



Intellectual Disabilities Services—Support for DADS legislative appropriations request and Senate Bill 1 Contingency Rider Section 48

- Improve access to quality services for people with intellectual disabilities by funding the service system as directed in the Senate Bill 1 Contingency Rider Section 48.
 - Ensure clear delineation of roles and responsibilities of HCS Providers and Mental Retardation Authorities related to transfer of the case management function—and adequately fund the respective roles.

We support a new direction for our system of care

- Our state must move forward in a new direction to improve the system of care for people with intellectual disabilities.
- The Community MHMR Center system stands ready to develop solutions and implement future transformation—the following key factors provide catalyst for reform:
 - 39,455 people are on the Home and Community-Based Services Medicaid Waiver waiting list as of December 2008 according to the Department of Aging and Disability Services—with as much as a 8 -9 year wait time.
 - U.S. Department of Justice oversight highlights the need to address quality of care in state facilities and ensure accountability throughout the community system.

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Restore funding cuts to Safety Net Services—Support \$31.3 million DADS legislative appropriations request

- Safety Net services include the following:
 - Respite care (planned or emergency)
 - Behavioral support services
 - Training and other community supports
- Mental Retardation Authorities across the state system take their statutory roles very seriously, certainly as they relate to providing people with intellectual disabilities information about the full array of providers and services—whether they currently reside in state facilities or in the community.
- Funding for the \$31.3 million exceptional item (DADS) is needed to restore and strengthen Safety Net services. The responsibility for community Safety Net services rests with the MRA system—these critical short-term services prevent and address crises experienced by people waiting for or not eligible for Medicaid Waiver services.

Support access to quality services for people with intellectual disabilities!