



Legislative Agenda 2011

Do No Harm

PRESERVE and PROTECT the ability of the community-based system to meet the existing and critical needs of all Virginians with disabilities.

1. **JOBS and Employment Supports for Virginians with disabilities**

Jobs are a priority in Virginia. Jobs for Virginians with disabilities must be a priority as well. Like ALL Virginians - they want the opportunity to work, to earn wages, to pay taxes, to purchase goods in their communities, and to become self-supporting tax payers.

- **RESTORE** funding that maintains jobs for 1,350 Virginians with disabilities. Critical employment supports were lost due to General Fund budget cuts at DRS between FY08-FY11. (LTESS/EES)
- **SUPPORT** employment supports that develop jobs for 2,000 additional Virginians with disabilities.
- **PROMOTE** the development of enhanced procurement opportunities, including an active State Use Program, that provide additional access to jobs for Virginians with disabilities.

2. **MAINTAIN access to quality community-based services for Virginians with disabilities**

- ◆ **RESTORE** funding to eliminate the proposed 5% cut in waiver provider rates in FY12. Any cut will result in decreased provider capacity resulting in limited access to community services for families.
- ◆ **RESTORE** funding to eliminate the 66% cut in HCBS Waiver respite services for families in FY12. Respite services are one of the most cost-effective services that waiver families receive.
- ◆ **SUPPORT** funding for additional ID and DD waiver slots to significantly reduce current waiting lists – beginning with 900 ID Waiver and 275 IFDDS Waiver slots in FY12. Waiting lists exceed 6,000 individuals & families. Additional slots will help mitigate emergencies in the ID/DD service system.
- ◆ **SUPPORT** funding to preserve critical case management and core services to Virginians with brain injury including veterans and wounded warriors.
- ◆ **SUPPORT** funding to provide services for 1,000 Virginians with ID/DD who do not qualify for Waiver due to ICF/MR level of functioning criteria.
- ◆ **SUPPORT** funding for regional crisis stabilization services.
- ◆ **PROMOTE** the development of a cost-based rate methodology for Medicaid services to ensure the availability and choice of providers to meet the needs of Virginians with disabilities.
- ◆ **ENCOURAGE** a reasonable care coordination system that preserves current valuable services for vulnerable populations with active input from stakeholders including private and public providers, beneficiaries, advocates and family members.

3. **PROMOTE the expansion of choice by all Virginians with disabilities in the delivery of community-based services that ensure quality, cost effectiveness and choice in their service delivery options.**

4. **PROMOTE language or influence action to diminish over-regulation of community-based providers of services.**

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