



*The Commonwealth of Massachusetts
Executive Office of Health and Human Services
Department of Developmental Services
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December 29, 2017

The Honorable Karen E. Spilka, Chair
Senate Committee on Ways and Means
State House, Room 212
Boston, MA 02133

The Honorable Jeffrey Sanchez, Chair
House Committee on Ways and Means
State House, Room 243
Boston, MA 02133

Dear Chairs:

Attached please find a progress report on the DDS Community Services Expansion and Facilities Restructuring Plan per language in line item appropriation 5930-1000 of Chapter 47 of the Acts of 2017.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Jane F. Ryder".

Jane F. Ryder
Acting Commissioner

Charles D. Baker
Governor

Karyn Polito
Lieutenant Governor



Marylou Sudders
Secretary

Jane F. Ryder
Acting Commissioner

Report on the DDS Community Services Expansion and Facilities Restructuring Plan

December 2017



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) 2018 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 18, 2017 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 provided 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 then 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; and
- Assuring an efficient and inclusive campus re-use process by working closely with officials from the Division of Capital Asset Maintenance and Management (DCAM).

DDS Overview

The Department serves over 39,000 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 offices 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.

Monson Developmental Center - Monson

Monson Developmental Center (MDC) closed on August 30, 2012. As of September 27, 2012, DCAM 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. DCAM 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. DCAM assumed responsibility shortly after and sold most of the property to the city of Waltham. **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 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 our *Ricci* Consent Decree, all placements for *Ricci* class members are 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 DCAM 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 268 individuals supported by 895 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, security, maintenance, and power plant staff. The individuals live on the campus and access day services on the campus or in the community. The WDC census of 268 includes 11 who were admissions from the Marquardt Nursing Facility which closed earlier in 2017. In 2017 there were 5 other admissions and 1 placement back into the community.

Hogan Regional Center - Danvers

The Hogan Regional Center (HRC) census is 134 individuals supported by 456 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, security, maintenance, and power plant staff. The individuals live on the campus and access day services on the campus or in the community. The HRC census of 134 includes 4 who were admissions from the Marquardt Nursing Facility which closed earlier in 2017. In 2017 there were 19 other admissions and 11 placements back into the community.