

A C T I O N A L E R T

December 2011

Contact Governor O'Malley about Funding the Developmental Disabilities Administration FY 2013 Budget

NOW is the time to contact Governor O'Malley about his FY 2013 State Budget for the year ahead. Once the budget is released in January, it will be very difficult to get additional money added.

Please take the time to urge the Governor to include the following funding in DDA's FY 2013 budget:

- Restore ALL funds to DDA that were recently returned to the General Fund.
- Add more funds to DDA for:
 - People on the Waiting List
 - People in emergency
 - Rate increases due to inflation (as directed in SB 633 / HB 1034)
 - ALL transitioning youth leaving school

Background:

- There are over 6500 people on DDA's Waiting List for community services and supports. While \$15m in new revenue from the alcohol tax was committed to DDA in FY2012, thousands of people will remain on the Waiting List in need of services.
- The community service system is woefully underfunded. While money was going unspent at DDA, community services were cut 2%, resource coordination 15% and Low Intensity Support Services were cut by \$1m.
- DDA failed to spend \$34.4m: \$25.6m was returned to the state's general fund (and lost to DDA) and another \$8.8m will be used for one-time only services and other costs in the current fiscal year (FY2012) but will not be annualized in the FY 2013 budget. If the funds aren't annualized, meaning they will be available each year in the future, they can't be used to take people off the waiting list or address the inadequate rates paid for services.

How to contact the Governor:

Phone (leave a message with staff): 410.974.3901 or 1-800-811-8336

Email: <http://www.governor.maryland.gov/mail/>

Mail: The Honorable Martin O'Malley
Governor
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