



STATE OF WASHINGTON
DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL AND HEALTH SERVICES
Developmental Disabilities Administration
PO Box 45310, Olympia, WA 98504-5310

December 20, 2021

TO: DSHS Developmental Disabilities Administration Stakeholders

FROM: Debbie Roberts, Assistant Secretary

SUBJECT: Governor's Proposed Supplemental 2021–23 Operating Budget Released

Last Thursday, Governor Inslee released his proposed 2021–23 first supplemental budget. The COVID-19 pandemic continues to impact the way in which we assist clients in need of services and supports. We are pleased to see that the Governor continues to recognize our priorities to support clients and providers as we continue to manage the difficulties surrounding this pandemic. In terms of priority themes supported by the Governor in his proposed budget, expanding community support for children and transforming services for individuals with IDD, continuing to support COVID-19 related mitigation efforts, and reducing case management caseload sizes, are among the priorities.

Below are significant items the Governor's supplemental budget proposal includes for DDA:

Community Supports for Children

Families caring for children and youth with significant behavioral issues need extra support. This funding will expand intensive habilitation services and out-of-home services for children and youth from ages eight to 21. This includes adding six three-bed facilities in licensed intensive habilitation services and six three-bed facilities for long-term enhanced out-of-home services. (\$8.9M total funds; \$5.5M GF-State; 0.5 FTE)

Continuum of Care

Children and youth with complex behavioral issues need a continuum of care across state agencies and local providers. Funding is provided for 32 beds and agency administration costs at the Health Care Authority to create a short-term Residential Crisis Stabilization Program (RCSP) for youth with severe behavioral health diagnoses. The capital budget includes appropriations for design and construction of a new facility that is anticipated to open in fiscal year 2024. A new facility that is anticipated to open in 2024. DDA will have additional staffing costs to provide case management, resources and other services for children and youth served in the facility. (\$168,000 total funds; \$84,000 GF-State; 0.5 FTE)

Transform Services for DDA Clients

Forecast the need for community and residential services (including respite beds and crisis stabilization services), study Medicaid rates, and develop metrics for community residential providers and additional DDA services for a new caseload forecast. (\$160,000 GF-S; 1.0 FTE)

Financial Eligibility Staff

Timely and accurate eligibility determinations are critical to improving access to services for clients with intellectual or developmental disabilities. Funding is provided for 22.3 FTE staff to complete financial eligibility determinations within the required 45-day timeframe, reduce the backlog of clients waiting for eligibility determination, and reduce wait times on the call center. (\$2.5M total funds; \$1.4M GF-State; 11.2 FTE)

HCBS Provider Development

Home and community-based services (HCBS) providers help connect clients with disabilities to supportive community resources, provide supportive parenting services and offer short-term respite support to caregivers. Funding is provided to increase the hourly rates paid to providers of waiver services on April 1, 2022. Additionally, funding is provided for an assistive technology program manager. (\$2.8M total funds; \$1.9M GF-State; 0.5 FTE)

Enhanced Case Management

Expand access to the enhanced case management program from 700 to 1,500 clients. This will include 50 FTE case managers to increase the program's capacity and reduce caseload ratios to one case manager per 30 clients. It also will enhance the Comprehensive Assessment Reporting and Evaluation system to provide automatic nursing referrals for clients in this program. (\$6.4M total funds; \$3.7M GF-State; 25.0 FTE)

Targeted Provider Rates

Funding is provided to continue the COVID-19 rate enhancements to contracted providers that expire on December 31, 2021. The rate enhancements are reduced in fiscal year 2023 and fiscal year 2024. (\$177.8M total funds; \$64.4 GF-State)

Community Residential Services Quality Assurance:

Monitoring of services delivered to over 4,500 clients served in DDA contracted residential programs. The staffing is needed to meet assurances with Centers for Medicare & Medicaid

Services to verify clients received services authorized on the Core and Community Protection Waivers. (\$545,000 total funds; \$308,000 GF-State; 2.0 FTE)

Transitional Care Management

Coordinate transitions of care for 2 ,100 clients who move from one type of care setting to a new one. This includes ramping up staffing from 38 FTEs in fiscal year 2023 to 104 FTEs in fiscal year 2025 to create transition coordination teams, mobile diversion and rapid response teams, and enhanced support for providers. (\$8.5M total funds; \$4.8M GF-State; 19.2 FTE)

SEIU 1199 General Government

The collective bargaining agreement includes a general wage increase of 3 .25% for fiscal year 2023 and a retention bonus payable in two equal installments. (\$1.3M total funds; \$724,000 GF-State)

Adult Family Homes CBA

Funding is provided for implementation of an agreement reached between the governor and the adult family home council under the provisions of chapter 41.56 RCW for fiscal year 2023. (\$2.7M total funds; \$1.4M GF-State)

SEIU 775 In Home Providers and Agency Parity

Funding is provided for the implementation of an agreement reached between the governor and the SEIU775NW and homecare agency parity for fiscal year 2023. (\$22.1M; \$12.4M GF-State)

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Health Care Authority – Community Behavioral Health

Expand services through tribal care management program

Expand tribal primary care case management programs (PCCM). If tribes choose to further develop their PCCM program, they can expand the breadth of services and care coordination that they provide for tribal members. To compensate participating tribes for this increased responsibility, PCCM payments will increase from \$6 per member each month to \$40 per member each month. (\$136,000 GF-S; \$11.9 million GF-F).

Increase inpatient beds for children

Increase the number of community contracted beds in the Children’s Long-Term Inpatient Program (CLIP) to improve bed access and availability for children who require intensive supports. (\$15.0M GF-State)

Youth inpatient navigators

Youth inpatient navigators – through a partnership with Seattle Children’s Hospital – will help families and caregivers identify temporary, alternative services when a child who requires intensive supports can’t find a long-term, inpatient bed because of availability or geography issues. This will support children who need continued, intensive care. (\$4.6 million GF-S; \$891,000 GF-Federal)

Please remember, this is only the first step in the supplemental budget process. The budget may change over time, and we appreciate the Governor’s support in this initial step. The 60-day legislative session begins on January 10, 2022. During session, the House and Senate will each release a supplemental budget and from there a final conference operating budget will ultimately be passed by the Legislature. As we move through this process we will be meeting with stakeholders and will keep you posted on the budget status.

More detail can be found at the [OFM Budget website](#).

Thank you for your partnership as we focus to provide the most appropriate care possible to the clients we serve. We will continue to work each day to transform lives by providing support and fostering partnerships that empower people to live the lives they want.

Have a safe and happy holiday season.

Sincerely,



Deborah Roberts
Assistant Secretary

DSHS: *Transforming Lives*