



# SAVE OUR DD SERVICES

Governor Moore's FY26 budget includes several significant cuts and cost containment measures that **negatively impact people with developmental disabilities, their families, and community providers.** Below, you can find more information about each of the cuts and what they will do.

## Proposed Budget Cuts for FY25 and FY26

The overall impact for this current fiscal year would be **\$194 million** (*total funds: 50/50 state and federal*) and **\$457 million in FY26** (*total funds: 50/50 state and federal*). This represents a **22% overall cut to DD community supports in FY26.**

### **Change in the Dedicated Hours Policy** *-\$54.2M in FY25*

If this policy change is adopted, funding for residential supports for people who need dedicated hours will be significantly reduced, negatively impacting the people who need that level of support, and the people they live with. This cut reverses the progress that was made in strengthening community living, and runs counter to the federal Community Rule that requires that states give people the opportunity to have choice in their daily activities.

### **Elimination of the Geographic Differential Rate** *-\$56M in FY25*

This will reduce the funding available for supports to all people in Montgomery, Prince George's, Charles, Calvert, and Frederick Counties, whether they use community providers or self-direct their services. This will lead to diminished support for people and reduced provider capacity in those areas for current and future needs.

### **Transition of State-Only Funded People to Waiver** *-\$3.1M in FY25*

It is unclear at this time what this will mean for people who are state-only funded and are not waiver-eligible but need supports, but at a minimum, people who may be waiver-eligible will be required to apply for the DDA Medicaid waivers.

### **Elimination of the Low Intensity Support Services (LISS) Program** *-\$2.8M in FY25*

The elimination of LISS will cut access to small grants that have help close to 2,500 people and families who get no other supports from DDA.

### **Utilization of Waiting List Equity Funds (WLEF)** *-\$15M in FY25*

This one-time action will move funds in the WLEF into the DDA budget to help offset the current budget shortfall, and will end this funding source for future years.

### **Self-Direction: Customary Rate Adjustment** *-\$36.5M in FY25*

This change to the "reasonable and customary rate- wage allowance" for people who self-direct may affect the ability of people who self-direct to maintain their current staff and hire staff.

### **Self-Direction: Elimination of Wage Exception Process** *-\$4.7M in FY25*

This may limit the ability of people who self-direct to maintain their current caregivers and attract future caregivers with incentives for travel and to meet complex support needs

### **Self-Direction: Restoration of the Individual and Family Directed Goods and Services Spending Cap**

This may restrict the ability of people and families to purchase necessary goods and services. There have been no details about what the cap would be and what the impacts might be for people who self-direct.

