



August 20, 2020

To: ODDS Staff and Stakeholders

From: Lilia Teninty, Director, Office of Developmental Disabilities Services

CDDP and Brokerage directors: Please share this message with your staff.

The COVID-19 pandemic has adversely affected the economy, which in turn impacts the amount of funding the state is able to provide for the many services Oregonians rely on.

Earlier this summer I shared with you details about a budget exercise where the governor required state agencies to identify possible cuts to address the funding issue. ODDS and other programs within the Oregon Department of Human Services participated in that exercise.

On August 10, the Oregon Legislature held a Special Session to address the state's budget issues. Several of the budget actions impact the state's system that serves people with intellectual and developmental disabilities (I/DD) and their families.

Decisions like these are never easy. For the most part, these budget reductions aim to have less direct impact on services for people with I/DD.

The Legislature approved the following reductions, totaling \$14.9 million General Fund (\$23.5 million total funds):

Administrative savings (\$6.6 million General Fund). The eXPRs system has enabled ODDS to secure a higher federal match to offset General Funds and reduced the need for settlements at the end of the biennium. ODDS has also eliminated temporary staffing services.

Statewide case management system: Eliminate funding for statewide case management system (\$2.3 million General Fund). While funding for a statewide case management system has been earmarked in the budget for

several years, it hasn't made it to the top of the state's priorities for IT system's changes.

Host homes: The number of new host homes was reduced from 140 to 30 (\$3.7 million General Fund). This new service was originally approved in the 2019 legislative session to increase residential capacity by allowing children and youth to step down from more restrictive group home settings and expand residential capacity. Growth of the program has been slower than expected.

Former CIP homes: Eliminate housing emergency repairs for former Community Integration Program homes (\$421,573 General Fund). CIP Homes were developed to help relocate individuals from the Fairview Training Center into the community. As the 30-year bonds for the development or remodeling of the homes mature, ODDS has maintained a small portfolio of former CIP homes and assisted with emergency maintenance and costs associated with housing individuals with I/DD.

Family to Family Networks: Phase out Family to Family Networks over the remainder of the biennium (\$417,372 General Fund).

Family to Family Networks have been a vital part of the I/DD system in Oregon for many years. They help parents of children think about what's possible for their children and help families navigate complicated systems across 20 Oregon counties. They also help families access their communities, connect with other families, and leverage local resources.

Relief care: Limit relief care to seven days for the remainder of biennium (\$1.5 million General Fund). However, we subsequently determined this reduction would jeopardize the additional 6.2% federal match under the CARES Act. We have notified the Legislature of this issue.

Many of us have devoted both our personal and professional lives to supporting people with I/DD to live full lives in their communities. Changes like these are difficult. We will do our best to ease the transitions as much as possible and keep you updated as the situation changes.

Sincerely,



Lilia Teninty
Director
Office of Developmental Disabilities Services

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