

such as light housekeeping, bathing, dressing, preparing meals, shopping, driving or using public transportation. The number of hours a person receives depends on individual need up to 40 hours per week. The individual must be capable of directing his or her own care.

#### **PERSONAL PREFERENCE: NEW JERSEY CASH AND COUNSELING PROGRAM**

This initiative allows Medicaid recipients with disabilities who are eligible for Medicaid PCA services to direct their own care. Through use of a monthly cash allowance, participants work with a consultant to develop a cash management plan by which they decide the services needed and the individuals and/or agencies to hire to provide the identified services. The program requires greater consumer responsibility but offers participants greater control, flexibility and choice.

#### **DISABILITY HEALTH AND WELLNESS INITIATIVES**

This project involves health promotion and prevention of secondary conditions for people with disabilities. In addition, the project works to improve state surveillance activities, conduct health promotion interventions and facilitate partnerships between state and research or service-based agencies.

#### **NEW JERSEY HOUSING RESOURCE CENTER**

The Housing Resource Center provides individuals with information on accessible and affordable housing throughout the state. This project was made possible through a partnership between the Division of Disability Services, the Department of Community Affairs and the NJ Housing Mortgage Finance Agency. To access the Center, go to [www.njhousing.gov](http://www.njhousing.gov).

#### **STATUTORY ADVISORY BOARDS AND COUNCILS**

#### **NEW JERSEY ADVISORY COUNCIL ON TRAUMATIC BRAIN INJURY**

The Division of Disability Services, as the state's designated lead agency for brain injury services, serves as staff to the NJ Advisory Council on Traumatic Brain Injury. The Council, mandated under PL 2001, Chapter 332, is composed of 26 members. The Council

holds quarterly public meetings and advises the Department of Human Services on matters related to brain injury services.

#### **PERSONAL ASSISTANCE SERVICES ADVISORY COUNCIL**

The Personal Assistance Services Program (PASP), under the supervision of the New Jersey Department of Human Services, Division of Disability Services, is required by law to have a statewide PASP Advisory Council. The PASP Advisory Council provides a means for consumers to express opinions and views that will affect the quality of personal assistance in New Jersey. The PASP Advisory Council is designed to review and evaluate the effectiveness of the program, and to make recommendations to improve the overall program statewide.

**Chris Christie, Governor**  
**State of New Jersey**  
**Jennifer Velez, Commissioner**  
**Department of Human Services**

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**9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.**  
**Monday to Friday**

**New Jersey**



**State of New Jersey**  
**Department of**  
**Human Services**

## **DIVISION OF** **DISABILITY** **SERVICES**



# DIVISION OF DISABILITY SERVICES (DDS)

## MISSION STATEMENT

The New Jersey Department of Human Services Division of Disability Services promotes and facilitates the maximum independence and participation of people with disabilities in all aspects of community life through active information exchange and the provision of community services. DDS supports, and fosters coordination and cooperation among all government agencies.

## OFFICE OF INFORMATION AND ASSISTANCE SERVICES

*“The first place to call for disability-related information”*

### INFORMATION AND REFERRAL SERVICES

The Division of Disability Services is a single point of entry for all people seeking disability related information in New Jersey. Certified Information and Referral Specialists are available to confidentially discuss issues and to provide information, assist with problem solving, and to refer to appropriate agencies or services. Use of a customized database allows for calls to be tracked and information to be stored for quality customer service.

### TRAUMATIC BRAIN INJURY FUND

The purpose of the Traumatic Brain Injury (TBI) Fund is to provide New Jersey residents who have survived an acquired brain injury the opportunity to access the brain injury related services and supports they need to live in the community. The Fund purchases supports and services to foster independence and maximize quality of life. This Fund is used where insurance, personal resources and/or public programs are unavailable to meet the needs of the applicant. A portion of the Fund is also used to support public education, outreach and prevention activities related to TBI.

## OFFICE OF HOME AND COMMUNITY SERVICES

The Office of Home and Community Services is responsible for the administration of three Medicaid Waiver Programs serving people with disabilities and Medicaid Personal Care Assistant (PCA) Services.

### TRAUMATIC BRAIN INJURY (TBI) WAIVER

The TBI Waiver serves people between 21 and 64 who have an acquired brain injury. People in the program receive full Medicaid benefits plus additional services including case management, structured day program, neuropsychology, community residential services, night supervision, respite care and cognitive therapy.

### AIDS COMMUNITY CARE ALTERNATIVES PROGRAM (ACCAP) WAIVER

The ACCAP Waiver serves people with AIDS of any age and children up to age 13 who are HIV positive. It provides full Medicaid benefits plus case management, private-duty nursing, medical day care, expanded personal care assistant services, certain narcotic and drug abuse treatments at home and hospice care.

### COMMUNITY RESOURCES FOR PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES (CRPD) WAIVER

The CRPD Waiver was created by incorporating three long-standing Medicaid “Model” Waiver Programs into one larger waiver. All individuals served under this waiver must meet, at a minimum, the “nursing facility level of care,” be financially eligible for Medicaid waiver coverage and require the services offered under the waiver. The waiver is open to individuals with disabilities of all ages. Individuals in the CRPD Waiver Program receive case management services, in addition to all Medicaid State Plan services. Individuals meeting specific clinical criteria can receive private duty nursing services of up to 16 hours per day.

### MEDICAID PERSONAL CARE ASSISTANT (PCA) SERVICES

Personal Care Assistant Services (PCA) are available statewide and reimbursed by the New Jersey Medicaid Program for adults and children who are eligible for Medicaid services in the community. The purpose of

personal care is to accommodate long-term chronic or maintenance health care as opposed to short-term skilled care as provided under Medicaid’s home health program. PCA services are health-related tasks performed by qualified staff in an eligible beneficiary’s home or workplace, not to exceed 40 hours per week, based on clinical assessment and requiring prior authorization. Services include assistance with activities of daily living and household duties essential to the individual’s health and comfort. This program utilizes over 230 PCA provider agencies to serve over 22,000 New Jersey residents per month.

## SPECIAL PROJECTS AND INITIATIVES

### MEDICAID INFRASTRUCTURE GRANT

Through a grant from the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS), this project conducts a variety of activities to promote employment for people with disabilities, including the NJ WorkAbility Program and the development of comprehensive employment systems to promote employment opportunities for people with disabilities. Other projects include the development of the two Internet portals listed below to provide transportation information and benefits calculation assistance to individuals with disabilities who are employed or seeking employment.

### NJ FINDARIDE

This website is designed to be an information resource about accessible transportation options available to people with disabilities and others in New Jersey. Please visit [www.njfindaride.com](http://www.njfindaride.com).

### BENEFITS TO WORK CALCULATOR

This website is a helpful tool to show how Social Security benefits may change if you take a job. This site is designed to assist job seekers aged 16 to 64. To access the calculator go to [www.njdb101.org](http://www.njdb101.org).

### PERSONAL ASSISTANCE SERVICES PROGRAM (PASP)

PASP provides routine, non-medical assistance to adults with disabilities who are employed, preparing for employment, involved in community volunteer work or attending school. Personal assistants help with tasks