



Supporting Families of Massachusetts



- Across Massachusetts, more than 20,000 families are caring for a family member with an intellectual or developmental disability in the family home.
- While these families represent 60% of the individuals served by DDS, family support for caregivers is only 3.5% of the DDS budget
- Family Support & Respite Services are 75% - 80% less expensive than out of home placement.
- Families are the largest group of service providers in the state. If family members were no longer available, the economic cost to the state would increase astronomically.

Line Item 5920-3000 DDS Respite & Family Supports
 The Supporting Families of Massachusetts Campaign will be meeting with the Baker Administration to develop specific Appropriation Recommendations and Funding Sources.

Line Item 5948-0012 & 7061-0012..... DESE/DDS
 – Add \$5 million over FY 16 – Total Appropriation \$11,500,000

Line Item 5920-3010 DDS Kids Autism Waiver
 – Add \$5 million over FY 16 – Total Appropriation \$11,085,431

Promote Work & Self Sufficiency



- People with I/DD want to work but have high rates of under and unemployment
- People with I/DD & their families are asking for more inclusive employment and higher wages
- The federal government and the Courts are seeking and requiring greater ADA compliance in employment settings

Line Item 5920-2025 DDS Day and Employment
 – Fund at \$203 million to reflect ongoing service levels
 – Maintain Day Habilitation Wrap costs to support personal assistance with feeding, hygiene and behavioral supports

Line Item 5920-2026 DDS Employment Blueprint Implementation
 – Fund at \$6 million over FY 16
 – Help promote supported employment providing higher wages for people with disabilities

Line Item 5920-5000 DDS Turning 22
 – Fund at \$10 million
 – Provider day/employment and residential supports for the 900 students who will be graduating this school year who will need immediate adult services

Implement the Autism Omnibus Act of 2014



- In 2014, the Commonwealth expanded DDS eligibility to provide services to adults with Autism and other related disabilities
- Hundreds of additional people now qualify for services and are seeking services and supports.
- Target Autism specific supports to address the rising need of people seeking supports

Line Item 5920-3020 DDS – Autism Adult Services
 – Add \$7 million over FY 16 Appropriation
 – Total Appropriation, \$19.6 million

Implement the Massachusetts Brain Injury Commission Report



- Today, only 894 eligible citizens receive services & supports out of 4318 eligible for service
- Establish service center, employment and residential supports
- Increase services for targeted populations, including elders, veterans and others

Line Item 4120-6000 MRC Brain Injury Supports and Services
 – Add \$7 million to phase in the Brain Injury Commission Report
 – Begin planning for second and third year phase-in

Line Item 4120-3000..... Employment Assistance
 – Add \$1 million to address persistent disability unemployment and underemployment
 – Total Appropriation: \$3,246,935