



Division Update for Individuals, Families and Providers

June 25, 2026

Agenda

- Next DDD Update Webinar
- National Core Indicators (NCI) Surveys
- New Webinar: Overview of Enforcement Authority
- Community Care Program Waiting List Update
- New Ombudsperson for Individuals with Intellectual or Developmental Disabilities and Their Families
- New Disability Self-Advocate Handbook on Abuse and Neglect
- DHS Grants to Address Social Isolation of Older Adults, People with Disabilities
- Transition Webinars
- Self-Direction Networking Sessions: Summer 2026
- Self-Direction WIN Time Sessions
- DDD Clinical Resource Team Trainings/Webinars
- Redesigned DDD Website
- Resources

Next DDD Update Webinar

- Reminder – The next DDD Update Webinar is scheduled for Thursday July 23, 2026, at 10:30am.
 - [Register for July Webinar](#).
- The complete 2026 schedule of DDD Update Webinars, including registration links, is available on the Division's [Public Update Meetings](#) webpage.



2025-26 NCI-IDD State of the Workforce Survey

- DDD participates in [National Core Indicators® - Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities \(NCI®-IDD\)](#), a national effort to measure and improve the performance of public developmental disabilities agencies through the use of surveys.
 - The deadline for completion of the In-Person, Adult Family, and Family/Guardian Surveys is June 30, 2026.
 - **The deadline for the State of the Workforce Survey has been extended to July 31, 2026.**
 - DDD urges all agencies that employ Direct Support Professionals to complete this survey. If you did not receive an email with a link, contact DDD.NCI@dhs.nj.gov.
- Send questions to DDD.NCI@dhs.nj.gov

June 25 Webinar: Overview of Enforcement Authority Law Webinar

- In January 2026, New Jersey passed [P.L.2025, c.280](#), which enhances Human Services enforcement authority over developmental disability service providers.
- DDD and the DHS Office of Program Integrity and Accountability (OPIA) will present the overview, with time for Q&A, and DHS Commissioner Stephen Cha will provide opening remarks.
 - **Title:** Overview of Enforcement Authority Law
 - **Date:** Thursday, June 25, 2026, from 12 p.m. to 1 p.m.
 - **Register:** [Register for June 25 Enforcement Authority Law Webinar](#)

Community Care Program Priority Waiting List Update

- Each year, DDD sends a letter to individuals on the Community Care Program (CCP) Priority Waiting List notifying them of their rank on that list.
- The 2026 waiting list ranking notification letters were mailed on June 24, 2026.
- The annual notification letters are also uploaded in iRecord, where support coordinators can view or download it.

Community Care Program Priority Waiting List Update

- Some ranking numbers stayed the same or are higher than last year (some people moved further down the list). This is because:
 - Over the last several years there has been an influx of individuals entering DDD services.
 - More individuals have been applying for addition to the Community Care Program (CCP) Priority Waiting List.
 - Increased emphasis on training and communication has led to increased diligence on the part of Support Coordinators to discuss CCP Priority Waiting List application at annual ISP meetings.
- These factors have resulted in a large number of people being added retroactively, causing ranking letters to show little to no movement this year.
- Addition to the CCP Priority Waiting List follows [Division Circular 8](#).

Community Care Program Priority Waiting List Update

From Division Circular 8, 10:46C-2.2:

(a) Satisfaction of one or more of the following criteria is required for assignment to the Priority Waiting List:

1. Both of the birth or adoptive parents are 55 years or older. When both parents or adoptive parents reach age 55, they shall be given the option to have the individual placed on the Priority Waiting List at the time of the annual ISP. In this instance, **the date that the younger parent turns 55 shall be the date the individual is added to the Priority Waiting List**. In situations where both parents are alive, but only one is the primary caregiver, it is only required that the parent who acts as the primary caregiver reach age 55 to have the option to have the individual placed on the Priority Waiting List at the time of the annual ISP;

From Division Circular 8, 10:46C-2.2:

(c) 1. | (2) **If the date the parent turns 55 predates eligibility for functional Division services, the individual's effective date on the Priority Waiting List shall be the date of Division eligibility;**

Community Care Program Priority Waiting List Update

Fiscal Year	Total # of Individuals Served by DDD*	# of Individuals on the CCP Priority Waiting List*
FY18	19,432	2,592
FY19	20,866 (+1434)	2,493 (-99)
FY20	21,636 (+770)	2,301 (-192)
FY21	22,388 (+752)	2,131 (-170)
FY22	22,626 (+238)	2,142 (+11)
FY23	23,787 (+1161)	2,176 (+34)
FY24	25,231 (+1444)	2,687 (+511)
FY25	27,197 (+1966)	3,154 (+467)
FY26	28,783 (+1586)	3,665 (+511)

*Values taken from published New Jersey State Budgets

Community Care Program Priority Waiting List Update

- The proposed Fiscal Year 27 (FY27) budget (July 1, 2026 through June 30, 2027) includes funding to remove 318 individuals from the CCP Priority Waiting List.
- If you have questions about the waiting list or your ranking letter, please contact DDD.CCPWaitlistRequests@dhs.nj.gov.

New Ombudsperson for Individuals with Intellectual or Developmental Disabilities and Their Families

- On May 29, Gov. Sherrill appointed Lisa Montalbano as New Jersey's new Ombudsman for Individuals with Intellectual or Developmental Disabilities and Their Families.
- Served as the Chief Executive Officer of Employment Horizons, a nonprofit focused on employment opportunities for individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities (IDD), where she cultivated relationships across the IDD community, including with families throughout the state.

NJCDD Disability Self-Advocate Handbook on Abuse and Neglect

- The [Disability Self-Advocate Handbook on Abuse and Neglect](#) is an accessible resource to help individuals with disabilities recognize the signs of abuse and neglect, understand when and how to get help, and provide guidance on available resources.
 - This handbook was developed by Lisa Ankrah, a dual Master of Public Health and Master of Social Work student at Temple University, during her internship with the **New Jersey Council on Developmental Disabilities (NJCDD)**.

Disability Self-Advocate Handbook on Abuse and Neglect

For Adults with Intellectual or Developmental Disabilities



March 2026

DHS Grants Awarded to Address Social Isolation of Older Adults and People with Disabilities

- On June 15, DHS Commissioner Stephen Cha announced that grants totaling \$4 million have been awarded to local governments and community organizations to support new initiatives focused on strengthening social connections and support for older adults and people with disabilities at risk of social isolation in their communities.
- Intended to decrease social isolation among participants and provide data that can inform future opportunities to support these populations.
- To learn more, see the [June 15 DHS press release](#).

Transition Webinars

Transition webinars are an opportunity for students in grades 6 through 12 and other young adults with intellectual and developmental disabilities and their families, as well as school personnel, to learn about the DDD system, including the application process and services available.

DDD Welcome Sessions

- July 2, 12 pm to 1 pm: [Register for July 2 Lunchtime Welcome Session](#)
- July 23, 6 pm to 7:30 pm: [Register for July 23 Evening Welcome Session with Topic Breakouts](#)

Self-Direction Networking Sessions: Summer 2026

Virtual Peer-to-Peer Networking Session

For individuals who are self-directing their DDD services or interested in learning about self-directing their DDD services.

- Wednesday, July 15, 6 pm to 7:30 pm
- [Register for July 15 Peer-to-Peer Networking Session](#)

Virtual Statewide Family Networking Session

For families with a loved one who is self-directing their DDD services or families interested in self-direction.

- Tuesday, July 21, 1 pm to 2:30 pm
- [Register for July 1 Family Networking Session](#)

Self-Direction WIN Time Session

- WIN (What I Need) Time Sessions are an opportunity for support coordinators, supports brokers, and other professionals who support individuals who are self-directing their DDD services, to network, share resources, and talk about successes and challenges.
 - **Title:** WIN Time Session
 - **Date:** Wednesday, July 8, from 12 pm to 1 pm.
 - **Register:** [Register for July 8 WIN Time Session](#)

DDD Clinical Resource Team Trainings

Behavior Analysis

- July 1, 10 am to 1 pm: [Overview of Behavior Supports](#)
- July 8, 10 am to 10:30 am: [Developing Positive Interactions between Support Staff and Individuals](#)
- July 14, 10 am to 11:30 am: [Understanding Functional Behavior Assessments and Behavior Support Plans](#)
- July 16, 10 am to 12 pm: [Data Collection and Interpretation](#)
- July 21, 10 am to 11:30 am: [Training Behavior Support Plans](#)
- July 28, 10 am to 12 pm: [Teaching Functional Equivalent Skills](#)

DDD Clinical Resource Team Trainings

Choking Prevention

- July 7, 10 am to 10:30 am: [Mealtime Supervision](#)
- July 13, 10 am to 11 am: [Managing Dysphasia in the Community](#)
- July 14, 2 pm to 2:30 pm: [Liquid Consistencies](#)
- July 27, 10 am to 10:30 am: [Mealtime Risks of Regular Diets](#)

Nursing Support

- July 9, 2 pm to 3 pm: [Safeguarding Health in IDD Part 2 \(Constipation, Dehydration, and Seizures\)](#)
- July 20, 2 pm to 2:30 pm: **UPDATED!** [Seasonal Health Concerns: Hot Weather](#)

Redesigned DDD Website



- We are redesigning the DDD website to be more user friendly and make it easier for visitors to quickly find the information they are looking for.
- Anticipated launch is early Summer 2026.

Caregiver Resources

- Caring for an adult with disabilities is a deeply meaningful and loving role, but it can also bring emotional, financial, and practical challenges. DDD is committed to promoting the services and resources available through DHS and our community partners to help caregivers safeguard their well-being and access the mental health support they deserve.

Caregiver Resources

- **Mom2Mom**

- A 24/7 mental health and peer support helpline for parents of adults with special needs. Staffed by trained peer counselors who are caregivers themselves and can provide emotional support, guidance, and shared experience.
- Phone: 1-877-914-6662
- Website: <https://mom2mom.us.com/about-us/>

Caregiver Resources

- **NJ Mental Health Cares**

- A free, confidential helpline offering emotional support, information, and referrals to behavioral health services, including legal, housing, employment, rehabilitation, inpatient/outpatient care, self-help groups, and more.
- Available to all New Jersey residents.
- Hours: 8am–8pm daily
- Phone: 866-202-HELP (4357)
- Access for people who are deaf: 711 NJ Relay
- Website: <https://www.njmentalhealthcares.org/>

Caregiver Resources

- **New Jersey Self-Help Clearinghouse**

- Helps individuals find or form self-help support groups for a wide range of challenges, ensuring caregivers and families do not feel alone.
- Hours: 8am–8pm daily
- Phone: 800-367-6274
- Website: <https://www.njgroups.org/>

Caregiver Resources

- **988 Suicide & Crisis Lifeline**

- A national 24/7 hotline providing one-on-one support for mental health, suicide, and substance-use crises. Call, text, or chat 988 to reach a trained crisis counselor. Support available in English and Spanish, with interpreter services in 240+ languages. In New Jersey, four Lifeline centers respond to 988 contacts.
- Phone: 988
- Website: <https://www.nj.gov/humanservices/dmhas/crisis/index.shtml>

Resources

Community Resources

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

DDD Resources

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