

**FY2019**

**Progress Report on DDS Facility Closure**

December 2018

**Progress Report to the Legislature on the DDS Community Services**

**Expansion and Facilities Restructuring Plan**

Line-item language for the Department of Developmental Services (“DDS” or “the Department”) included in the Fiscal Year (FY) 2019 General Appropriation Act required that:

***5930-1000 “…provided further, that the department shall report to the house and senate committees on ways and means on or before December 14, 2018 on all efforts to comply with the decision in Olmstead v. L.C. ex rel. Zimring, 527 U.S. 581 (1999), the enhancement of care within available resources to clients served by the department and the steps taken to consolidate or close an ICF/IID.”***

**The Community Expansion and Facility Restructuring Plan**

On December 12, 2008, the Executive Office of Health and Human Services announced the Community Services Expansion and Facility Consolidation Plan. The Plan provides for: the closing of four of the Department’s six facilities (Fernald, Monson, Templeton and Glavin); the expansion of the community system to create community options for 316 people who were living in developmental centers; and the assurance of a continuing Intermediate Care Facility for the Intellectually Disabled option for Ricci class members in the closing facilities. The Plan also required that the Department work with the facility stakeholders and participate in the campus re-use committees.

The basic principles of the Plan included:

* Assuring choice and creating options within the community;
* Being consistent with the Community First Olmstead Plan;
* Supporting positive transition experiences for facility residents and their families and guardians;
* Achieving equal or better services upon transfer or placement of facility residents;
* Managing limited resources efficiently;
* Transitioning staff successfully to other employment options;
* Assuring efficient and inclusive campus re-use process by working closely with officials from the Division of Capital Asset Maintenance and Management (DCAMM).

**DDS Overview**

The Department serves over 41,000 individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities by providing a variety of supports that enable people to pursue meaningful lives. Supports include residential services that may be provided in 24 hour group homes, in Shared Living situations where an individual is placed with a family or in supported living where visiting staff provide flexible assistance as needed to individuals who live independently. The Department also provides an array of employment and day program supports which enable individuals to pursue a career or be involved with making productive use of their time. In order to address the needs of over 29,000 children & adults who live at home with their families, the Department provides a variety of flexible supports that enable families to continue to care for their loved ones including respite care, in home skills training and support groups. Services are arranged and coordinated through our 23 Area and 4 Regional Offices. Most services are provided through contracts with nonprofit agencies which are then monitored through a variety of quality management systems. Individuals who transition from DDS facilities to community settings become the responsibility of an Area Office. Each person is assigned a Service Coordinator who facilitates the transition to the community and ensures that all needed services are in place.  
  
An important aspect of the facility closure process includes efforts made by the Department to preserve the expertise and sense of commitment held by staff who work in facilities. To that end, the Department offered a variety of direct service and clinical job opportunities to work in the community based system. Some employees chose to retire from state service and others were laid off when there was no state position available. In those instances when layoffs did occur the Department provided a specialist to assist people in finding jobs in the private sector.

**Monson Developmental Center – Monson**

Monson Developmental Center (MDC) closed on August 30, 2012. As of September 27, 2012, DCAMM assumed responsibility for the Monson property. The Tufts Dental Clinic was relocated to a new site in West Springfield and opened on October 3, 2013. The Assistive Technology Center (ATC) was relocated to Worcester in March 2014.

**Glavin Regional Center – Shrewsbury**

The Glavin Regional Center (GRC) closed on June 18, 2013. DCAMM assumed responsibility shortly after and sold/leased most of the property to the city of Shrewsbury. DDS has retained some of the GRC management and clinical expertise to support the Department’s Community State Operated System and to strengthen the clinical services in our Central State Operated Residential System.

**Fernald Developmental Center – Waltham**

The Fernald Developmental Center (FDC) closed on November 13, 2014. DCAMM assumed responsibility shortly after and sold most of the property to the city of Waltham. In 2014, the Marquardt Nursing Facility located on the campus of the Fernald Developmental Center had a capacity of twenty nine and served individuals with developmental disabilities and chronic major medical issues. Individuals at Marquardt were offered placement in the community or a transfer to either Hogan Developmental Center or Wrentham Developmental Center. Per the Ricci Consent Decree, all placements for Ricci class members must be equal to or better than the services received at Marquardt. The Marquardt Facility closed in February 2017.

**Templeton Developmental Center – Templeton**

The Templeton Developmental Center (TDC) closed on February 3, 2015 and DCAMM assumed responsibility shortly after. On the TDC campus, three existing homes remained open as an Intermediate Care Facility for the Intellectually Disabled. These homes operate as community residential programs and provide residential opportunities for 18 individuals who previously lived at the facility. These individuals are supported by 41 staff. The facility closure plan also included the construction of three duplexes that will support 24 people with approximately 100 staff. Those homes were completed in June, 2014.The Department of Agriculture entered into a Memorandum of Agreement with the Commonwealth to lease the facility’s agricultural land and structures.

**Wrentham Developmental Center – Wrentham**

The Wrentham Developmental Center (WDC) census is 248 individuals supported by 884 full time equivalent positions (FTEs) to provide quality care and meet the unique challenges for the individuals. The FTEs includes residential staff working in the units, clinical staff, management, maintenance, and transportation. The individuals live on the campus and access day services on the campus or in the community. The WDC census of 248 includes 9 who were admissions from the Marquardt Nursing Facility which closed earlier in 2017. In 2018, there were 1 admission, 1 discharge to the community, and 20 deaths.

**Hogan Regional Center – Danvers**

The Hogan Regional Center (HRC) census is 119 individuals supported by 441.5 full time equivalent positions (FTEs) to provide quality care and meet the unique challenges for the individuals. The FTEs includes residential staff working in the units, clinical staff, management, and maintenance staff. The individuals live on the campus and access day services on the campus or in the community. The HRC census of 119 includes 1 who was an admission from the Marquardt Nursing Facility which closed earlier in 2017. In 2018 there were 18 admissions and 19 discharges to the community 13 deaths.