

## Individual and Family Support Program FY 2015

The purpose of the Individual and Family Support Program (IFSP), operated by the Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Services (DBHDS), is to assist individuals with intellectual disability (ID) or developmental disabilities (DD) and their family members to access needed person-centered and family-centered resources, supports, services and other assistance. The overall objective of the Individual and Family Support Program is to support the continued residence of an individual with ID/DD maintain his own home or the family home, which could include the home of a principal caregiver. To accomplish this, IFSP funds, once approved, are distributed directly to the requesting individual or family member or a third party designated by the individual or family member.

Stakeholder meetings occurred in FY 2014 to help guide the IFSP Program. A stakeholder decision determined that the funding period would be split into two cycles, the fall of 2014 and the spring of 2015. Each funding cycle would have \$1.5 million in allotted funds.

### 1) The results of the two funding periods are below

- Fall 2014 3,295 Applications received, 603 funded
- Spring 2015 1,881 Applications received, 598 funded
  - A total of \$3,000,000 was provided to assist 1,201 individuals and their families.

### 2) Breakdown of funding usage

- \$1,193,779 for Respite, Fences, Rent/Utility Assistance
- \$1,021,375 for Medical Care, Therapy, Communication devices
- \$784,846 for Day Support, Transportation, Summer Camps

### 3) Home Locations and number of individuals receiving funds

- Region I Central VA 192
- Region II Northern VA 295
- Region III Southwest VA 178
- Region IV Richmond Metro 290
- Region V Tidewater Area 246

### 4) Wait List Information

- ID Urgent 606
- ID Non-Urgent 301
- DD Waiver 294

### 5) Survey

- A survey was sent to all 1,881 individuals and families who applied for IFSP funds in Round 2.

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- 232 responses were received (not all respondents answered all questions). Status of respondents include: 77 on the ID urgent wait list, 72 on the ID non-urgent wait list, and 83 on the DD waiver.
- 6) In response to the many comments from community stakeholders, the Commonwealth and the DBHDS Division of Developmental Services are considering ways to improve the IFSP.
- a. Beginning in February 2015, meetings were held to discuss the plan to create a more comprehensive IFSP. One goal discussed is to make the IFSP more accessible and to provide supports to more people.
  - b. DBHDS has established a workgroup comprised mostly of individuals and their family members who are currently on the waitlists for the Individual and Family Developmental Disabilities (DD) Waiver and the Intellectual Disabilities (ID) Waiver.
  - c. The mission of the workgroup is to ways to redesign and develop a coordinated supports model, increase the number of individuals accessing family supports, and target the most felt needs of individuals on these waiver wait lists.
  - d. Meetings will occur statewide throughout FY2016. The workgroup will consider the feasibility of redesigning the IFSP into a program managed by 5 regional, family-run councils with oversight provided by DBHDS.