



STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES
DIVISION OF COMMUNITY BASED CARE SERVICES

BUREAU OF DEVELOPMENTAL SERVICES

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Nicholas A. Toumpas
Commissioner

Nancy L. Rollins
Associate Commissioner

July 8, 2011

**New Hampshire Bureau of Developmental Services
Fiscal Year 2012 and 2013 Budget Update**

I am writing to follow-up on my May 27th memo and provide you with an update regarding the Fiscal Year 2012 and 2013 budget for services funded through the Bureau of Developmental Services (BDS).

I am pleased to report that the final version of the State budget contains all of the improvements that had been made by the Senate. As a result there will be no reductions in current funding amounts that are specifically assigned to individuals and their care-giving families. Although the State budget included some funding cuts in the In-Home Support and Family Support programs, BDS and the area agencies will address those reductions without further reducing any individual allocations within the two service areas. We are very grateful that the State has enabled our system to maintain its funding for current services.

The State's budget for the biennium also contains \$2 million and \$4 million of General Funds for FY '12 and '13 respectively to serve individuals from the Developmental Disability Wait List. We are also thankful for the allocation of these additional funds during a very challenging budget period.

Although these new funds will be beneficial to some on the Wait List, they will not be adequate to serve the more than 500 people who will need services during the biennium. As a result a number of individuals on the Wait List and their families will be facing a difficult two-year period without services. To provide them with some temporary and limited assistance, BDS is asking all those with current funds, as well as the area agencies and provider agencies, to participate in a campaign to raise "Family Support funds" for those on the Wait List. Any such savings could assist both the individuals and their families with short-term supports during the next two years and help them endure until funds become available. We realize that it will not be easy to generate savings from existing budgets but we hope that everyone will voluntarily identify one-time savings to help those who will be without services for the next two years.

We are formally asking the area agency staff to contact everyone with current funds to begin the discussions regarding this initiative. [BDS will be issuing a brief list of guidelines to area agencies regarding the one-time Family Support funding initiative to insure consistency of approach across the ten regions.] We invite you to participate and assist those without services. And, on behalf of those on the Wait List we thank you in advance for your support.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Matthew Ertas".

Matthew Ertas
Administrator
Bureau of Developmental Services