



# Division Update for Individuals, Families and Providers

July 25, 2024

# Agenda

- FY25 DDD Budget
- NADD Competency-Based IDD/MI Dual Diagnosis Direct Support Professional Certification Pilot
- NCI State of the Workforce Survey
- Voting
- Important Resources

# FY25 DDD Budget

- The approved FY25 budget adds about \$170M (State) to the DDD budget. Areas of growth include:
  - Funding to annualize FY24 Emergency Capacity System Funding – \$2.184M
  - Funding for additional Direct Support Professional Training (Projected 10/1/24 Implementation) – \$5.25M
  - Fee-For-Service Cost of Living Adjustment (COLA) – \$7.5M
  - Funding to annualize 1/1/24 DSP Wage Increase – \$20.85M
  - Trend – \$145M

# FY25 DDD Budget

- Cost of Living Adjustment (COLA)
  - DDD's FY25 Budget included a \$7.5M legislative add for an across-the-board COLA to its fee-for-service reimbursement rates.
  - All CCP and SP service rates, excluding those with a reasonable and customary rate, will receive an automatic rate increase.
  - This funding is eligible for a federal match *the day after* the mandatory Public Notice was issued.
  - The [Public Notice](#) and [Quick Guide – FY2025 COLA Increases](#) were posted July 16, 2024, which means the impacted service rates are eligible for federal match on July 17, 2024.
  - With combined state and federal funds DDD fee-for-service rates, excluding reasonable and customary rates, will increase by approximately \$15M providing an average 0.49% increase.

# FY25 DDD Budget

- The projected completion date of necessary DDD system changes is on or about August 10, 2024, at which time iRecord will release updated Prior Authorizations and updated individualized budgets.
- Please see [FY25 COLA Rate Increase](#) for detailed guidance.
  - Support Coordination Agencies are specifically directed to review the above document due to the monthly nature of the service they provide.

# NADD Competency-Based IDD/MI Dual Diagnosis Direct Support Professional Certification Pilot

- It is estimated that more than a million people in the US have a dual diagnosis of an intellectual and/or developmental disability (IDD) and mental health needs/mental illness (MI). Direct support professionals (DSPs), including Self-Directed Employees (SDEs), support individuals with IDD/MI at home, at school, at work, and in the community.
- In general, DSPs and SDEs spend more time with service recipients than any other professional, and their level of competence directly affects the quality of life of those they serve. This work requires an advanced level of skill and knowledge to do well.

# NADD Competency-Based IDD/MI Dual Diagnosis Direct Support Professional Certification Pilot

- To address this need, NADD developed the NADD Competency-Based IDD/MI Dual Diagnosis DSP Certification Program to certify the competency of DSPs who support people with dual diagnosis.

## NADD-DSP Certification:

- Validates and provides assurance to individuals, families, and employers that a DSP has met the standards established by NADD for delivering services to individuals with IDD/MI
- Adds another level of professionalization to the DSP career path by entitling those who pass the certification exam to use “NADD-DSP” as a credential
- Enhances quality, efficacy, and consistency of service delivery for people with IDD/MI

# NADD Competency-Based IDD/MI Dual Diagnosis Direct Support Professional Certification Pilot

- DDD has issued a Request for Proposal (RFP) for provider agencies to support a minimum of 10%, up to a maximum of 100%, of their eligible DSPs in obtaining the NADD Competency-Based IDD/MI Dual Diagnosis DSP Certification.
- This RFP is also open to Financial Management Services (FMS) vendors administering either of the DDD self-directed service models, Agency with Choice (AwC) or Vendor Fiscal/Employer Agent (VF/EA), to support eligible self-directed employees (SDEs) in obtaining the NADD Competency-Based IDD/MI Dual Diagnosis DSP Certification.



# NADD Competency-Based IDD/MI Dual Diagnosis Direct Support Professional Certification Pilot

- Total funding available for this RFP is \$3M. The State will allocate \$1,000 per participating employee to successful bidders. (For example, a provider agency/FMS vendor with 50 participating self-directed employees would receive \$50,000).
- Successful bidders may not use funds from this grant for any purpose other than NADD remittance and compensation of participating employees.
- Please see ), [NADD Competency-Based IDD/MI Dual Diagnosis Direct Support Professional Certification Pilot](#) and related [Notice of Funding Availability](#) for more information.

# NCI State of the Workforce Survey

- Deadline for provider agencies to respond has been extended by NCI to **July 31, 2024**. NCI has informed us this is the last year they will offer an extension.
- Initial invitations were emailed to eligible DDD providers – *to the provider email address on file in iRecord* – on March 5, 2024, with follow-up invitations sent monthly, bi-weekly and then weekly through July.
- If your agency has not received an invitation to participate, please email [DDD.NCI@dhs.nj.gov](mailto:DDD.NCI@dhs.nj.gov) as soon as possible.

# NCI State of the Workforce Survey

- Data collected through the State of the Workforce Survey helps us examine and respond to challenges experienced by New Jersey's Direct Support Professional (DSP) workforce serving adults with intellectual and/or developmental disabilities, ***and has played a key role in the state's DSP wage increases.***
- Participation by as many eligible providers as possible is critical to ensure valid results. To learn more, visit [National Core Indicators®](#) or see our [NCI State of the Workforce Overview](#).



**1-877-NJ-VOTER | 1-877-658-6837**

**To Register to Vote in New Jersey you must be:**

- A United States citizen
- At least 17 years old, though you may not vote until you have reached the age of 18
- A resident of the county for 30 days before the election
- A person not serving a sentence of incarceration as the result of a conviction of any indictable offense under the laws of this or another state or of the United States.

**Ways to Register to Vote in New Jersey**

- Online
- Paper Application

**Ways to Vote in New Jersey**

- Vote-by-Mail Ballot
- In-person Early Voting
- At Your Polling Place on Election Day

**General Election Dates to Remember**

- October 15, 2024: Deadline to Register to Vote in General Election
- Oct. 26, 2024 – Nov.3, 2024: In-Person Early Voting for General Election
- November 5, 2024: General Election Day

# Important Resources

- [Disability Rights New Jersey](#)
  - 800-922-7233 (toll-free in New Jersey only)
- [Ombudsman for Individuals with Developmental Disabilities and their Families](#)
  - 609-984-7764
- [New Jersey Council on Developmental Disabilities](#)
  - 800-792-8858
- [The Boggs Center](#)
  - 732-235-9300

# Important Resources

- For issues, call the Division Community Services office for your county or 800-832-9173.
- For routine questions: [DDD.FeeForService@dhs.nj.gov](mailto:DDD.FeeForService@dhs.nj.gov)
- To report suspected abuse, neglect or exploitation: call 800-832-9173, then press 1.