health, safety, and education.

Our mission is to empower and mobilize people through our programs, partnerships, and advocacy to gain greater self-sufficiency.

Individuals and families gain stability through basic needs assistance. They improve their circumstances with education, life-skills training, and case management.

We opened our doors in June 1966 as one community organization in the national effort to fight poverty. More than fifty years later, we are still community-based and guided by our core purpose. Today, we are the largest provider of basic needs in Kent County and assist nearly 10,000 households per year.

Click the QR code to visit our website for more detailed information on the programs we offer such as:

- Case Management
- Heating Assistance
- Food Assistance

Find us here:

Program Services
487 Jefferson Blvd.
Warwick, RI 02886



Stay up-to-date!

401.732.4660
info@westbaycap.org
WestbayCmty
WestbayCmty
westbaycommunity
Westbay will accommodate all language preferences. Interpreting and/or translation services will be provided.

2022 - 2023
TOTAL HOUSEHOLDS SERVED: 7,743 - TOTAL PERSONS SERVED: 18,773



Caring for our Rhode Island Community since 1866

AGING WELL SERVICES

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Case Management

In collaboration with state agencies throughout Rhode Island, we provide person-centered case management, caregiver support, and connection to state & federal resources, to participants who are eligible for At Home Cost Share or Medicaid Long Term Supports and Services for elders 65+ and adults with intellectual or developmental disabilities. The Child & Family case management program is able to support clients in multiple languages through interpreter services and bilingual case managers.

National Family Caregiver Program (NFCG)

Child & Family provides guidance, education, support, and connection to local programs and resources for caregivers who are providing care for their friends and family members.

Support for Military

We welcome all families, including those with members who are Veterans, Active Duty, Reserves, or National Guard.

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A coordinated program offering counseling, education and assistance to empower individuals, their families and caregivers to informed health insurance decisions.

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After Hours answering service can be reached at 401-849-2300.

Contact Aging Well at:
Phone number: 401-848-4119
Fax number: 401-668-1844
agingwell_referrals@childandfamilyri.org

Child & Family operates community engagement centers in Providence and Middletown.

37 John Clark Road
Middletown
401-848-2300

www.childandfamilyri.org

1268 Eddy Street
Providence
401-791-3668



One partner for community and post-acute solutions.

Conflict Free Case Management
"Your choice, Your plan"

- The CareLink team includes professionals with a high level of experience in all aspects of VDD services including:
 - o Self-directed
 - o Community-based
 - o Center-based
 - o Employment
 - o Transportation
 - o Residential
- Offering expertise in available community-based resources and Neurodivergent specialty services



- CareLink is a non-profit organization specializing in the care of older adults and adults with disabilities.
- CareLink provides case management services using a person-centered approach
- CareLink builds strong relationships with care providers to collaborate on building the supports needed.
- Interpreter services available including American Sign Language

Planning starts with deep, genuine listening to the goals of the person and what they want in their plan.

Care managers assist with defining goals that help the participant.

- To be more in control of their life
- Live their best life
- Build meaningful connections
- Be an active citizen by exercising their rights and responsibilities
- Monitor and recognize movement towards goals
- Discover future possibilities

CareLink | 400 Massachusetts Ave, Suite 300B | East Providence, RI | 02914
Hours of operation are 9-5pm with other times available upon request
(401) 490-7610 CFCM@carelinkri.org

Website: www.bhddh.ri.gov

Email: BHDDH.AskDD@bhddh.ri.gov

Phone: 401.462.3421

ESPAÑOL: 401.462.3014

DDD Updates

Direct Support Professionals (DSP) Recognition Week 2024

Everyone at the Division of Developmental Disabilities, would like to express our deepest thanks and gratitude for the incredible work Direct Support Professionals provide day in and day out! We recognize the essential care and support you provide to individuals with I/DD. Your dedication, compassion, and unwavering commitment does not go unnoticed.

We see that for many DSPs, the role is not just a job - it truly is a calling. You work tirelessly, often going above and beyond, to ensure the well-being and happiness of those you support. We see it when you assist individuals with daily activities, offer emotional support, or advocate for someone's needs; YOU make a profound difference in the lives of those you assist as well as their loved ones.

We thank you for the unwavering commitment and compassion you have for individuals with a disability. Please know that your efforts are valued and appreciated by those in our community, as well as all of us in the Division. We are proud to have you as part of our collective team while we work together to enrich the lives of many Rhode Islanders.

With our heartfelt appreciation,
The staff of the Division of Developmental Disabilities



Report Suspected Abuse

QA Hotline 401-462-2629

Mandated Reporting

Reporting suspected occurrences of abuse, neglect, and mistreatment of individuals with developmental disabilities

To report abuse and serious incidents call the BHDDH Quality Assurance (QA) Unit hotline at (401) 462-2629. The hotline is open 24-hour hotline, seven days per week, 365 days per year. Staff respond to reported incidents of abuse, neglect, mistreatment, and financial exploitation.

BH Link is Here for You

BH Link's mission is to ensure all Rhode Islanders experiencing mental health and substance use crises receive the appropriate services they need as quickly as possible in an environment that supports their recovery. Visit the BH Link website at www.bhlink.org.

If under 18 CALL: (855) KID (543)-LINK(5465)

VISIT the 24-HOUR/7-DAY Triage Center at:

975 Waterman Avenue, East Providence, RI

Call 911 if there is a risk of immediate danger.



For More Information on DD Initiatives

Newsletters: sign up and view old newsletters on our [News and Updates webpage](#)

Consent Decree: <https://bhddh.ri.gov/developmental-disabilities/consent-decree>

Conflict Free Case Management (CFCM): [EOHHS CFCM website](#) or [DD Initiatives-CFCM](#)

RI DSP State Workforce Initiative: <https://riswi.org/> or [DD Initiatives-SWI](#)

Hours of Operation

Monday – Friday

8:30 AM - 4:00 PM

Contacting DDD Staff

See the full Division Contact List attached to this newsletter.

Send general questions to BHDDH.AskDD@bhddh.ri.gov.

Please do not email critical issues.

Website: www.bhddh.ri.gov

Email: BHDDH.AskDD@bhddh.ri.gov

Phone: 401.462.3421

ESPAÑOL: 401.462.3014



Division of Developmental Disabilities Staff Contacts

| | |
|--------------------------------------|---|
| Main Phone: (401) 462-3421 | Website: https://bhddh.ri.gov/ |
| Fax Phone: (401) 462-2775 | Behavioral Health Link (BH Link): (401) 414-5465 |
| Spanish Phone: (401) 462-3014 | Report Abuse: (401) 462-2629 |
| TDD: (401) 462-3226 | |

Administrative Team

| Name | Job Title | Phone | Email |
|-----------------|--------------------------------------|----------|--|
| Kevin Savage | Director | 462-0581 | Kevin.Savage@bhddh.ri.gov |
| Heather Mincey | Assistant Director | 462-1218 | Heather.Mincey@bhddh.ri.gov |
| Brenda DuHamel | Associate Director, Admin Services | 462-3010 | Brenda.DuHamel@bhddh.ri.gov |
| Anne LeClerc | Associate Director, Prog Performance | 462-0192 | Anne.LeClerc@bhddh.ri.gov |
| Tracy Levesque | Associate Director, Clinical | 462-0209 | Tracy.Levesque@bhddh.ri.gov |
| Christine Botts | Deputy Administrator | 462-2766 | Christine.Botts@bhddh.ri.gov |
| Cindy Fusco | Interdepartmental Project Manager | 462-6689 | Cynthia.Fusco@bhddh.ri.gov |
| Natalie Munoz | Chief Implementation Aide | 462-3016 | Natalie.Munoz@bhddh.ri.gov |

Eligibility Unit

| Name | Job Title | Phone | Email |
|----------------------|------------------------------------|----------|--|
| Brenda DuHamel | Associate Director, Admin Services | 462-3010 | Brenda.DuHamel@bhddh.ri.gov |
| Karen Lowell | Casework Supervisor II | 462-2209 | Karen.Lowell@bhddh.ri.gov |
| Lori Lombardi- Burns | PASRR | 462-0089 | Lori.Lombardiburns@bhddh.ri.gov |
| Jill Murphy | Social Caseworker II | 462-2409 | Jill.Murphy@bhddh.ri.gov |
| Kim Wright | Information Aide | 462-2584 | Kimberly.Wright@bhddh.ri.gov |

SIS Unit

| Name | Job Title | Phone | Email |
|---------------------|------------------------------|----------|--|
| Tracy Levesque | Associate Director, Clinical | 462-0209 | Tracy.Levesque@bhddh.ri.gov |
| Donna Standish | Casework Supervisor II | 462-2628 | Donna.Standish@bhddh.ri.gov |
| Stephanie Andreozzi | Implementation Aide | 462-1859 | Stephanie.Andreozzi@bhddh.ri.gov |
| Wendy Cormier | Social Caseworker II | 462-1302 | Wendy.Cormier@bhddh.ri.gov |
| Jamie Fitzgibbons | Social Caseworker II | 462-2510 | Jamie.Fitzgibbons@bhddh.ri.gov |
| Betty Staplins | Social Caseworker II | 462-0449 | betty.staplins@bhddh.ri.gov |

Residential

| Name | Job Title | Phone | Email |
|-------------------|-----------------------------------|----------|--|
| Tracy Levesque | Associate Director, Clinical | 462-0209 | Tracy.Levesque@bhddh.ri.gov |
| Melissa Greenlief | Administrator, Community Services | 462-2459 | Melissa.Greenlief@bhddh.ri.gov |

Case Management Units

| Name | Job Title | Phone | Email |
|---------------------|------------------------------------|----------|--|
| Brenda DuHamel | Associate Director, Admin Services | 462-3010 | Brenda.DuHamel@bhddh.ri.gov |
| Marguerite Belisle | Casework Supervisor II | 462-0714 | Marguerite.Belisle@bhddh.ri.gov |
| Amie Adams | Social Caseworker II | 462-2480 | Amie.Adams@bhddh.ri.gov |
| GinaMarie Debartolo | Social Caseworker II | 462-3402 | GinaMarie.Debartolo@bhddh.ri.gov |
| Amber Matson | Social Caseworker II | 462-1555 | Amber.Matson@bhddh.ri.gov |
| Suzanne Porter | Social Caseworker II | 462-1972 | Suzanne.Porter@bhddh.ri.gov |
| Kaitlin Sarkees | Social Caseworker II | 462-4075 | Kaitlin.Sarkees@bhddh.ri.gov |
| Heather Soares | Social Caseworker II | 462-6097 | Heather.Soares@bhddh.ri.gov |
| Souphalek Muriel | Casework Supervisor II | 462-2512 | Souphalak.Muriel@bhddh.ri.gov |
| Mary Cameron | Social Caseworker II | 462-1307 | Mary.Cameron@bhddh.ri.gov |
| Lauree Champagne | Social Caseworker II | 462-2728 | Lauree.Champagne@bhddh.ri.gov |
| Megan Gilbert | Social Caseworker II | 462-2524 | Megan.Gilbert@bhddh.ri.gov |
| Dayna Hansen | Social Caseworker II | 462-2505 | Dayna.Hansen@bhddh.ri.gov |
| Judy Smith | Social Caseworker II | 462-1327 | Judith.Smith@bhddh.ri.gov |
| Mary Beth Stevens | Casework Supervisor II | 462-2438 | Marybeth.Stevens@bhddh.ri.gov |
| Timothy Cronin | Social Caseworker I | 462-1721 | Timothy.Cronin@bhddh.ri.gov |
| Jennifer Gouveia | Social Caseworker I | 462-0098 | Jennifer.Gouveia@bhddh.ri.gov |
| Erin Simonelli | Social Caseworker II | 462-2502 | Erin.Simonelli@bhddh.ri.gov |
| Lena Sousa | Social Caseworker II | 462-1834 | Lena.Sousa@bhddh.ri.gov |
| Joseph Tevyaw | Social Caseworker II | 462-2474 | Joseph.Tevyaw@bhddh.ri.gov |
| Stacey Perry | Casework Supervisor II | 462-3402 | Stacey.Perry@bhddh.ri.gov |
| JoAnn DiMuccio | Social Caseworker II | 462-2523 | JoAnn.DiMuccio@bhddh.ri.gov |
| Katrina Ferry | Social Caseworker II | 462-2529 | Katrina.Ferry@bhddh.ri.gov |
| Heidy Henriquez | Social Caseworker II | 462-3022 | Heidy.Henriquez@bhddh.ri.gov |
| Crystal Morel | Social Caseworker II | 462-1329 | Crystal.Morel@bhddh.ri.gov |

Independent Facilitation Unit

| Name | Job Title | Phone | Email |
|----------------|------------------------|----------|--|
| Meaghan Jencks | Casework Supervisor II | 462-2113 | Meaghan.Jencks@bhddh.ri.gov |
| Yolande Ramos | Casework Supervisor II | 462-1059 | Yolande.Ramos@bhddh.ri.gov |

Transition Unit

| Name | Job Title | Phone | Email |
|----------------|------------------------------------|----------|--|
| Heather Mincey | Assistant Director | 462-1218 | Heather.Mincey@bhddh.ri.gov |
| Susan Hayward | Administrator, Youth in Transition | 462-2519 | Susan.Hayward@bhddh.ri.gov |
| Carolee Leach | Professional Services Coordinator | 462-1723 | Susan.Hayward@bhddh.ri.gov |
| Laurie Rossi | Implementation Aide | 462-2563 | Laurie.Rossi@bhddh.ri.gov |

Community Services

| Name | Job Title | Phone | Email |
|---------------------|---------------------------------------|----------|--|
| Heather Mincey | Assistant Director | 462-1218 | Heather.Mincey@bhddh.ri.gov |
| Jackie Camilloni | Coordinator, Self Direction | 462-6608 | Jackie.Camilloni@bhddh.ri.gov |
| Elvys Ruiz | Administrator III, Employment | 462-3857 | Elvys.Ruiz@bhddh.ri.gov |
| Gerard (Jay) MacKay | Associate Administrator, Employment | 462-5279 | Gerard.Mackay@bhddh.ri.gov |
| Steven Seay | Coordinator, Integrated Comm Services | 462-6609 | Steven.Seay@bhddh.ri.gov |

Communications and Training

| Name | Job Title | Phone | Email |
|-----------------|---------------------------------------|----------|--|
| Anne LeClerc | Associate Director, Prog Performance | 462-0192 | Anne.LeClerc@bhddh.ri.gov |
| Johanna Mercado | Coordinator, Communications | 462-6646 | Johanna.Mercado@bhddh.ri.gov |
| Amethys Nieves | Associate Admin, Communications | 462-6629 | Amethys.Nieves@bhddh.ri.gov |
| Kelly Petersen | Chief of Training & Staff Development | 462-6592 | Kelly.Petersen@bhddh.ri.gov |
| Robin Gannon | Clinical Training Specialist | 462-6691 | Robin.Gannon@bhddh.ri.gov |
| Peter Joly | Principal Training Specialist | 462-6638 | Peter.Joly@bhddh.ri.gov |

Child & Family

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Warwick, RI 02886



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info@westbaycap.org



WestbayCmty



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westbaycommunity



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and post-acute solutions.

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 - Center-based
 - Employment
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 - Residential

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- Live their best life
- Build meaningful connections
- Be an active citizen by exercising their rights and responsibilities
- Monitor and recognize movement towards goals
- Discover future possibilities



CareLink | 400 Massasoit Ave, Suite 300B | East Providence, RI | 02914

Hours of operation are 8-5pm with other times available upon request

(401) 490-7610 | CFCM@carelinkri.org

About Us



DDD is part of the Rhode Island state government. DDD manages services for adults with intellectual and developmental disabilities (I/DD). DDD helps adults with I/DD access needed services. The services help people stay healthy, safe, and independent in the community.

All Rhode Islanders have the right to live happy, healthy and fulfilling lives. DDD is committed to helping adults with I/DD live their best lives.

Contact Us



Address: 6 Harrington Rd,
Cranston, RI 02920



Phone: 401-462-3421
Español: 401-462-3014



Email:

BHDDH.AskDD@bhddh.ri.gov



Website: www.bhddh.ri.gov

This brochure was made using images
from Flaticon.com

Division of Developmental Disabilities (DDD)



Integrated Community Services



About Integrated Community Services



Division services are integrated community services.



Integrated means to unite or join.



Integrated community services help people to join in their community.



These services are about being active and involved in the community.



How much or how little a person is involved depends on their goals.

2

What Integrated Community Services Are



Services a person gets in their community, including at home, in public, or online.



Services provided to a single person or small group.



Services allow people to spend time with people with and without disabilities.



Are based on the person's Individual Support Plan (ISP) goals.

3

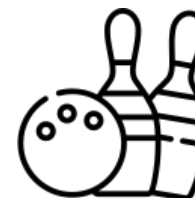
Integrated Community Services in Real Life



Here are some examples of integrated community services in real life:



1. Going inside a coffee shop to talk with others instead of going through the drive thru.



2. Joining a bowling team instead of only going bowling with people you live with.



3. Joining a book club at the library instead of only signing out books.



4. Meeting friends at the mall instead of only going with staff.

4

People with disabilities bring a diverse range of skills, abilities, and perspectives to the workplace.



Division of Developmental Disabilities

6 Harrington Road,

Cranston, RI 02920

401-462-3857

www.bhddh.ri.gov

**Employer
Incentives**

“Promoting Employment Opportunities for Individuals with Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities”



**Division of
Developmental Disabilities**



Work Immersion

Work Immersion is an internship support program available to Rhode Island employers. It was established pursuant to Rhode Island General Law § 42-102-11 and is designed to boost the employment prospects of new and returning workers (i.e., eligible students and unemployed or underemployed adults) through meaningful paid work experiences. It provides a 50% or 75% reimbursement for wages paid to eligible participants. All Rhode Island employers who meet the eligibility requirements outlined in the program guide may apply.

Source: [Rhode Island Governor's Workforce Board](#)

Work Opportunity Tax Credit

Employers that hire individuals that are members of one specific target group may be eligible to receive a tax credit of \$2,400 per individual. In general, the target groups include qualified Temporary Assistance to Needy Families (TANF) recipients, some veterans, recipients of vocational rehabilitation services, food stamp recipients, qualified ex-felons, and Supplemental Security Income (SSI) recipients long-term unemployed.

Source: [Rhode Island Department of Labor and Training](#)

Workplace Accessibility Grants

The Workplace Accessibility Grant Program promotes employment and economic opportunity for individuals with disabilities through investment in accessible workplaces. It provides a 100% reimbursement for eligible costs up to \$5,000 per calendar year. All Rhode Island employers with fewer than twenty-five (25) employees and who meet the eligibility requirements outlined in the program guide may apply.

Source: [Rhode Island Governor's Workforce Board](#)



Rhode Island Tax Credits

Rhode Island boasts some of the most aggressive employment and training tax credit programs in the nation. The Department of Labor and Training (DLT), working in conjunction with [Commerce RI](#), the [Rhode Island Division of Taxation](#) many impressive credit programs.

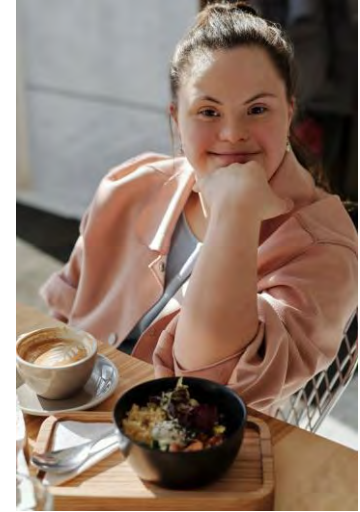


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Source: [Rhode Island Department of Labor and Training](#)

Everyone Benefits from Hiring People with Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities

People with disabilities bring a diverse range of skills, abilities, and perspectives to the workplace



The Division of Developmental Disabilities (DDD) at the RI Department of Behavioral Healthcare, Developmental Disabilities & Hospitals (BHDDH) is responsible for planning, funding, and overseeing a community system of services and supports for adults with developmental disabilities.

There are benefits of employing people with differing abilities. They strength the workplace morale and productivity through a more committed and diverse workforce.

Benefits to the Employer

- Improvement in profitability
- Increased retention rates
- Inclusive work culture and ability awareness
- Customer satisfaction
- Reliability and punctuality
- Positive word of mouth
- Candidate matching which reduces cost of turnover

Benefits of Employment

- Opportunity to build relationship with diverse coworkers and networking
- Personal and professional growth
- Earning wages and becoming more financial self-sufficient
- Contribution to the economy and their communities
- Sense of pride and confidence

To learn more, please contact: **Elvys Ruiz, Administrator, Business and Community Engagement**
Elvys.ruiz@bhddh.ri.gov OR 401-462-3857



Image of ADA Anniversary Logo

The Governor's Commission on Disabilities Annual Public Forum



Image of Governor's Commission on Disabilities Logo

The Governor's Commission on Disabilities holds public forums each year on the anniversary of the Americans with Disabilities Act to hear the concerns of people with disabilities and their families. The forums are open to all to speak. Policy makers and planners want to hear your concerns about current services, unmet needs, and suggestions for improvement.

Virtual Forum: Tuesday July 23, 2024, 4:30-6:30 pm.

Zoom Link: <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/81424952751?pwd=fgeAF2M2zBxNDNwbsVGI3XGJEFbhal.1> [us06web.zoom.us]

By phone: 1-646-558-8656/Meeting ID: 814 2495 2751/Passcode: 363903

Please Send Written Testimony to:

RI Governor's Commission on Disabilities

2 Cherry Dale Court, Cranston, RI 02920

GCD.disabilities@gcd.ri.gov

ASL Interpreting and CART services provided by the Commission on the Deaf and Hard of Hearing. If you need an additional accommodation, please call the G.C.D. at 462-0100 or email at the email address above.



Image of the Commission of the Deaf and Hard of Hearing Logo



Image of Statewide Independent Living Council Logo



The Governor's Commission on Disabilities

Annual Public Forum

The Governor's Commission on Disabilities holds public forums each year on the anniversary of the Americans with Disabilities Act to hear the concerns of people with disabilities and their families. The forums are open to all to speak. Policy makers and planners want to hear your concerns about current services, unmet needs, and suggestions for improvement.

Here are some examples of successful outcomes from past public forums:

- Establishing a Medicaid Managed Care option for adults with disabilities, which will assist families in navigating through the chronic health care systems.
- Providing a cost-of-living adjustment for (Medicaid) personal care attendants.
- Establishing a crisis intervention service for adults with severe impairments who have been abused or assaulted by a care giver.
- Establishing a Medicaid Buy-In Program for persons with disabilities who are eligible for Medicaid allowing them to return to work while retaining Medicaid coverage and extending that coverage so that there are no longer income limits to be eligible for the program.
- Requiring the installation of curb cuts and/or ramps at both ends of any pedestrian crosswalk.
- Allowing accessory family dwelling units in a single -family residence as a reasonable accommodation for family-members with disabilities in any residential area, eliminating the need for a zoning variance hearing, thereby encouraging more families to maintain relatives with severe impairments at home.
- Providing a community living option to all persons who have a disability and are sixty-five (65) years of age or younger to allow those individuals the choice to live in a less restrictive community-based environment or their own home environment.
- Banning pre-existing condition exclusions to health insurance coverage under an individual policy, group health plans.

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LAZO Presents:

VOTING 101

BECAUSE YOUR VOICE MATTERS



**Tuesday,
August 06**

1:00pm-3:00pm

&

**Wednesday,
August 07**

10:00am-12:00pm

**104 Greenville Avenue, Johnston,
RI 02919 (Entrance in the back)**

- Know your rights
- Learn how to register & different ways to vote
- Sample a ballot
- Explore ways to find voter information
- Take home materials provided



For more information contact:
*Esther Picon at 401-233-0314 or
epicon@lazori.org*



LAZO Presenta:

INTRO A LAS VOTACIONES

POR QUE TU VOZ ES IMPORTANTE



**Martes 06
de Agosto**

1:00pm-3:00pm

&

**Miercoles 7 de
Augusto**

10:00am-12:00pm

104 Greenville Avenue, Johnston,
RI 02919 (la entrada detras)

- Conoce tus derechos de votante
- Aprenda cómo registrarse y sobre las diferentes formas de votar
- Práctique cómo votar
- Explore cómo encontrar información para los votantes
- Guías y materiales para llevar a casa

Para mas informacion contacte a:
Esther Picon al 401-233-0314 o
epicon@lazori.org



Your Guide To Individual Budgets



Rhode Island Department of Behavioral Healthcare, Developmental Disabilities & Hospitals

6 Harrington Rd, Cranston, RI 02920

Main Phone: 401.462.3421 Español: 401.462.3014 Website: www.bhddh.ri.gov

This easy read guidebook has been designed using images from Flaticon.com

About this Guide



This Guidebook is about your individual budget.



An **individual budget** is a break down of how you decide to spend the funding amount you get from the Division.



This money will be used to pay for the services you choose for the year.



With your individual budget, you decide how to spend your budget on services you want.

Your Individual Budget and You



You will create your own individual budget.



You will do this while you make choices about the type and amount of services you need to reach your goals.



This will happen during your Individual Support Plan (ISP) meetings.



Your individual budget will follow what you put in your ISP.

How Your Funding Amount is Decided



There are four things the Division uses to decide your funding amount for the year.



Two things are the results you get on the Supports Intensity Scale-A (SIS-A) and Additional Needs and Supports Questionnaire (ANSQ).



There is also an individual follow-up that happens after the assessments that may give you more funding.



The last thing is whether you live by yourself or with others.

How Your Individual Budget Works



The Division will send you a letter letting you know your funding amount.



You will work with your support team to make your ISP.



You will decide your goals, type of services you want, and how much of each service you need.



Your Case Manger will help you make your individual budget based on your choices.

Parts of Your Individual Budget



Your individual budget is made of three parts:



1. Flexible budget, which is the part of your budget you can make choices about.



2. Fixed budget, which is the part of your budget you cannot change.



3. Add-on budget, which is extra money to pay for certain services.

Your Flexible Budget



You decide how much or how little of your flexible budget you want to spend on certain services, like:



- Community-based supports



- Center-based supports



- Transportation

Your Fixed Budget



No changes can be made to your fixed budget.



Your fixed budget will pay for services related to the type of place you live.



This includes costs for services like group homes or shared living.



If you self-direct, your fixed budget will also pay your Fiscal Intermediary (FI) if you have one.

Your Add-on Budget



Your add-on budget is optional, meaning you may or may not need it.



You will get an add-on budget depending on your goals.



This budget will pay for services that you may only need for a short time.



For example, this budget will pay for employment services.

Planning in Action



Let's review an example of how someone will create their individual budget.



In this example we will meet Judy.



Judy is 25 years old and lives in a group home.



Judy goes to a center-based day program three days a week for 6 hours a day.

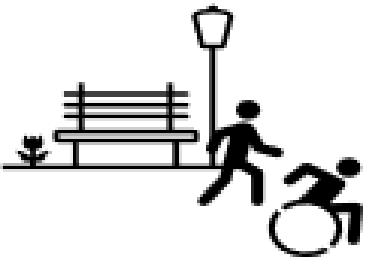
Planning in Action Part 2



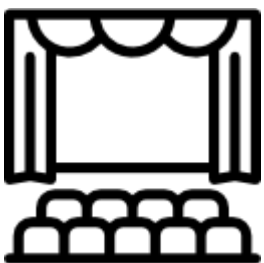
Judy and her support team meet for her ISP meeting.



During the ISP meeting, Judy and her team talk about her goals, interests, and needs.



Judy likes going to the center-based day program but wants to find more things to do in the community.



She wants to find a job working in performing arts.

Planning in Action Part 3



Judy can do many things for herself but needs help cooking and getting around town.



Judy picks the services that will help her reach her goals and meet her needs.



Judy and her support team work together to decide how many hours she wants for each service.



The type of service and how much of each service will build Judy's individual budget.

Planning in Action Part 4



The total amount of funding Judy has to use for services is \$50,000.



This does not include Judy's fixed budget, which will be used to pay for the group home.



Judy will decide how to spend the \$50,000 on services she wants and needs.



This \$50,000 is part of Judy's flexible budget.

Planning in Action Part 5



This is how Judy decides to spend her flexible budget:



1. Pay for center-based supports 12 hours a week for \$15,475.20 a year.



2. Pay for community-based supports 8 hours a week for \$17,838.08 a year.



3. Pay for 12 bus trips a week for \$13,228.80 a year.

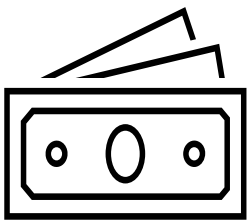
Planning in Action Part 6



Judy adds up the cost for the 3 services.



The total cost for these services is \$46,542.08 for the year.



Judy has \$3,457.92 left to spend from her funding amount.



If Judy decides she needs something else during the plan year, she can update her plan and use the rest of this money.

Planning in Action Part 7



Judy also has money to spend from her add-on budget.



Judy is getting an add-on budget because she wants to find a job.



Her add-on budget will pay \$15,475.20 a year for employment services.



Judy's total individual budget for the year is \$62,017.28.

Now it is Your Turn



What are your hopes and dreams for the future?



What are some things that you like and are good at?



What are some things you don't like or are hard for you?



Who is part of your life?