



State of Connecticut
Department of Developmental Services



Dannel P. Malloy
Governor

Terrence W. Macy, Ph.D.
Commissioner

Joseph W. Drexler, Esq.
Deputy Commissioner

Appropriations Health & Hospitals Subcommittee Workgroup: February 29, 2012

Co-Chairs: Senator Toni Harp & Representative Juan Candelaria

The Department of Developmental Services (DDS) appreciates the opportunity to discuss the proposed midterm adjustments to the budget for the biennium ending June 30, 2013 as it relates to DDS. We have included the following information in response to questions posed at the Appropriations Public Hearing on February 22, 2012:

1. Provide detail for the annualization of the holdbacks for FY 13. (Rep. Miner)

The \$12,127,646 annualization of holdbacks for FY13 was developed based on a July 2011 roster of DDS retirements and vacancies. Since then, some positions have been refilled and others have retired. This reduction is equivalent to approximately 205 FTEs. The department is monitoring every vacancy that comes up and is working to manage overtime and other costs associated with personal services.

2. RBA: What are the most important measures used for determining outcomes in your RBA report cards? Has the agency contemplated establishing one or two key measures that could be used across programs? (Rep. Ritter)

DDS has participated in the RBA Report Card process for three programs: Birth to Three, the Voluntary Services Program (VSP), and Community Companion Homes (CCHs), previously known as Community Training Homes (CTHs). The following questions and related performance measures have been used in the program report cards:

Birth to Three:

- 1) How well did we do it?
Measure: The percentage of infants and toddlers with disabilities or developmental delays who improve so that at exit, they function at age level in three skill areas has remained steady.
- 2) Is anyone better off?
Measure: The percentage of families who report that as a result of receiving Birth to Three services, they are better able to help their children develop and learn has increased.

- 3) Is anyone better off?
Measure: The percentage of children found eligible for B23 who do not require special education services in Kindergarten has increased slightly over the past decade.

Voluntary Services Program (VSP):

- 1) How much did we do?
Measure: The number of children enrolled in DDS VSP has remained relatively flat the past few years due to no new funding.
- 2) How well did we do it?
Measure: The cost per child has decreased from FY08 to FY11.
- 3) Is anyone better off?
Measure: The percentage of individuals receiving in-home services (vs. out of home placement) has increased.
- 4) Is anyone better off?
Measure: A survey of participating families in September 2012 showed that more than 80 % of families agreed or strongly agreed that VSP had been beneficial to their family.

Community Companion Homes (CCHs):

- 1) How much did we do?
Measure: The number of individuals (more than 400 in CCHs) at the various level of need (LON) scores has remained constant the past two fiscal years.
- 2) How well did we do it?
Measure: Based on a statewide survey in 2011, licensees reported a high level of satisfaction with becoming a CCH provider and families and guardians reported a high level of satisfaction with the CCH program.
- 3) Is anyone better off?
Measure: DDS Quality Service Review data has consistently shown high individual satisfaction.

3. Provide federal revenue associated with DDS programs. (Rep. Abercrombie)

During FY 2011, the department generated \$515,152,087 (regular reimbursement totaled \$459,498,852; retroactive rate adjustments totaled \$55,653,235) in federal Medicaid reimbursement. In fiscal year 2011, 8,741 people participated in the Home and Community Based Services Waiver Program. This is a net growth of 101 individuals over fiscal year 2010 enrollment. The HCBS waiver program allows for federal reimbursement for residential habilitation, day programs, and support services provided in the community.

4. Provide detail related to the funding for the Waiver Management System (Rep. Candelaria)

The adjustment of \$555,400 is for an expanded Planning Advance Planning Document which would include a proof of concept. The proof of concept would allow DDS to take a part of the larger waiver management system and design an application to test our ability to fully comply with the latest federal requirements for Medicaid Information Technology Architecture (MITA). If approved by the federal government, DDS would receive 90% reimbursement of costs associated with the work. DDS would hire consultants to work on the project supported and supervised by existing DDS employees. When the higher reimbursement for existing department staff is included, DDS should generate more new revenue than the additional cost of this initiative. DDS would benefit from the application developed as part of the proof of concept and would utilize the knowledge gained from this application development in designing other information technology improvements.

In response to a request from the Office of Fiscal Analysis for additional information, please see the following:

1. An update on the Early Connections Program:

- As of February 23, 2012 there were still 142 children receiving services, down from 254 in July 2011. There are 27 therapists represented by 1199. A Job Fair was held on February 15th at which various reassignments within DDS were presented and staff selected those reassignments by seniority. All therapists, including per diem therapists, were offered reassignments. They are beginning to phase-into those new assignments as their caseloads decrease.
- There are 12 teachers and 1 educational supervisor represented by CSEA. DDS Human Resources staff is offering a similar process to the one used for 1199 staff. Potential reassignments will be offered and those CSEA members will select based on seniority.
- One instructor has already accepted a job as a DDS case manager. One bilingual clerk-interpreter has started an assignment in the North Region's Individual and Family Support Division and will spend increasing amounts of time there as her Early Connections caseload decreases.

2. A status report on the FY 12 Group Home Closures:

- Parkwood Road Group Home North Region - Closed 10/10/11
- House 11 South Region - Closed 9/21/11
- Fogarty Road South Region – Closed 8/30/11
- Ellsworth Ave South Region - Projected to close before 6/30/12
- Unit A, Building 2, Ella Grasso Center West Region – Closed 2/1/12
- STS Cottage 1 - Closed 5/22/11

3. The annual number of Southbury Training School (STS) consumers that have chosen community placements over the past ten years.

Fiscal Year	Community Placements
FY 02	6
FY 03	0
FY 04	4
FY 05	2
FY 06	0
FY 07	5
FY 08	0
FY 09	1
FY 10	3
FY 11	1
Total	22

4. As of February 23, 2012, the total number of DDS Community Living Arrangements (CLAs) was 869, with 803 run by private providers and 66 run by public employees.