



Developmental Disabilities Administration (DDA) Updates

Bernard Simons, DDA Deputy Secretary

June 30, 2023



Agenda



- **Opening Remarks**
- **Federal Program Updates**
- **Program Updates**
- **Operations Updates**

Communication Updates

Newsletter Schedule and Website Feedback

The DDA Connection



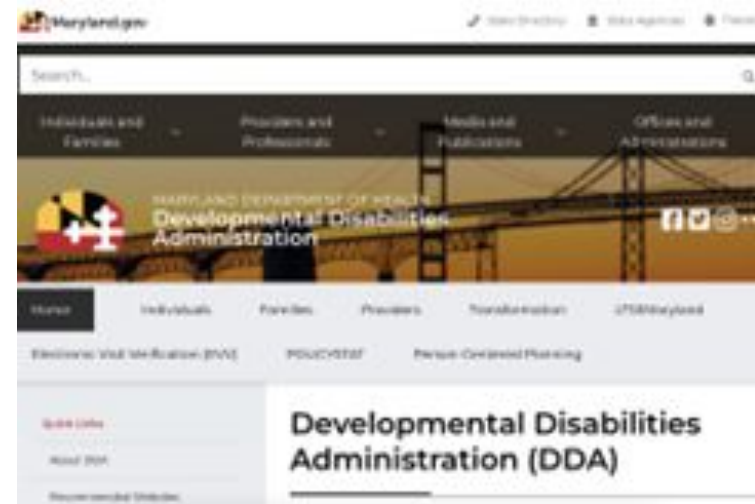
The screenshot shows the top portion of a newsletter. At the top is the Maryland Department of Health logo, which features a stylized cross and the state flag colors. Below the logo, the text reads "Maryland DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH". A horizontal line separates this from the newsletter title "The DDA Connection" and the date "4/20/23". Below another horizontal line is a featured article. It has a red header with the text "How do you do you?" and a circular image of a woman. The article text asks how people use DDA services to live their lives and includes a blue button that says "I'M INTERESTED!". Below this is a section titled "Programs Updates". The first update is for "Technology First", mentioning a "Tech Tuesday" event on April 25, 2023, with a \$50 gift card raffish. At the bottom, there is a small image of a \$50 gift card and the date "April 25, 2023: Enabling Technology & Quality of Life: My Home, My Health, My Privacy".

The DDA Connection will be issued biweekly after this week's edition. The next issue will be out on **Thursday, July 13!**

DDA Website Updates

Website Survey

The DDA has launched an initiative to enhance the user-friendliness and accessibility of our website. We value your input and would love to hear from you about how you use our site! Please take a moment to fill out [this survey](#) to support our improvement efforts.



Federal Programs Updates

Appendix K Flexibilities Ending, Waiver Reminder, Transitioning Youth, and Policy Reminder

Appendix K Flexibilities Ending Today

- Effective **June 30, 2023**, the DDA will end its Appendix K flexibilities.
- Normal waiver operations will begin July 1st unless otherwise noted in the waiver renewal or amendment.
- For more information, please review:
 - Topic specific memos on the DDA's Appendix K webpage at this [link](#).
 - [Waiver Renewal](#) and [Amendment](#) information.

Waiver Renewal Reminder

The approved renewals for the Family Supports, Community Supports, and Community Pathways Waivers are effective **July 1, 2023**.

DDA resources:

- [Waiver Renewals 2023 Services Update Summary Chart](#)
- [DDA Waiver Renewal Webinar - , May 19, 2023](#)
- Visit the dedicated DDA Waiver web pages to see approved Waivers: [Community Pathways](#), [Community Supports](#), [Family Supports](#)
- [DDA Connection - Waiver Renewal Special Edition!](#)

Waiver Amendment #1 - 2023

We are seeking public comment for waiver amendments for the Family Supports, Community Supports, and Community Pathways Waivers.

- The purpose is to provide an option to exempt live-in caregivers who provide Personal Support and Respite Care Services from Electronic Visit Verification (EVV) requirements. This applies to both the traditional and self-directed services delivery models.
- Comments are being accepted: **May 31 through June 30, 2023.**
- To view the proposed amendments, click on the links below:
 - [Family Supports Waiver - Amendment #1 2023](#)
 - [Community Supports Waiver - Amendment #1 2023](#)
 - [Community Pathways Waiver - Amendment #1 2023](#)

People with a pending DDA Waiver Program Application

- All DDA Waiver applicants for which the DDA has confirmed meeting technical and medical eligibility, but final determination is pending with the MDH Eligibility Determination Division (EDD), may begin services. This includes Transitioning Youth.
- In the event the EDD's final determination is that the person is not waiver eligible, the applicant will receive a denial letter from EDD with appeal rights.
- The DDA will also send a letter to the person informing them the DDA funding for services will be ending.

DDA Policy Update Reminder

- The DDA is seeking public input on the following proposed policies posted to the DDA's Policy Stakeholder Input webpage:
 - Support Broker
 - Individual and Family Directed Goods and Services
- You can access the proposed policies here: [DDA Policy Stakeholder Input Dedicated Webpage](#).
- Public comments will be accepted beginning June 16, 2023 through **July 7, 2023**.
- Please submit comments electronically to wfb.dda@maryland.gov.

Programs Updates

**LTSS transition, Person Centered Planning, SDS,
Behavior Respite and Mobile Crisis, other updates**

LTSS Transition

- Transition is full steam ahead!
- Scoping data successes!
- The Western Region is projected to be fully transitioned by September 1, 2023! Congrats!
- All providers need to have a confirmed transition date by **Labor Day 2023**
- Target completion date is **September 1, 2024**

Person-Centered Planning (PCP) Roadshow

- Further incorporating Charting the LifeCourse principles into PCP process
- Collaborative approach
- Local engagement



Person-Centered Planning (PCP) Roadshow

<p>SMRO</p> <p>7/14</p> <p>Comfort Inn & Conference Center</p> <p>4500 Crain Hwy.</p> <p>Bowie, MD 20715</p> <p><u>REGISTER</u></p>	<p>ESRO</p> <p>7/11</p> <p>Harry and Jeanette Weinberg</p> <p>Intergenerational Ctr.</p> <p>108 Chesapeake Street</p> <p>Cambridge, MD 21613</p> <p><u>REGISTER</u></p>	<p>CMRO</p> <p>7/12</p> <p>The Meeting House Columbia</p> <p>5885 Robert Oliver Place</p> <p>Columbia, MD 21045</p> <p><u>REGISTER</u></p>	<p>WMRO</p> <p>7/13</p> <p>Clarion Inn Frederick Events Center</p> <p>5400 Holiday Drive</p> <p>Frederick, MD 21703</p> <p><u>REGISTER</u></p>
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Self-Directed Services

- **IFDGS**
 - Policy
 - Guidance
 - Tools
- **Support Broker**
 - Policy
 - Guidance
 - Tools
 - [Webinar](#)- July 19, 2023 10-11am
- **Reasonable and Customary Rates**

[DDA's SDS webpage](#)

Behavior Respite/Mobile Crisis

Behavior Respite



Mobile Crisis



Beginning **July 1, 2023** Mobile Crisis can be accessed via 988 and requests for behavior respite can be sent by a person's CCS via the QR code above.

Misc updates

- NCI State of the Workforce Survey Deadline extended to **July 31, 2023**
- [Monitoring and follow up guidance](#)
- SIP updates/DSAT reminder
- [Employment 1st recruitment flyer](#)
- [PCP Manual updates](#)
- National CoP for Supporting Families



The flyer features a circular inset image showing two people shaking hands over a document labeled 'RESUME'. The text is organized into sections with bold headings. The Maryland Department of Health logo is in the top right corner. A QR code is located in the bottom left corner of the flyer's content area.

Employment 1st Committee
We need you to help advance DDA's Employment 1st goals

What is the Employment 1st Committee?
The Employment 1st Committee is made up of people who are committed to ensuring people with developmental disabilities have access to the tools they need to achieve their employment-related goals. The Employment 1st Committee is also committed to the belief that all people can work.

What additional voices are needed on the Employment 1st Committee?
We are actively seeking new members who use DDA employment services to join our committee. Your voice is important as we talk about DDA's employment services. We need your input.

What is the time commitment?
The Employment First Committee meets on the second Tuesday of each month from 12:30-2 p.m. There is also an opportunity to join a subcommittee if you are interested. Subcommittee meetings meet separately.

To learn more about DDA's Employment 1st Committee visit our Employment webpage by using the following URL: [Employment Services \(maryland.gov\)](#).

To express interest in joining the Employment 1st Committee please email Kasey Venn, DDA's Statewide Employment and Meaningful Day Services Coordinator at kasey.venn@maryland.gov.

Operations Update

FY2024 Rate Tables

General Ledger Tool

Liberty Healthcare Updates

FY2024 Rate Tables

- FY2024 Rate Tables have been posted to the DDA website
 - [LTSSMaryland](#) Fee-for-service (FFS)
 - [PCIS2](#)
- FY2024 Rate Changes Effective July 1, 2023
 - 4% Mandated Increase
 - Increase to funding percentage for FFS rates
 - Increase to Transportation Component for Meaningful Day Services
- FY2024 Rate Changes Effective January 1, 2024

General Ledger Tool

- The DDA is requesting all DDA providers to collect and submit general ledger cost data to inform rates for DDA Medicaid Waiver services.
- The General Ledger Data Collection Tool was distributed back in May to collect Fiscal Year (FY) 2024 (July 1, 2023 – June 30, 2024) data and will be due in September 2024.
- Completion of this tool will be mandatory for providers billing in *LTSS Maryland*, and will be required annually to inform the rate setting process.

General Ledger Tool

- The tool can be found on the [DDA website](#) and additional resources for providers have also been posted:
 - [Instructions for Completion](#)
 - [FAQ's](#)
 - Recorded Trainings
- For Technical Assistance, please email: dda_rate@hilltop.umbc.edu.
 - 1:1 meetings with providers are available upon request.

June 30, 2023



Liberty Updates Person Centered Excellence Evaluation Activities

Jennifer Mettrick

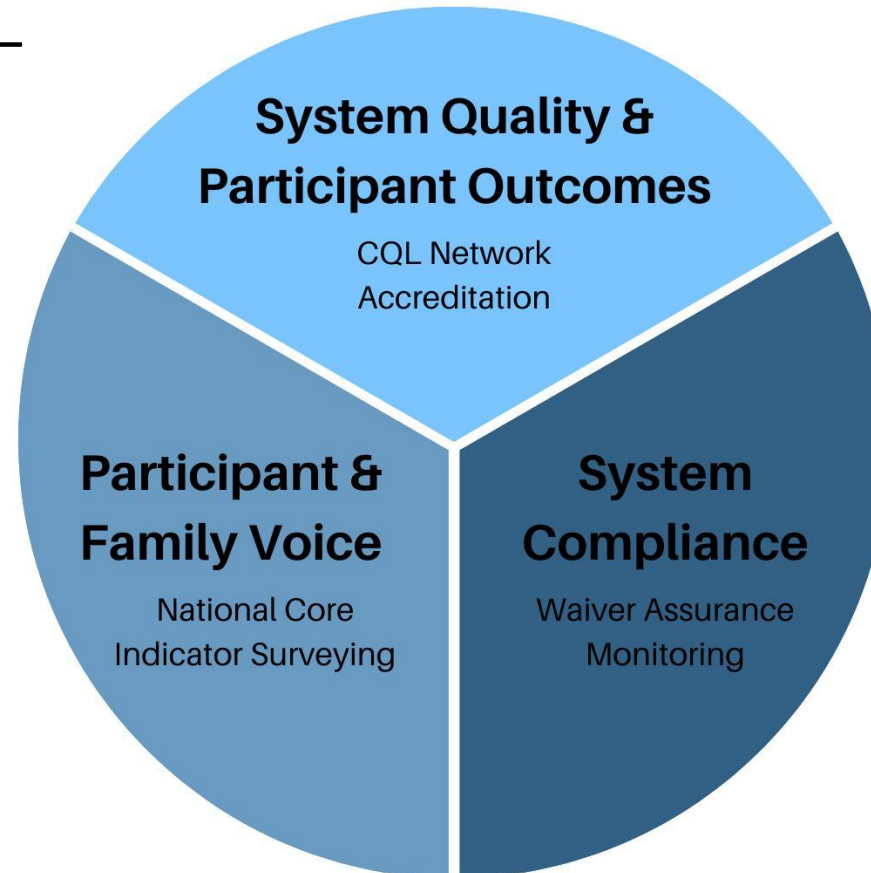


QIO Updates

Evaluating Progress Towards Person-Centered Excellence

CQL Network Accreditation –
9 pilot Basic Assurance Reviews complete, **Full implementation begins July 1, 2023**

NCI Surveys –
530 Participants completed in-person surveys and **1,140** families completed mailed surveys



QIO Collaborative -
Thank you to all the members of the Collaborative who supported the development of the QIO reviews over the past 9 months!

TCM and Utilization Reviews
First round of quarterly reviews complete, statewide summary data to be released in July



Utilization/Qualified Provider Combined Reviews

Utilization Review

Review of claims for financial accountability
(proper payments)

Current Provider Review

Review of Recertification/ Re-licensure process of standard and OHCDS providers (**Qualified Providers**)

Review of staff training and qualifications for providers selected in the qualified provider sample
(Qualified Staff)

New Provider Review

Review of newly certified/licensed providers during the review period

Qualified Provider Standards prior to service provision



Quarterly Sampling

- **Claims Sample (~450 claims)**
 - Random sample of paid claims proportionate to Waiver program and service type
 - Claims sample pulled first
 - A lead reviewer will be assigned to each provider
- **Qualified Provider Sample (~49 New/Current Providers)**
 - Random sample of current providers included in the claims sample and had a licensure/certification renewal date during the review period
 - Newly enrolled providers during the review period



Updates to the Process

- Possible recoupment of payments no longer includes staff training qualifications
- Only if the provider is selected for **both the claims and the qualified provider** samples, will documentation requests include staff training and qualification documentation
- Providers will have **10 business days** to provide initial and/or supplemental documentation from the request date.
- Requests for supplemental documentation will be sent for initial unmet findings related to the Utilization review (claims review) only



Onsite Reviews Post Utilization/Qualified Provider Review

The following **criteria** will be utilized to determine if an onsite review is required:

- No service documentation submitted for any of the claims reviewed
- More than one claim reviewed with the same discrepancy (related to service documentation, or un-resolved timesheet discrepancies)
- Multiple staff training and/or qualification discrepancies

The **purpose** of Onsite reviews are to provide technical assistance to providers on correcting unmet findings.

Onsite reviews **will include** interviews with participants, staff and administrators



Update on Health and Welfare Reviews

Health and Welfare Reviews will begin in July 2023

They will include the following:

- Review of the critical incident process that includes reviewing the completeness, timeliness, and results of each step in the process (provider reporting, OHCQ investigation and provider corrective actions).
- Review of critical incidents in correlation to Health Risk Screening Tool assessments of participants
- Review of the process for restraint related incidents



Health and Welfare Samples

— **Critical Incident Sample:**

- Type I incidents related to Abuse, Neglect, Exploitation and Unexplained Deaths and OHCQ Investigated Incidents and Complaints from the quarterly review period
- ~ 200 incidents reviewed quarterly

— **Physical Restraint Incident Sample**

- Randomly selected incidents with category of “Restraint Related” from the quarterly review period
- ~ 120 incidents reviewed quarterly



**For additional Questions? Email
Jennifer.Mettrick@libertyhealth.com**

Upcoming Monthly Webinars

To register for Monthly Webinars with Deputy Secretary Bernie Simons:

<https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/7056441753881626381>

Next webinar: July 28, 2023 from 10:30-11:30 a.m.

After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the webinar.

Questions

