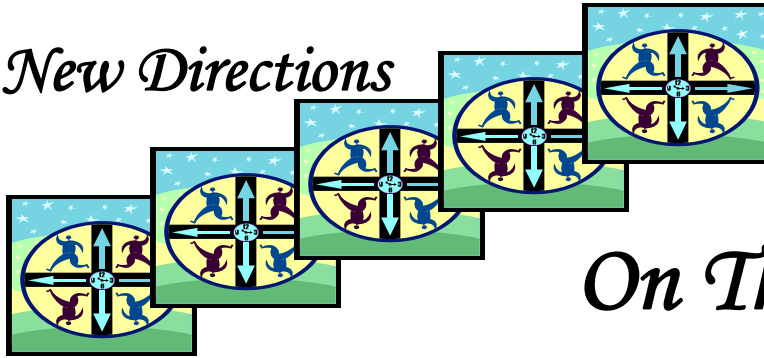


New Directions



On The Move

December 2005

In an effort to keep you apprised of current developments related to implementation of *New Directions*, Maryland's Independence Plus Waiver for Individuals with Developmental Disabilities, the Developmental Disabilities Administration publishes this monthly update.



Support Broker Orientation training sessions are scheduled for January 21, 24, 26 & 31. Each individual who has submitted a Regional Information Form and been contacted by the Regional *New Directions* Coordinator has been invited to attend a one day training with his/her Support Broker. Support Brokers are required to complete orientation before starting work. Additional trainings will be scheduled.



Training for Resource Coordinators who will be supporting individuals/families participating in the *New Directions* waiver is scheduled for January 12th and 18th. Those Resource Coordinators who support individuals who have expressed an interest in *New Directions* by submitting a Regional Information Form to DDA have been invited to attend this one day training. The training will include an overview of the *New Directions* waiver system as well as all the details of resource coordination roles and responsibilities. Additional trainings will be scheduled.



Final revisions are being made to the *New Directions* Individual Plan & Budget. This new document will be available for use later in January. Information gained through person-centered planning activities drives this plan which fulfills all the requirements of the Individual Plan, the Service Funding Plan and the *New Directions* budgeting functions in one document. We are excited to try out this new approach to planning and budgeting.



TASH has training and technical assistance available to anyone interested in self-direction through the *New Directions* waiver. We strongly encourage you to contact them at:

410-828-8274

1-800-482-8274 (toll free)

<http://www.tash.org/mdnewdirections/about.htm>



New Directions “Coffee Hours” are being scheduled around the state. These are intended to be very informal; not training, no presentation - just a pot of coffee, some cookies and an opportunity for anyone to drop in to chat about *New Directions* and get questions answered. Call the regional office if you need directions.

January 10th 1:00 – 3:00 p.m.
 WMRO Conference Room
 1360 Marshall Street in Hagerstown

January 19th 9:30 – 11:30 a.m.
 SMRO Conference Room
 312 Marshall Ave., 7th Floor in Laurel

January 25th 9:30 – 11:30 a.m.
 Kanner Building Conference Room
 Rosewood Center
 Rosewood Lane in Owings Mills

There will be a coffee hour coming to the Eastern Shore in February.



We are working on plans and hope to begin including *New Directions* waiver participants in the Ask Me! Survey. The Ask Me! Survey, funded by DDA, utilizes trained peer interviewers to collect quality of life satisfaction information from individuals receiving services through DDA.



The Regional Information Form is a tool for individuals and families to notify regional DDA offices of their interest in *New Directions* (it is not an application for service). It can be found on the DDA website: <http://ddamaryland.org/waiver.htm>



Each regional DDA office has a designated Regional *New Directions* Waiver Coordinator. They are your best source of information, both for general systems questions as well as information specific to your individual situation.

CENTRAL MARYLAND

If you live in Howard County, Harford County, Anne Arundel County, Baltimore City or Baltimore County, please call:

John Whittle
 Central Maryland Regional Office
 410-902-4500

SOUTHERN MARYLAND

If you live in Prince Georges County, Montgomery County, Calvert County, St. Mary’s County or Charles County, please call:

Susan Burke Harrison
 Southern Maryland Regional Office
 301-362-5100

WESTERN MARYLAND

If you live in Frederick County, Carroll County, Washington County, Allegany County or Garrett County, please call:

Tina Swink
 Western Maryland Regional Office
 301-791-4670

EASTERN SHORE

If you live in Cecil County or points east of the Bay Bridge, please call:

Mike Wool
 Eastern Shore Regional Office
 410-334-6920

Angela Rapp Kennedy is the DDA Assistant Director responsible for DDA waiver programs. You can reach her at 410-767-5569 or by e-mail at AKennedy@dhhm.state.md.us