

3. Transition of State-Only Funded People to Waiver

Description: Eliminates funding for people who are currently “state-only” funded who may be waiver-eligible.

Projected FY 25 Fiscal Impact \$3.1 million

Impact: This transition may create barriers for some people who are hesitant to provide required information. It is unclear at this time what this will mean for people who are state-only funded and are not waiver-eligible, but need supports.

4. Elimination of Low Intensity Support Services (LISS) Program

Description: Eliminates the Low Intensity Support Services (LISS) Program, which through a random selection process, provides grants up to \$2,000 per applicant for needed items and services.

Projected FY 25 Fiscal Impact \$5.5 million

Impact: The elimination of LISS will cut access to small grants that have helped people and families who otherwise get no supports from DDA.

5. Utilization of Waiting List Equity Funds (WLEF)

Description: Uses Waiting List Equity Funds to fund services in FY26.

Projected FY 25 Fiscal Impact: \$15 million

Impact: This one-time action will move funds in the WLEF into the DDA budget to help offset the current budget shortfall, and will end this funding source that was intended to assist a small number of older caregivers on the DDA Waiting List.

6. Self-Direction: Wage Allowance Adjustment:

Description: Aligns the reasonable and customary wage allowance in self-direction with the Bureau of Labor Statistics wage that is in the overall DDA rate structure.

Projected FY 25 Fiscal Impact: \$36.5 million

Impact: Changes to the allowable reasonable and customary wage may affect the ability of people who self-direct to adequately hire staff.

7. Self-Direction: Elimination of Wage Exception Process

Description: Eliminates the wage exception process that grants some people in self-direction the option to pay staff above the reasonable and customary wage rate.

Projected FY 25 Fiscal Impact: \$4.7 million

Impact: This may limit the ability of people who self-direct to hire more experienced staff to meet more intensive support needs.

8. Self-Direction: Restoration of Individual and Family Directed Goods and Services (IFDGS) Spending Cap

Description: Reinstates a cap on the amount that can be spent on goods and services by people who self-direct.

Projected FY 25 Fiscal Impact: Not specified.

Impact: This may restrict the ability of people and families to purchase necessary goods and services.

Additional Budget Items in FY25:

- \$900.8m increase to compensate for projected DDA budget deficit in FY25
- \$8.2m increase for Fiscal Management and Counseling Services
- \$1.1m for *increased* overtime costs in state DD institutions
- \$845k for increased operating costs at the Potomac Center