



Division Update for Individuals, Families and Providers

August 20, 2026

Agenda

- Next DDD Update Webinar
- Annual Provider Fiscal Sustainability Reporting Requirements
- Updated Housing Policy on Development of Provider-Managed Settings
- Clarification on Goods and Services
- Change to New Jersey's NCI®-IDD Family Surveys Schedule
- In-Person Workshop: Using Conversations & Tools to Build a Person-Centered Life
- In-Person Event: Recordkeeping Across the Lifespan
- Fall Prevention Awareness Month
- Transition Webinars
- Self-Direction Networking Sessions
- Self-Direction WIN Time Sessions
- Caregiver Resources
- Resources

Next DDD Update Webinar

The next DDD Update Webinar is scheduled for Thursday, September 24, 2026, at 10:30 a.m.

- [Register for September Webinar](#)

The complete 2026 schedule of DDD Update Webinars, including registration links, is available on the Division's [Monthly Public Update Webinar](#) webpage.

Annual Provider Fiscal Sustainability Reporting Requirements

- As outlined in Section 14 of the Community Care Program and Supports Program [policy manuals](#), DDD/Medicaid-approved providers must comply with certain financial reporting requirements.

Annual Provider Fiscal Sustainability Reporting Requirements

Annual Financial Statement Audit Requirement

- All provider agencies that claim \$350,000 or more in combined reimbursement for Community Care Program and Supports Program services within their fiscal year must have annual financial statement audits performed in accordance with **Generally Accepted Auditing Standards (GAAS)**.
 - Audited financial statements include a balance sheet as of the close of the fiscal year, as well as an income statement and cash flow statement for the fiscal year.
 - Audited financial statements must be made available to DDD upon request.

Annual Provider Fiscal Sustainability Reporting Requirements

Annual Fiscal Sustainability Report Requirement

- Provider agencies with more than \$350,000 in annual combined billing to DDD are required to submit an annual fiscal sustainability report. (**Combined billing** includes all revenue received from DDD through Medicaid Fee-for-Service claims, support coordination, and any contract revenue.)

Annual Provider Fiscal Sustainability Reporting Requirements

Annual Fiscal Sustainability Report Requirement

- **Deadline:** reports are due 120 calendar days after the close of each State Fiscal Year – on or about October 30. (The New Jersey State Fiscal Year runs from July 1 to June 30.)
 - If your agency's fiscal year does not align with the State Fiscal Year, your report is due 120 calendar days after the close of your agency's fiscal year.
- **Template:** providers must use DDD's [Fiscal Sustainability Template.xlsx](#).
- **Submission:**
 - Submit reports to DDD.WaiverFinancialReports@dhs.nj.gov.
 - Include agency's name and fiscal year end date on the report and in the email subject line: "Agency XYZ - Fiscal Sustainability 6/30/26"

Updated Housing Development Policy

- In August 2026, the DDD [Housing Policy on Development of Provider-Managed Residential Settings](#) was updated. Updates include:
 - Clarification that receiving a Letter of Support does not guarantee funding in a future fiscal year.
 - Details about when a Letter of Support would be denied or revoked.

Clarification on Goods & Services

- DDD offers a service called Goods and Services.
- Every service available in the Community Care Program or Supports Program has a specific definition in the [policy manuals](#) with unique guidelines and requirements.
- Sometimes, through an audit or report, DDD becomes aware that a community vendor is providing and billing for a service (class, program, etc.) under “Goods and Services”, when the service more appropriately aligns with a different service (Community Inclusion Services, Respite, Day Habilitation, etc.).

Clarification on Goods & Services

- When DDD becomes aware that a “Goods & Services” service more appropriately aligns with the definition of a different Community Care Program or Supports Program service, **it is incumbent upon us as a Medicaid partner** to notify that vendor of the need to become a DDD/Medicaid-approved provider, bill at the established Medicaid rate for that service, and submit service claims directly to Medicaid.
 - Accurate billing is essential to maintain Medicaid compliance and protect federal funding, particularly as states face increased federal scrutiny of Medicaid spending.

Clarification on Goods and Services

Section 17.8.1 Description

- **Goods and Services are services, equipment or supplies, not otherwise provided through** natural supports or generic resources, **the Community Care Program [or Supports Program]**, or through the State Plan, which address an identified need (including improving and maintaining the participant's opportunities for full membership in the community) and meet the following requirements: the item or service would decrease the need for other Medicaid services; and/or promote inclusion in the community; and/or increase the participant's safety in the home environment; **and, the participant does not have the funds to purchase the item or service or the item or service is not available through another source.** Goods and Services are purchased from the participant's budget and paid and documented by the fiscal intermediary.

Clarification on Goods and Services

Section 17.8.3 Provider Qualifications

- All providers of Goods & Services must exist primarily to serve the general public. **If a provider primarily exists to serve individuals with disabilities, that provider must become a Medicaid/DDD approved provider for other services detailed through Section 17 of this manual and receive payment through claims submitted to Medicaid.** If the entity seeking funding through Goods & Services exists primarily to serve the general public, as applicable, they must also comply with the standards set forth in this manual. In addition, staff providing Goods & Services must meet the qualifications/standards mandated by the relevant industry from which the specific service is being provided.

Clarification on Goods and Services

Section 17.8.4 Examples of Goods & Services

*Please note that examples are not all inclusive of everything that can be funded through this service

- Fingerprinting, drug testing costs needed to be considered for a job but not otherwise covered by DVRS
- Garage door opener for access/egress to home
- Microwave oven to assist someone in cooking their own meals specifically for individuals who live in the community on their own/non-congregate setting
- **Classes, attended in-person or virtually, within the general public located in the community**
- Durable medical equipment that is not covered after exhausting all insurance appeal processes
- Activity Fees (for example, museums, aquariums, planetariums, zoos, cultural events, skills building or educational workshops)
- Flat rate/boarding fees associated with transportation services
- Security Deposit
- Gym memberships (monthly) when monthly billing is available

Clarification on Goods and Services

- Because they are not DDD/Medicaid Approved Providers, Goods and Services vendors are **not** required by DDD to:
 - Have their staff take any DDD required trainings (Ex. Life Threatening Emergencies; Komninos Law; Prevention of Abuse, Neglect and Exploitation; etc.) or be certified in Cardio Pulmonary Resuscitation (CPR) or First Aid;
 - Ensure initial or biannual criminal history record background checks are completed for staff;
 - Ensure staff are **not** on the Central Registry of Offenders Against Individuals with Developmental Disabilities;
 - Ensure staff are **not** on Child Abuse Registry;
 - Ensure staff receive pre-employment and random drug testing for controlled dangerous substances;
 - Complete incident reports;
 - Complete checks of drivers abstracts (For staff who transport beneficiaries).

Clarification on Goods & Services

- The “Goods & Services” service is intended to expand the types of daily activities a person receiving DDD services can participate in, making it possible for them, funded through their DDD budget, to attend or participate in a class, program, etc. that is offered to the general public by a business or vendor in the community (for example, a swim class through the YMCA).
- Because of this flexibility, Goods & Services cannot just be added to a person’s annual service plan. Instead, a Goods & Services Request must be completed and submitted to DDD by the person’s Support Coordinator to be reviewed by DDD’s Service Review Unit.
- As with any community vendor, they determine the rates they will charge people to attend their program or class.

Clarification on Goods & Services

- For classes and programs in the community, components of criteria for approval are:
 - The vendor providing the class/program **must exist primarily to serve the general public**, rather than primarily to provide services to people with IDD.
 - The class or program **must be offered, open and attended by the public**, rather than offered and open only to people with IDD.
 - The class/program must be **fully integrated in the vendor's normal place of business** – meaning, the class/program location needs to take place in an integrated setting that enables the person to interact with members of the public, rather than taking place in an isolated location that keeps participants segregated from the comings and goings of other patrons of the business.

Clarification on Goods & Services

- The criteria that must be met is not merely a description entered on the Goods & Service Request. When researching the vendor or the class or program their offering, the DDD Service Review Team needs to find the description clearly reflected in the vendor's communications (website, brochure, etc.).
- Example of a class description that **would meet** the Goods and Services request criteria: "this class is open to all adults, including adults with developmental disabilities."
- Example of a class description that **would not meet** the criteria: "this class is for adults with autism or other developmental disabilities."

Upcoming Webinar on Goods & Services

- **September 2026** – DDD will host a webinar on Goods & Services, focusing on:
 - Understanding Goods & Services
 - What is and is not considered Goods & Services
 - The Goods & Services request process
 - The reasons for and importance of DDD routinely auditing Goods & Services
- Webinar details will be sent out and available soon on the [DDD Events](#) webpage and [Self-Direction Options and Education](#) webpage.



Change to New Jersey's NCI-IDD Family Surveys Schedule

- New Participation Schedule
 - Going forward, New Jersey will take part in the National Core Indicators® - Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities (NCI®-IDD) Family Surveys **every other year** instead of every year (Adult Family Survey, Family/Guardian Survey)
 - This change aligns New Jersey with most other states
- Understanding "On" Years and "Off" Years
 - The Human Services Research Institute (HSRI) calls this every-other-year schedule a cycle of "on" years and "off" years:
 - **"On" years** include full statistical testing, which measures both significance and effect size.
 - **"Off" years** provide only weighted averages from a small number of participating states.

Change to New Jersey's NCI-IDD Family Surveys Schedule

- Why “On” Years Produce Better Data
 - The difference between these years is clear when you look at how many states take part:
 - In the most recent **"on" year (2023–24)**, 11 states participated. HSRI applied full significance and effect-size testing to every outcome measure.
 - In the most recent **"off" year (2024–25)**, only four states participated. Because so few states took part, HSRI's report confirmed that state averages could not be tested for significance against the national average.

Change to New Jersey's NCI-IDD Family Surveys Schedule

- What This Means for New Jersey
 - New Jersey's own sample size and margin of error stay the same in both "on" and "off" years. So, the gap in data quality comes from how many other states participate—not from New Jersey's effort.
 - When more states take part during "on" years, the results also create a more accurate national benchmark for comparison.
 - By focusing on "on" years, New Jersey directs its survey resources to the cycles that produce useful, statistically tested data.

JOIN US



Using Conversations & Tools to Build a Person-Centered Life

AN IN-PERSON WORKSHOP

This workshop is for self-advocates, families/caregivers, support coordinators, and provider agencies who support individuals moving **out of** a family home, a nursing facility or other congregate setting and **into a home or apartment in the community.**

You'll walk away with practical tools and skills to support choice, community inclusion, and person-centered supports. We'll also share helpful resources to build a life of choice in the community.

Dates (Choose just one!)

Tuesday, October 20, 2026 • 9:00am - 2:00pm

Bergen County Special Services 540 North Farview Avenue
Paramus 07652. (2nd Floor Training Room)

Thursday, October 29, 2026 • 9:00am - 2:00pm

5 Commerce Way Hamilton 08691

[CLICK HERE TO REGISTER!](#)

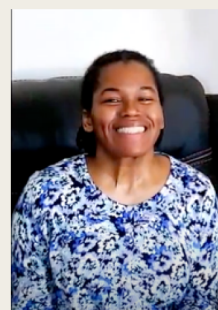
or
SCAN
HERE!



NEW JERSEY HUMAN SERVICES



Community Living Education Project
sharing possibilities



[Click here to learn about Carmelys!](#)

In-Person Workshop: Using Conversations & Tools to Build a Person-Centered Life

- Co-sponsored by DDD and the Rutgers [Community Living Education Project \(CLEP\)](#), “Using Conversations & Tools to Build a Person-Centered Life” is an in-person workshop being offered on Oct. 20 and Oct. 29, 2026, from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.
- Self-advocates, families/caregivers, support coordinators, and providers who support people moving out of a family home or out of a nursing facility or other congregate setting into the community will gain practical tools and skills to support choice and community inclusion.

[Register for Oct. 20 or Oct. 29 In-Person Workshop](#)

Record Keeping Across the Lifespan

WHAT THE SESSION COVERS

Organizing and maintaining the paperwork that matters — through school, into adult life, and for the caregivers who will carry it forward.



DATE

Saturday, Sept 19, 2026

INCLUDED

Breakfast & lunch

AGENDA

Morning Session

- 9:30am - 10am : Breakfast
- 10am -12pm: Educational Presentation

Afternoon Session

- 12pm-1pm: Lunch
- 1pm-3pm: Council business

Non-members are welcome to join the afternoon session.

LOCATION

In-Person

Middlesex College
College Center, Terrace Room
2600 Woodbridge Ave, Edison, NJ 08818

Hybrid Option is Available

REGISTRATION

Registration is required —
please note whether you'll join in person or by Zoom.

**REGISTER FOR THIS
SESSION →**

Multi-lingual captioning will be available! For more information, contact Kyoko.Coco@njcdd.org.

Recordkeeping Across the Lifespan

- Hosted by the NJ Regional Family Support Planning Councils, this in-person event (hybrid option is available) will discuss organizing and maintaining important paperwork through early intervention, school, and adult life – and for the caregivers who will carry it forward. For individuals with disabilities and their families.

When: Saturday, September 19, 2026, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.
(breakfast and lunch included)

Where: Middlesex College, College Center, Terrace Room, 2600 Woodbridge Ave., Edison NJ

Register: [Register for 9/19/26 Recordkeeping Across the Lifespan](#)

FALL PREVENTION AWARENESS MONTH

National Fall Prevention Awareness Day is September 22, 2026

In-Person Trainings for Stakeholders

Tuesday, September 15, 2026 | 10:00 am -12:00 pm

5 Commerce Way, Hamilton, NJ 08691, in Conference Room 199 A & B

Registration Link: [Fall Prevention In-Person Workshop](#)

The in-person training will also include an interactive focus group, allowing stakeholders to share perspectives and discuss fall prevention across different settings.

Fall Prevention

This presentation provides an overview of fall prevention for individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities (IDD). Participants will learn to identify common fall risk factors, recognize environmental hazards, understand the role of medications and adaptive equipment in fall prevention, and review appropriate documentation and response procedures following a fall. The presentation also highlights practical, evidence-informed strategies to promote safety and help reduce the risk of preventable falls. This presentation will be facilitated by the Clinical Resource Team: Nursing Support Unit.

Webinars

The webinar schedule is as follows:

- September 2, 2026 | 10:00 am - 11:00 am | [Hearing Aids and Care Webinar](#)
- September 8, 2026 | 2:00 pm -2:45 pm | [Communication Webinar](#)
- September 16, 2026 | 1:00 pm- 2:00 pm | [Danielle's Law Webinar](#)
- September 23, 2026 | 2:00 pm - 3:30 pm | [Adaptive Equipment and Documentation Webinar](#)
- September 28, 2026 | 2:00 pm - 2:45 pm | [Fall Prevention Webinar](#)



Contact ddd.resourceteam@dhs.nj.gov if you have additional questions.



Please see the new [DDD events page](#) and the [Health and Safety page](#) for Fall Prevention Awareness Month and additional resources.



September is Fall Prevention Awareness Month

- Fall Prevention Awareness Month is an opportunity to increase awareness about fall risks for people with intellectual and developmental disabilities (IDD) and things that people and caregivers can do to reduce the incidence of falls.
- The DDD Clinical Resource Team will be offering an in-person workshop and several webinars throughout September for all stakeholders.
- View/share the DDD [Fall Prevention Awareness Month flyer](#).

DDD Clinical Resource Team Trainings: Fall Prevention Awareness Month

In-Person Workshop

- September 15, 10 a.m. to 12 p.m. at 5 Commerce Way in Hamilton – [Fall Prevention In-Person Workshop](#)

Webinars

- September 2, 10 a.m. to 11 a.m. – [Hearing Aids and Care Webinar](#)
- September 8, 2 p.m. to 2:45 p.m. – [Communication Webinar](#)
- September 16, 1 p.m. to 2 p.m. – [Danielle's Law Webinar](#)
- September 23, 2 p.m. to 3:30 p.m. – [Supporting the Person: Adaptive Equipment and Documentation Webinar](#)
- September 28, 2 p.m. to 2:45 p.m. – [Falls Prevention Webinar](#)

Transition Webinars

For students in grades 6 through 12 and other young adults with IDD and their families, as well as school personnel, to learn about the DDD application process and service system.

Transition Thursdays Webinar Series

- September 10, 6 p.m. to 7 p.m. – [DDD Transition Resources and Intake Process](#)
- September 17, 12 p.m. to 1 p.m. – [Navigating the DDD Service System](#)
- November 12, 6 p.m. to 7 p.m. – [DDD Transition Resources and Intake Process](#)

DDD Quarterly Welcome Sessions

- October 1, 12 p.m. to 1 p.m. – [Register for October 1 Lunchtime Welcome Session](#)
- October 22, 6 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. – [Register for October 22 Evening Welcome Session with Topic Breakouts](#)

Self-Direction Networking Sessions

Self-Direction Networking Sessions are for individuals and families who are self-directing their services or interested in self-direction. Advance registration is required.

Family Networking Sessions

- August 25, 2026, 1 p.m. to 3 p.m. – [Register for 8/25/26 Burlington County In-Person Family Session](#)
- September 16, 2026, 1 p.m. to 3 p.m. – [Register for 9/16/26 Ocean County In-Person Family Session](#)
- September 30, 2026, 1 p.m. to 3 p.m. – [Register for 9/30/26 Bergen County In-Person Family Session](#)
- **October 7, 2026, 6 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.** – [Register for 10/7/26 STATEWIDE VIRTUAL Family Session](#)
- October 27, 2026, 1 p.m. to 3 p.m. – [Register for 10/27 Monmouth County In-Person Family Session](#)

Peer-to-Peer Virtual Networking Session

- October 14, 2026, 6 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. – [Register for 10/14/26 Virtual Peer-to-Peer Session](#)

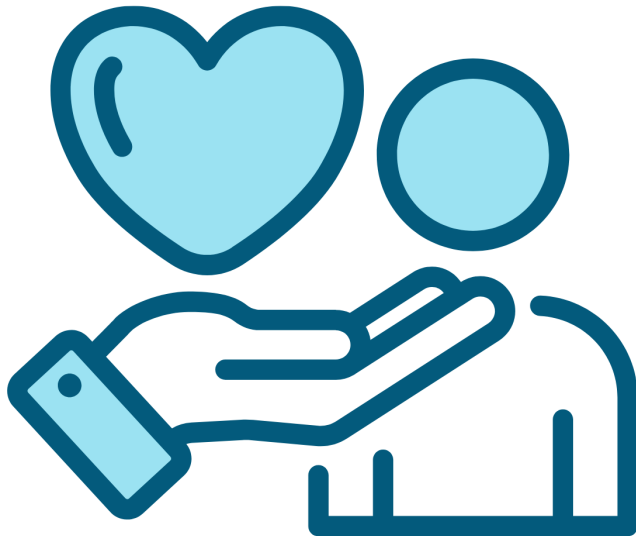
Self-Direction WIN Time Sessions

WIN (What I Need) Time Sessions are an opportunity for support coordinators, supports brokers, and other professionals who support individuals who are self-directing their DDD services, to network, share resources, and talk about successes and challenges.

- September 23, 2026, 12 p.m. to 1 p.m. – [Register for 9/23 WIN Time Session](#)
- November 10, 2026, 12 p.m. to 1 p.m. – [Register for 11/10 WIN Time Session](#)

Caring for an adult with disabilities is a deeply meaningful and loving role, but it can also bring emotional, financial, and practical challenges. DDD is committed to promoting the services and resources available through DHS and our community partners to help caregivers safeguard their well-being and access the mental health support they deserve.

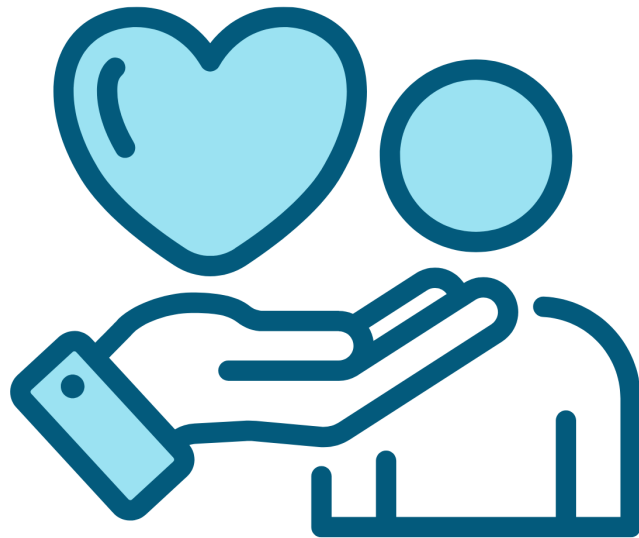
Caregiver Resources



- [NJ Disability Information Hub: Resources for Families and Caregivers](#)
- [Aging and Disability Resource Connection](#)
 - An Area Agency on Aging (AAA) is designated in each of New Jersey's 21 counties to serve as the primary entity responsible for developing comprehensive, coordinated systems of community-based services for older adults. AAAs also serve as Aging & Disability Resource Connection (ADRC) lead agencies in their county, ensuring seniors, adults with disabilities and their caregivers have easy access to information and long term services and supports.
- [Mom2Mom](#) **877-914-6662**
 - A 24/7 mental health and peer support helpline for parents of adults with special needs. Staffed by trained peer counselors who are caregivers themselves and can provide emotional support, guidance, and shared experience.

Caring for an adult with disabilities is a deeply meaningful and loving role, but it can also bring emotional, financial, and practical challenges. DDD is committed to promoting the services and resources available through DHS and our community partners to help caregivers safeguard their well-being and access the mental health support they deserve.

Caregiver Resources



- **[NJ Mental Health Cares](#) 866-202-HELP (4357), TTY Relay 711**
 - A free, confidential helpline offering emotional support, information, and referrals to behavioral health services, including legal, housing, employment, rehabilitation, inpatient/outpatient care, self-help groups, and more. Available to all New Jersey residents. 8 a.m. to p.m. daily
- **[NJ Self-Help Clearinghouse](#) 800-367-6274**
 - Helps individuals find or form self-help support groups for a wide range of challenges, ensuring caregivers and families do not feel alone. 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. daily
- **[988 Suicide & Crisis Lifeline](#) Call or Text 988**
 - A national 24/7 hotline providing one-on-one support for mental health, suicide, and substance-use crises. Call, text, or chat 988 to reach a trained crisis counselor. Support available in English and Spanish, with interpreter services in 240+ languages. In New Jersey, four Lifeline centers respond to 988 contacts.

Resources

Community Resources

- [Disability Rights New Jersey](#)
800-922-7233 (toll-free in New Jersey only)
- [Office of the Ombudsman for Individuals with Developmental Disabilities and their Families](#)
609-984-7764
- [New Jersey Council on Developmental Disabilities](#)
800-792-8858
- [The Boggs Center on Disability and Human Development](#)
732-235-9300

DDD Resources

- For issues, call the DDD [Community Services Office](#) for your county or 800-832-9173.
- For routine questions:
DDD.FeeForService@dhs.nj.gov
- To report suspected abuse, neglect, or exploitation:
Call 800-832-9173, then press 1