

Ohio's Support System for People with Disabilities

“What's Now? – What's Coming?”

ARC of Ohio Fall Conference

October 26, 2016



Department of
Developmental Disabilities

Common Themes Out of the 2014 Strategic Planning Leadership Were:

- More people could be employed.
- Most people could be served in less segregated settings – all settings could be more integrated.
- More waivers/less ICFs, but ICFs are important for individuals with complex needs.
- Greater dependence on the waiver means the waiver needs to be strengthened.
- The state needed to share more responsibility in funding services to improve state-wideness – help with waiting list.
- Expansion of cost effective service models for sustainability.
- Simplify the system through waiver consolidation.
- The Direct Support Professionals who do the work need to be paid more.
- More training and support could be offered to all parts of our system in person centered planning, integrated day services, employment supports and supporting families.



Budget Investments That Supported Those Themes:

1. 1,000 (100% state funded) SELF Waivers for waiting list relief/emergencies.
2. 1,136 (100% state funded) Exit (786) and Diversion Waivers (350) provided for folks in ICFs who choose to leave and for those who want to choose an alternative to entering a large ICF.
3. 864 IO Waivers (day services funded by County Boards) provided for waiting list with 25% used for shared living.
4. New waivers were distributed to bring 77 counties up to the median.
5. 2,890 TDD Waivers transitioned to IO, reducing the number of waivers from 4 to 3.
6. Nursing services, funded by the state, were added to the IO Waiver.
7. The state funds the behavior add-on going forward.
8. ICF Direct Support Professionals received a 2% increase and Waiver Direct Support Professionals received a 6% increase.
9. Rental assistance was provided for those leaving ICFs , and a record \$23,000,000 was made available through the capital budget for community housing.
10. Funds were provided to help individuals leaving ICFs/DCs establish their homes (“bridge funding”) and to provide technical assistance and training to waiver home staff.
11. Funds were provided for an ICF Bed Buy-Back Program.
12. Grant funding supported training, supports to families and pilots for experimentation in integrated day services and employment.
13. Funds were provided to increase employment.



Investment Status:

1. We anticipate all Exit Waivers will be used, but not all 350 Diversion Waivers.
2. All SELF and IO waiting list waivers will be used, we have counties asking for more waivers if their colleagues cannot use them. Some of the Shared Living Waivers may extend into the next budget as ramp up is slow.
3. HCBS employment services increased by 700 individuals and over 1300 people are currently being served through OOD partnership.
4. Rental assistance and bed buy-back use has been slow, but is picking up.
5. Behavior Add-on pickup is slow and has been extended to day services. Nursing is just getting ramped up.
6. Many grants are reporting positive results and examples.
7. DSP increase was implemented in January(Waiver)/July (ICF).



What's Coming?:

1. Budget process has started.
2. Goal will be to continue efforts from the last budget.
3. Election impact?

Questions?

