Please note that these numbers include both general and federal funds unless otherwise indicated. The amounts are rounded and the numbers of people to be served are estimates. The DDA budget increased by $48.5 million in total funds (combination of state and federal funds) over the current year.

RATES/WAGES FOR COMMUNITY SERVICES – 2%
The Minimum Wage Act of 2019 mandated a 4% rate increase for DD Community Services funding. The mandated increase (at 4%) would be $50,298,946. The proposed budget is short by approximately $25 million in total funds.

Meanwhile, the Maryland minimum wage increased by 90 cents, from $10.10/hour to $11.00/hour in January 2020 and will increase again in January 2021 by 75 cents, from $11.00 to $11.75/hour.

With only a 2% increase in Community Services rate funding, the DDA reimbursement for wages in the rate will not keep pace with the increases in the minimum wage.

TRANSITIONING YOUTH
$7.6 million
593 Individuals
This is projected to support 593 Transitioning Youth who are exiting the school system in fiscal year 21 and who are eligible for DDA employment and other day supports.

EMERGENCIES
$789,747
25 Individuals
This is projected to support 25 people to access community supports and services; for individuals in emergency situations. (average 6 months actual)

WAITING LIST – CRISIS RESOLUTION
$4.8 million
275 Individuals
Community supports and services for people in the highest priority category on the DDA Waiting list. (average 6 months actual)

WAITING LIST EQUITY FUND
$734,270
27 Individuals
Support for individuals on the DDA waiting list – priority is given to people with the oldest caregiver.
DSS AGING OUT PLACEMENTS
$1 million
28 Young Adults
DDA-funded community supports for individuals aging out of Department of Social Services programs.

LOW INTENSITY SUPPORT SERVICES (LISS)
$4.54 million General Funds (no matching federal funds)
1593 Individuals and families
Short term, low-cost services that support children and adults who aren’t receiving other DDA services.

Maryland Inclusive Housing Corp
$587,500 General Funds (no matching federal funds)
50 Individuals
These funds will be used to support development of the MD Inclusive Housing Corporation to serve as a catalyst for the development and identification of affordable and accessible housing and housing resources for people with I/DD, and provide rental assistance to 50 new individuals at an average rate of $10,950 per year.

The DDA budget hearings will be held on February 26 and 27th.

The Hearing on February 26 will be at 1 p.m. in the House- Health & Social Services Subcommittee Room 145

The Hearing on February 27 will be at 1 p.m. in the Senate- Health & Human Services Subcommittee
Miller Senate Building- William Amoss Room (4th Fl)

MARYLAND DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES COALITION
The Arc Maryland • Disability Rights Maryland • Maryland Association of Community Services Maryland Developmental Disabilities Council • People on the Go of Maryland