

Oregon Department of Human Services

Developmental Disabilities Program

Overview

We provide services to cover a lifetime of support to Oregonians with developmental disabilities. People with disabilities of all ages want the same opportunities every Oregonian wants: not just to survive, but to thrive. They want to live in their own homes and make decisions about daily activities, so they can go to school, work, church, enjoy recreation and participate fully in their communities. We currently help over 21,000 children, adults and their families have the best quality of life possible at all stages of their lifespan. Due to their economic situation, most individuals with developmental disabilities are eligible for a Medicaid waiver which allows them to remain in their family home or community instead of an institution. Our mission is to help them be fully engaged in life and, at the same time, address their critical health and safety needs.

History and Future State

The state of Oregon is recognized nationally as an innovative leader in developing community-based services for individuals with developmental disabilities. Oregon is one of only three states that have no state or privately operated institutional level services specifically for people with developmental disabilities. In fact, the majority of individuals with developmental disabilities in Oregon, approximately 67 percent, are served in their own home or their family's home.

That is the result of two decades of work to aggressively "re-balance" the developmental disabilities system -- moving from an institutional model with expensive "one size fits all" approach -- to a self-directed, family involved, individually focused and less expensive approach to service. Today, consumers and families report a high level of satisfaction through the increased control over services, the ability to more fully integrate in home communities and the benefits of home community life.

However, to maintain those high levels of satisfaction, to further advance the inclusion of people with developmental disabilities in their communities, and to serve the increasing number of people with developmental disabilities requesting services, the system has an urgent need to continue its evolution in a fiscally sustainable manner.

To that end, we have prepared a strategic budget designed to further improve the customer experience and advance efficiencies to maximize resources. Specifically, we seek to achieve the following outcomes and goals:

- Provide an array of options that are properly distributed to assure access through equitable and culturally competent services.
- Be responsive to emerging consumer demands for individualized, self-directed services and sufficient service choices.
- Assure the health and safety of individuals served.
- Promote maximum consumer independence and engagement in homes and communities.
- Leverage use of available federal funding options.
- Address improvements in business practices such as payment and information systems to achieve overall operational efficiencies.

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Funding

The Agency Request Budget to operate the Developmental Disability (DD) program for the 2013-15 biennium is \$594M in general fund.

Developmental Disabilities Program - Healthy People Total						
	GF	OF	FF	TF	Positions	FTE
LAB	528,405,561	34,376,402	846,553,791	1,409,335,754	846	841.01
ARB	593,833,725	25,778,521	940,400,259	1,560,012,505	855	845.87
Difference	65,428,164	(8,597,881)	93,846,468	150,676,751	9	4.86
Percent Change	12.4%	-25.0%	11.1%	10.7%	1.1%	0.6%

With the ultimate goal of preventing or delaying access to the highest cost services within our system, we plan to direct funds to improve outcomes, expand on service innovations and strategically advance initiatives in the following areas:

- Employment outcomes
- Quality assurance
- Family-to-family support
- Available services
- Technology
- Improve and implement new models of service

Developmental Disabilities Investments/Reductions	DD Program - Healthy People Total					
	GF	OF	FF	TF	Positions	FTE
Expand from 4 to 8 Family to Family Networks across the state	0.60	0.00	0.00	0.60		
Provider training to increase supported employment opportunities	0.15	0.00	0.15	0.30		
Implement uniform rate setting process or "ReBar" for employment services	3.10	0.00	5.12	8.23		
Increase OVRS services to DD clients due to DD Employment First referrals	0.74	0.00	1.99	2.74	10	8.80
Restore Quality Assurance Positions removed due to budget cuts in 09-11	3.43	0.00	3.41	6.84	40	35.20
Implement electronic case management and client record system for DD	2.45	0.00	2.44	4.89	2	1.66
Restore Fairview Trust to pre-2011-13 \$13 million balance	6.95	0.00	0.00	6.95		
Continue 11-13 bargained contracted rates for In-home services	5.30	0.00	8.59	13.89		
In Home Support Services Rate Increases for stable qualified workforce	7.50	0.00	12.49	19.99		

Strategic Initiatives

Improve employment outcomes. Paid employment is the key to increased independence, choice, and community engagement from an individual and family standpoint. From a program standpoint, the more individuals with developmental disabilities that have meaningful employment, the less dependent they are on public services and service planning flexibility is increased. Recent litigation and U.S. Department of Justice (DOJ) findings have highlighted the criticality of progress in this area, which will be accomplished by:

- Increased training and technical assistance activities for provider organizations across the state. Support is needed to transition business models away from group or sheltered employment practices to more individually supported employment models.
- Implementing a new provider rate structure to incentivize the acquisition and maintenance of supported employment.

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- Alignment of policies, services and resources between the DD Program, Vocational Rehabilitation Services and the Department of Education to serve an additional 200 individuals.
- Coordinated efforts with other state and local general workforce development and employer engagement initiatives.

Strategies to improve employment outcomes will be measured through the following metrics:

1. By 2016, sheltered workshops will not be an option for young adults leaving school.
2. By 2017, the number of adults served in sheltered workshops will reduce by 492 individuals or 30%.
3. Increase integrated supported employment opportunities for adult sheltered workshops by at least 10% per year between 2013 and 2017.
4. By 2017, the number of individuals in supported employment will increase by 32%, or a total of 1000 individuals, with 80% of capacity growth and placements in individual employment.

Improve quality assurance. To continue our transition to a performance-based service delivery model, we propose to implement National Core Indicators (NCI), a series of nationally recognized quality assurance measures that assesses individual and family service outcomes. This will also allow Oregon to compare its system's performance results with that of other states. We also seek to restore funding for the quality assurance positions eliminated last biennium from Community Developmental Disability Programs (CDDPs) and Support Service Brokerages. These positions are critical to ensuring compliance with state and federal requirements, and allow state and local partners to identify system and service issues proactively.

Support families. We are proposing to double the number of contracted "Family-to-Family Networks" from 4 to 8 locations across the state. These community-based Networks support family members as caregivers for children with disabilities, often delaying or deferring entry into Medicaid-funded DD services. Networks advance a peer-support model, with families helping each other by creating opportunities for shared experience with other families with children with intellectual and developmental disabilities, and by providing respite and system navigation supports. These supports enable families to avoid crises and enable children to remain at home with their families.

Realign Support Services. Support Services is the major in-home program for individuals 18 years and older serving approximately 7,200 individuals monthly. It is the first level of service when adults enter the DD program. The average cost is approximately \$1,000 per month with a maximum monthly limit of \$1,770. When the maximum level of support services is insufficient to meet an individual's needs, the only option into today's system is to advance to a higher level - 24-hour care setting, costing approximately \$5,500 per month. Our budget proposes to realign our service levels, setting new mid-range cost/service limits for in-home support services. This will give the system flexibility to meet an individual's service needs without having to place the individual in a 24/7, higher cost service setting. This realignment will require that we gain approval from our federal partners and require us to build additional provider service capacity.

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Technology advancements. New technology specifically designed for individuals with developmental disabilities will help us save time, staff resources, provide efficiencies and improve services for individuals we serve. This technology ranges from the use of remote monitoring to use of the various applications available through smart phone technology. We also need to implement a centralized, electronic client record and case management system. Today there is no common, centralized information system for client plans, services, and outcomes. Investment in this system will enhance the system's ability to effectively serve people, plan strategically, and provide required regulatory and oversight functions.

Redefine State Operated Community Programs (SOCP). These 24/7, state-run programs are used when no other community-based program can serve an individual. The program is designed to meet the needs of some of the most challenging individuals eligible for developmental disability services, including individuals who have committed crimes, are highly sexualized, etc. This biennium, the State has reduced our SOCP capacity by 22 percent. In doing so, SOCP is looking to enhance its capacity to serve as a short-term resource, rather than one where people come to live and stay for long periods of time. Resources included in this proposal would be used to stabilize the individual, build community capacity, and work to return the person back into a privately owned/operated community setting as soon as possible. The goal is to assure that the limited capacity of this high-cost service is always available to those most in need, while optimizing its size and minimizing the risk of expansion.

Conclusion

This proposal represents a substantive level of strategic planning that will allow the DD system to improve the quality of service it offers to Oregonians with developmental disabilities and their families that support them. The primary focus is on sustainable, quality service programming that accounts for the short- and long-term budget realities that shape our implementation planning. Out-of-home placements for people with disabilities can range from \$24,000 to \$156,000 a year. Focusing our efforts on helping people with disabilities remain at home or in their community provides not only financial benefits, but better quality throughout their lifespan. We are confident that this plan will maximize resources and strengthen the service system, enhancing its ability to produce results for those we serve.