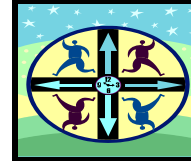



# New Directions Basics



## OVERVIEW:

- + Independence Plus 1915(c) Home and Community Based Services Waiver, authorized to begin July 1, 2005 with 100 people each year for a total of 300.
- + *New Directions* is a consumer-directed system rather than a traditional provider directed system. It is not designed to be an increase in services but rather an opportunity to explore a new way of supporting individuals with developmental disabilities and their families to have increased power and control over planning, budgeting, expending and managing service dollars.
- + Eligibility –
  - o DD eligible, any age
  - o ICF/MR level of care
  - o Financial – 300% SSI
  - o Choose to live in your own home or your family home in the community
  - o Currently be in DDA services or have newly allocated DDA service dollars
- + **Service Package includes:**
  - o Self-Directed Services
    - Supports Brokerage
    - Fiscal Management Service
    - Respite
    - Day Habilitation – Supported Employment
    - Personal Support
    - Transportation
    - Accessibility Adaptation
    - Family & Individual Support Services
    - Assistive Technology & Adaptive Equipment
  - o Traditionally Implemented (not self-directed)
    - Resource Coordination
    - Day Habilitation - Traditional Day Services
    - Transition Services
    - Behavioral Supports
- + **New components include:**
  - o **Supports Brokerage – the Support Broker (SB)** provides day to day support for managing the budget, managing staff/vendors and fully implementing the *New Directions* Individual Plan & Budget.
  - o **Fiscal Management Service (FMS):**
    - The FMS receives money from DDA on the waiver participant’s behalf to pay bills/staff as directed by the individual and outlined in their plan and budget. The FMS maintains all employer records for the waiver participant who is the actual employer.
    - 2 FMS providers, each providing statewide service:
      - The Arc of the Central Chesapeake Region, Inc.
      - MedSource

## Budget

- Service dollars available will be determined by historical usage – dollars currently being expended on the person’s behalf.
  - The budget will be built based upon a person centered planning approach. This process is directed by the individual/family and details how they feel their needs can best be met in the community. There is considerable flexibility in how services can be provided, who will provide them and how payment will be determined.
-  The checks and balances built in to support the individual/family to be successful in the community include the Resource Coordinator, Support Broker, Fiscal Management Service and Regional *New Directions* Coordinator.

## CONTACTS

- Catriona Johnson, Assistant Director for State and Federal Relations, oversees management of DDA’s Medicaid waivers. You can reach her at 410-767-5569 or at [catrionaj@dhhm.state.md.us](mailto:catrionaj@dhhm.state.md.us).
- Denise Sutton is the DDA headquarters staff in charge of *New Directions*. You can reach her at 410-767-5636 or by e-mail at [SuttonD@dhhm.state.md.us](mailto:SuttonD@dhhm.state.md.us).
- Edward Willard is the DDA headquarters staff in charge of independent advocacy for the person in *New Directions* who needs assistance with problems involving their waiver services. You can reach him at 410-767-5634 or by e-mail at [WillardE@dhhm.state.md.us](mailto:WillardE@dhhm.state.md.us)
- Each regional DDA office has a designated Regional *New Directions* Waiver Coordinator.
  - CMRO, Sara Crigger, 410-902-4500
  - SMRO, Kim Bennardi, 301-362-5100
  - WMRO, Tina Swink, 301-791-4670
  - EMRO, Mike Wool, 410-334-6920
- Our Website continues to be a great resource for information
  - [www.ddamaryland.org](http://www.ddamaryland.org)