




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

September 22, 2022

TO: DSHS Developmental Disabilities Administration Stakeholders

FROM: Debbie Roberts, Assistant Secretary 

SUBJECT: 2023-25 DSHS Proposed Operating Biennial Budget
DSHS Developmental Disabilities Administration

The Department of Social and Health Services submitted the 2023-25 DSHS proposed operating biennial budget to the Office of Financial Management on September 20. The DSHS proposal is an important first step in the budget-making process and includes the Developmental Disabilities Administration's proposed biennial budget.

These budget requests stem from listening to you: individuals, families, Tribal and state leaders, stakeholders, and providers and staff. We focused on strengthening client services and supports while looking toward the next legislative session. Our [reports to the legislature](#) have also informed our budget requests.

The Governor's priority to reduce poverty and Secretary Jilma Meneses' initiatives such as becoming a Pro-Equity, Anti-Racist agency, transitioning people to community living, staffing stabilization and Information Technology modernization are also reflected in DDA's requests. DDA's proposed biennial budget requests are:

- **Specialty Adult Family Home:** A proposed pilot to establish a DDA Enhanced AFH Specialty Pilot to provide an enhanced service and support model that will specialize in supporting 400 individuals with an intellectual or developmental disability. (\$13.3 million; 7.0 FTE)
- **Aging Clients, Aging Parent Caregivers:** Out-of-home residential options for 134 DDA clients who live with their elderly parent caregiver. Funding will ensure the clients maintain a safe living environment within their community when their parents are no longer able to meet their needs. (\$21.5 million)

- **Reduce the number of Children and Adults in Hospitals:** The goal is to reduce unnecessary hospitalizations for clients with complex support needs by increasing the capacity of direct support providers and improve staff retention through targeted training and recruitment supports to better meet the needs of individuals. (\$13.2 million; 6.0 FTE)
- **Expand Behavior Stabilization Services:** Statewide, there is an increased request for more mobile and bed-based mobile diversion services to prevent unnecessary hospitalizations and out-of-state services for clients with challenging behaviors. This is coupled with a rate increase request for service providers. (\$11.0 million; 4.0 FTE)
- **Poverty Reduction Package:** These four decision packages can help our supports and services be more equitable by revising estate recovery policies, creating a new DDA non-citizen program, increasing the residential personal needs allowance, and continuing the one-time increase in financial eligibility staff funded in the 2022 supplemental budget. (\$13.6 million; 25.5 FTE)
- **Community Provider Rates:** In the face of labor shortages, inflation and the ongoing effects of the pandemic, these four decision packages would: increase provider rates for employment and community inclusion providers, translation services, community residential providers, and other community providers such as nurses and assisted living facility providers. (\$268.8 million, 5.0 FTE)
- **Dan Thompson Memorial Account:** This is not a request for funding. DDA requests that any money that not projected to be spent in the current biennium be moved to the 2023-25 biennium to expand and enhance home and community-based services for individuals with an intellectual or developmental disability. (\$35.4 million)

More detail on the DDA and the entire DSHS budget request can be found at the [OFM Budget website](#).

Thank you for providing supports for individuals with developmental and intellectual disabilities.