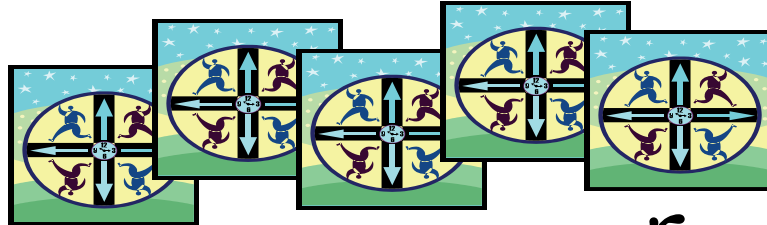


New Directions



On The Move

May 2007



Numbers

New Directions continues to grow! As of April 25 there were 44 people on the *New Directions* waiver with another 12 pending.



Training

New Directions Support Broker trainings are scheduled for June 6, July 18, August 15, September 19, October 17, November 21, and December 19. For more information or to register, please contact Terri Elliott by phone at 410-767-5421 or by e-mail at TElliott@dhmb.state.md.us.



Forms & Publications

The most recent revisions of all *New Directions* forms and materials are available at www.ddamaryland.org. We ask that you print off/download the most recent version of any form when you start or revise your plan and budget. Please note that changes have been made to budget modification forms for those requesting services not in their current Individual Plan. *New Directions* waiver participants should have recently received a letter with information regarding their fiscal year 2008 budgets. If you have not received a letter or have questions, please contact your Regional *New Directions* Waiver Coordinator.



People

A number of personnel changes have taken place since our last newsletter. At the Developmental Disabilities Administration (DDA), Nancy Kirchner is now the acting director and Audrey Waters is the acting deputy director. In late March, Catriona Johnson joined DDA as the assistant director for State and Federal Relations, replacing Angela Rapp-Kennedy as the person managing the *New Directions* waiver. Catriona can be reached by phone at 410-767-5569 or at catrionaj@dhmb.state.md.us.

There are also some new faces in DDA Regional Offices. The Regional *New Directions* Waiver Coordinators are your best sources of information and are:

CENTRAL MARYLAND

If you live in Howard, Harford, Anne Arundel, or Baltimore Counties, or Baltimore City, please call Sara Crigger at the Central Maryland Regional Office: 410-902-4500

EASTERN SHORE

If you live in Cecil County or in the Maryland counties east of the Bay Bridge, please call Mike Wool at the Eastern Shore Regional Office: 410-334-6920

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SOUTHERN MARYLAND

If you live in Prince Georges, Montgomery, Calvert, St. Mary's or Charles Counties, please call Mary Quigley (for new participants) or Marlene Moreno (for existing participants) at the Southern Maryland Regional Office: 301-362-5100

WESTERN MARYLAND

If you live in Frederick, Carroll, Washington, Allegany, or Garrett Counties, please call Tina Swink at the Western Maryland Regional Office: 301-791-4670



Feedback

DDA and the *My Life Going Far* project will be holding a public input forum for **New Directions** participants and their support brokers on May 30 at 6:30 p.m. at the DDA Southern Region office (312 Marshall Ave., 7th Floor, Laurel MD 20707). DDA is seeking input on how to improve the waiver's application process, training, services, etc. Please contact Catriona Johnson at catrionaj@dbmh.state.md.us to RSVP or, if you are unable to attend, e-mail your suggestions for improving the **New Directions** waiver to NDfeedback@dbmh.state.md.us.



Coffee Hour

DDA is in the process of scheduling a number of "coffee hours" in each region of the state where **New Directions** waiver participants, brokers or others, along with individuals interested in the **New Directions** waiver, can come ask questions in a relaxed atmosphere. Watch for news on coffee hours in your region over the coming weeks and months.



My Life Going Far

My Life Going Far, a three-year project of TASH made possible through a partnership between the Maryland Developmental Disabilities Council and DDA, will be winding down over

the summer months. Groups interested in training workshops on the basics of the **New Directions** waiver, self-determination, or person-centered planning should contact the project directors, Edward Willard at ewillardjr@verizon.net and Jackie Golden at jlgolden@comcast.net.



Success Stories

It has been just over a year since the first participant enrolled in the **New Directions** waiver. As we undertake outreach efforts to enroll new participants and plan for the waiver's renewal by the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) in the coming year, we would like to hear your success stories! Has the **New Directions** waiver improved your quality of life? Have you been able use your waiver in new and interesting ways? Please let us know, by e-mailing your stories to NDfeedback@dbmh.state.md.us.



Department of Health and Mental Hygiene

Martin O'Malley, Governor

Anthony G. Brown, Lt. Governor

John M. Colmers, Secretary

Nancy Kirchner, Acting Director

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The Department, in compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, ensures that qualified individuals with disabilities are given an opportunity to participate in and benefit from DHMH services, programs, benefits, and employment opportunities.