

FY 16 BUDGET ASK



On behalf of the 30,000 Commonwealth citizens with developmental disabilities, we request the Legislature's consideration in restoring previous Great Recession, 9C and House One program reductions:

Keeping Families Together

- House One Cuts 1000 families from Respite & Family Support Services of the 10,000 currently being served.
- Respite & Family Support programs keep families together delaying or preventing more costly out of home placements
- DESE is highly effective alternative to out of home placements keeping kids at home.

Line item: 5920-3000 – DDS Family Support & Respite ServicesAdd \$15 Million - Total Appropriation: \$62,502,269

Line Item: 5948-0012 (7061-0012) – DESE-DDS Add \$2 Million - Total Appropriation: \$8,500,000

Promoting Work & Self-Sufficiency

- Day and Employment Services are undergoing a major change across the nation to comply with Olmstead, CMS and DOJ.
- House One eliminates Day Hab supports with toileting, feeding and behavioral challenges. These supports must be restored for those with the most significant health and behavioral challenges.
- The 2015 graduating class is expected to exceed 900 individuals in need of services after high school including residential and employment supports.

Line item: 5920-2025 – DDS Day & Employment Services Add: \$12.7 Million - Total Appropriation: \$186,200,000

Line item: 5920-2026 -DDS Community Based Employment Blueprint Add: \$6.35 Million - Total Appropriation: \$11,400,000

Line item: 5920-5000 – Turning 22 Add: \$3.5 Million - Total Appropriation: \$10,000,000

Line item: 4120-3000 – MRC Employment Assistance..... Add: \$3 Million - Total Appropriation: \$5,246,934

Autism Supports and Services

- The Autism Omnibus Bill of 2014 has responded to the cries of families that have been denied services for years and includes an adult service initiative.
- House One adds \$6.9 M to the \$5.4 M in 2015 to address expanded eligibility standards and address the needs of individuals with autism, individuals with Prader-Willi Syndrome and Smith-Magenis Syndrome. In Gov's budget this money is now in 5920-3000, we request that Adult Autism monies be tracked in a separate line item.
- Additional funding will be needed for autism children services and autism resource centers. \$1 million is required for the autism resource centers alone.

Line Item: 5920-3011 – Autism Adult Community ServicesMaintain House 1 - Total Appropriation: \$12,300,000

Line Item: 5920-3010 – Autism Division (Kids Waiver) Add \$3 Million - Total Appropriation: \$8,585,431

